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SOVIET DELEGATE AGAIN VOICES ANTI-JEWISH SLURS AT U.N. BODY

GENEVA, March 23, (JTA) -- Against the strenuous opposition of the Soviet Union, which once more resorted to an anti-Jewish attack directed specifically against the chief delegate of the United States, Morris B. Abram, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights voted here last night in favor of the formation of a new office, to be called the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The vote on the issue, following a day-long debate which made a night meeting necessary, was 20 to 7, with two abstentions. The United States, Britain and Israel were with the majority. The Soviet bloc in the Commission, consisting of the USSR, Poland and the Ukraine teamed up with Yugoslavia, Iraq, India and Egypt in the opposition. France and Nigeria abstained. There are 32 members on the Commission.

The Commission's vote culminated a long fight led by the United States and Israel. The Commission's resolution was in the form of a recommendation to its parent body, the Economic and Social Council which, in turn, must approve the move then forward it to the General Assembly for final action.

In the course of the debate, Yakub A. Ostrovski, chief of the USSR delegation, once more attacked Mr. Abram, as he did in the discussion Tuesday, linking Mr. Abram's attitude on the issue to the fact the latter, in a private capacity, is president of the American Jewish Committee. Insinuating that Mr. Abram "was obeying the orders of the Zionists and the Jews of America," and charging that the chairman of the American delegation was "serving two masters," Mr. Ostrovski called the American Jewish Committee "a Zionist organization."

Iraqi Delegate Attacks Israel for Supporting Human Rights

Replying very briefly to Mr. Ostrovski's hour-long diatribe, Mr. Abram merely noted that, in the 20 years of the Commission's existence, no similar incident had occurred, and no reference had ever been made by a delegate to another delegate's religious affiliation. "Moreover, Mr. Abram noted, that reference was "irrelevant to the Commission's work."

The Russian was not the only delegate who brought up the Jewish issue during the debate. The Iraqi delegate, in a 45-minute speech, took out against Israel's member on the Commission, Supreme Court Justice Haim H. Cohn who, yesterday, had endorsed the High Commission proposal warmly. Iraq's delegation head chided the Israeli for supporting human rights and the protection of minorities in other countries while the Arab minority in Israel was being "suppressed."

Justice Cohn, whose intervention on the issue had been supported by Italy and Argentina, replied that "in contrast with some other countries, my Government pledges that Israel would admit a High Commissioner for Human Rights and allow him to see whatever he wanted to see and could pledge that we would listen carefully to his advice."

At the night session, the American point of view was pressed by another member of the U.S. delegation, Roger W. Tuby, who said that the High Commissioner would help "to lessen abuses committed on racial, religious or other grounds."

The idea for the establishment of a United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights was first broached publicly by Jacob Blaustein, honorary president of the American Jewish Committee, in an address at Columbia University, in New York, on December 4, 1963. Later, the matter began taking form and, in 1966, Costa Rica proposed that the Human Rights Commission form a special working group to study the matter. As a result, a nine-member group was formed and met at U.N. Headquarters in New York earlier this year.

The working group adopted a set of guiding principles for a High Commissioner who, as a global ombudsman, would be the U.N.'s human rights watchdog. The group, however, left open, for the full Commission's determination, the basic question as to whether or not such a post as High Commissioner for Human Rights was to be created. Last night's vote on the issue brought the matter further along toward possible enactment.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON ASKED TO CHECK ON U.S. SUBSIDY TO ANTI-ISRAEL GROUP

WASHINGTON, March 23. (JTA) -- Responding to indications that the Central Intelligence Agency, despite recent disclosures, may be continuing subsidization of the anti-Israel American Friends of the Middle East, Sen. Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, today asked President Johnson to "bring an immediate halt" to such financing.

Sen. Scott asked the President to end the flow of public funds to "an organization whose principal objective is to conduct anti-Israel propaganda in the United States and to conduct activities that run counter to the stated objectives of American foreign policy."

Naming the ten foundations that dispensed CIA funds covertly to AFME, Sen. Scott told how AFME financed Arab students who conducted anti-Israel propaganda campaigns at over 100 American colleges and universities. He asked the President to "bring an immediate halt to any U.S. Government funds that are going to AFME and similar organizations, through whatever conduit," as well as to order an investigation on the full amount of U.S. Government money that has gone to AFME and the purposes for which this money was spent." The Senator quoted a number of anti-Israel and anti-Zionist statements by the AFME director.

At the same time, Sen. Scott complained to the United States Information Agency here that American books and periodicals in the U.S.I.A. library at Damascus are being censored so as to eliminate any references to Israel." However, a spokesman for the USIA denied reports about censorship of books in the Damascus library. The spokesman added that some Syrian users of the library "might be taking such liberties," as inking out the word "Israel" in a book, noting that such a situation was beyond American control.

ISRAEL IS NOT YET SECURE, BEN-GURION TELLS RALLY IN LONDON

LONDON, March 23, (JTA) -- Israel's former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion last night told a rally of some 500 Habonim, members of Britain's largest Zionist movement, that "the Jewish State is not yet secure; only about 30 percent of the land is settled and even that is not safe."

Coupling his plea for young Jews to come to Israel with criticism of the Zionist movement, the Israeli leader defined Zionism as "Jewish people on their way to Israel," and went on to say "I am not a Zionist; I am a Jew, and that is enough for me. One cannot be a real, free, independent Jew outside Israel."

Zionist leaders, Mr. Ben-Gurion said, no longer understand Zionism and their organization should not be responsible for aliyah because they are not personally identified with it anymore.

W.J.C. COUNCIL CALLS ATTENTION OF WORLD TO NEO-NAZIS IN GERMANY

GENEVA, March 23, (JTA) -- A resolution sharply calling the attention of the world to the recent "radicalization of the extremist nationalist movement" in West Germany was adopted here today by the governing council of the World Jewish Congress.

The council concluded today its two-day session, here, after hearing reports about neo-Nazism in West Germany, the failure of Austrian courts to deal sharply with war criminals, and the actions taken in this city during the current session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

"Since it last discussed the problem of a revival of Nazism in Germany," the resolutions stated, "the governing council of the WJC has taken note with concern evidence of the radicalization of the extreme nationalist movement in Germany. Small as this movement is, its capacity for mischief should not be under-rated, especially as a factor in holding up the normalization of international relations."

Earlier, the council discussed the situation of Soviet Jewry after a report on that topic by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the WJC. Reports on the new attitude on the part of Roman Catholic bodies as a result of the Catholic Church decree calling for improved relations between Catholics and Jews were given by Dr. G. M. Riegner, secretary-general of the WJC and Fritz Becker, director of the World Congress in Rome. Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig reported on the current session here of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

ISRAEL SELLS PASSENGER VESSEL 'SHALOM' TO GERMAN SHIPPING LINE

BCNN, March 23, (JTA) -- Israel's 25,000-ton vessel "Shalom" has been purchased by the Hamburg-Atlantic Line, the company announced here today. The ship will be re-named "Hanseatic" and will be assigned to the North Atlantic and cruises. Built for Israel in France, the ship can carry 1,100 passengers. She was used for passenger service between Haifa and New York.

FIVE ORTHODOX RABBINICAL GROUPS OPPOSE JEWISH-CATHOLIC 'DIALOGUES'

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- Five Orthodox rabbinical organizations today adopted a joint resolution condemning the participation by Jewish groups in "ecumenical" programs along with Christian religious organizations. The Orthodox rabbinical groups specifically "denounced" the participation of the Synagogue Council of America in a conference in Boston next May with Catholic and Protestant religious leaders.

The resolution, which was presented at a meeting at Mesivta Tifereth Jerusalem, an Orthodox rabbinical seminary, was approved by: the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada; the Union of Grand Rabbis; the Rabbinical Alliance of America; the Rabbinical Board of Greater New York; and the Metropolitan Board of Orthodox Rabbis.

B'NAI B'RITH UPHELD IN RIGHT TO LIMIT ITS MEMBERSHIP TO JEWS

TRENTON, N.J., March 23. (JTA) -- The New Jersey State Civil Rights Division upheld the contention of B'nai B'rith that, as a "religious fellowship," it has a right to limit membership to persons of the Jewish faith, and has not violated the state's law by refusing to admit a member of the John Birch Society to B'nai B'rith membership.

George Demetry, of Jackson Township, had filed a complaint against the Lakewood chapter of B'nai B'rith, contending that the lodge had violated the state's civil rights law by not allowing him to join B'nai B'rith. He stated in his petition that the John Birch Society was not anti-Semitic.

Ruling only on whether or not B'nai B'rith is a "religious fellowship," as it contended in a reply to the Demetry complaint, George S. Pfau, director of the Civil Rights Division, decided that the B'nai B'rith is exempt, as a group of the kind it claims to be, from the law against discrimination. The B'nai B'rith had acknowledged in its reply that Demetry's membership application had been rejected because he was not a Jew.

DETROIT JEWISH CAMPAIGN REPORTS \$4, 229, 000 IN PRE-CAMPAIGN GIFTS

DETROIT, March 23. (JTA) -- The 1967 Allied Jewish Campaign reported last night \$4, 229, 000 in pre-campaign contributions as its official six-week drive opened. The report includes 10, 600 contributions made in the pre-campaign period. The drive ends on May 10.

Alfred L. Deutsch, campaign chairman, said that it was the second largest amount to be recorded at a Detroit campaign opening. The largest total of \$4, 400, 000 was recorded in 1966. He expressed hope that campaign workers would bring in a greater total than last year. In 1966, the Federated drive raised \$5, 628, 000 from 24, 000 contributors.

Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Philip M. Klutznick, Chicago, told the 400 campaign leaders and workers that the need in Israel was critical and that private funds from the U.S. as well as from other countries were vital in helping to solve the social problems created by the influx of Jews from North African countries, as well as eastern European countries.

Hyman Safran, president of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, said at the meeting, that the agencies and services, supported by campaign money, "strengthen our image and self-respect as a people." "We are making certain that Jews will never again be persecuted because of their faith. At the same time we are trying to ensure a full and rich Jewish life for ourselves and our children," he stated.

PINCUS ARRIVES IN U.S. FOR CONFERENCES WITH JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK, March 23, (JTA) -- Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, arrived here today for a two-week visit that will include a number of public appearances in the United States and Canada. He will meet next week with the leadership of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry; the World Council for Jewish Education; and the American Zionist Council. He will also confer with members of the American executive of the Jewish Agency.

On April 2, he will be the principal speaker in Toronto at the foundation convention of the newly organized United Zionist Federation of Canada. He will make a second trip to Canada from April 6 to April 8 during which he will address Canadian welfare leaders in Montreal. He will leave for Israel, with a brief stopover in England, on April 9.

LEADER OF LIBERAL PARTY IN ISRAEL RESIGNS FROM ALIGNMENT EXECUTIVE

TEL AVIV, March 23. (JTA) -- Leon Dultzin, leader of the Liberal Party, resigned today from the executive of the Gahal (Herut-Liberal Alignment) in protest against action by Herut which he said brought about a situation in which three Herut Knesset members were forced to resign from the Alignment and form their own group. Mr. Dultzin, who left here today for a visit to Latin America on behalf of the Jewish Agency, said before his departure that his decision to resign was "final."

EFFECT OF HIGHER EDUCATION ON RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF STUDENTS SURVEYED

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- A majority of college students do not find their religious beliefs affected by higher education, but about 20 percent have reported that a college education has definitely caused them to question the fixed religious beliefs that they had held at the time they entered college, it was revealed here today after a survey of students at Brooklyn College.

The college, part of the City University of New York, has a majority of students who are Jewish. Of the 2,471 students polled in the survey, 76 percent were Jewish, 11 percent Catholic and 2 percent Protestant. The total undergraduate, fulltime enrollment at the college is about 10,000.

The survey had been organized by Herbert H. Stroup, dean of students, conducted by outstanding students who had had previous experience in doing surveys on education, style of life and religion, and was compiled by Prof. Archie MacGregor, assistant dean of students. The results showed:

1. More than 75 of those interviewed said their college education has not affected their concern with religious questions. However, 20 percent reported that their college education had definitely caused them to question the fixed religious beliefs that they had held upon entering college and, within this group, "the nature and existence of God was found to be the largest matter of concern."

2. No increased concern with religious questions had been found among 84.7 percent of the Jewish students questioned, 55.7 percent of the Protestants, and 51.9 percent of the Catholics.

3. Questions relating to the effects of religion on dating and marriage established that, while the majority of students would date someone outside their own religion, less than half had ever done so. More than 86 percent said they would not convert to the religion of their mates.

Prof. MacGregor said the figures showed that 74 percent of the students queried favored the giving of a course on comparative religion at Brooklyn College, and 59 percent said they would take such a course if it was offered. Less than 25 percent of the students polled said that their religious beliefs or philosophies had had "very much" influence on such matters as "cheating and social activities."

Generally, Prof. MacGregor said, the survey showed that, as a student's academic average increased, the likelihood of his having any fixed religious beliefs diminished.

LUBAVITCHER REBBE CALLS UFCN AMERICAN JEWRY TO OBSERVE PURIM

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- The Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, today issued a call to American Jewry to observe the Purim holiday in full accordance with its traditional meaning. The Rebbe called upon Jewish spiritual leaders to inform their congregants, and educators and parents to teach their students and children, about the proper observance of the festival. He pointed out that in addition to reading the Megillah (Book of Esther) on the evening and morning of Purim, and reciting the "Al Hanissim" prayer, there are two special precepts incumbent upon all to observe on the morning or afternoon of Purim, namely Mishloach Monos -- sending food gifts to friends, and Mattonos LoEvyonim -- donating to the needy.

"These Mitzvos can easily be observed," he declared. "In the case of Mishloach Monos, by giving a friend two kinds of edibles such as fruit, cake, beverages, etc., while the minimal requirement in observing Mattonos LoEvyonim is to give alms to at least two needy persons. These Mitzvos are very easy to observe and should not go unheeded simply because of unawareness," he stressed.

ART EXHIBITION DEPICTING NAZI BRUTALITIES OPENED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- The Whitney Museum of American Art, one of the country's leading museums, opened an exhibit today of 30 powerful drawings depicting Nazi brutalities, created by Mauricio Lasansky, internationally known artist and director of one of the most influential graphic art workshops in the country at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

The exhibition was initiated by Kneeland McNulty, curator at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, who saw the works in the artist's studio on the Iowa campus. It is jointly sponsored by the Whitney Museum and the University of Iowa. It is scheduled to be shown at the Des Moines, Iowa Art Center, June 23 to July 16, and then at the University of Iowa.