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French Press Repudiates de Gaulle's Anti-Israel, Anti-Jewish Diatribe

PARIS, Nov. 29 (JTA)—President Charles de Gaulle's attack on Israel and the Jewish people, made in the course of his press conference Monday, continued to provoke sharply critical reactions, and the French chief of state was under fire today from all quarters.

The vehemence of Gen. de Gaulle's diatribe against Israel, and his references to the Jewish people as a source of trouble over the centuries, stirred the French Jewish community to anger and indignation. Dr. Jacob Kaplan, Grand Rabbi of France, presided today over a meeting of the leaders of the major French Jewish organizations to consider a formal reply, in the name of French Jewry, to the statements by Gen. de Gaulle, which they considered anti-Semitic.

The French press of all shades of opinion, except the Communist, continued editorially to assail Gen. de Gaulle and to repudiate the position he had taken on Israel. The newspaper, *Combat* said that de Gaulle had destroyed any chance of France serving as a mediator in the Arab-Israel dispute.

A front-page editorial in *Le Monde*, said there was "an unpleasant smell of anti-Semitism" in Gen. de Gaulle's remarks. The newspaper, *Aurore*, in an editorial, said it was "unthinkable" that a responsible French leader should be guilty of racial discrimination. It said that the French people rejected the President's "incredible attitude."

The International League Against Anti-Semitism issued a statement today protesting Gen. de Gaulle's views.

Official Text Shows de Gaulle Charged Jews 'Through the Ages' Caused Ill-Will

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Nov. 29 (JTA)—French President Charles de Gaulle, in his remarks at his Paris press conference last Monday, went far beyond a political attack on Israel and, in fact, impugned the Jewish people "through the ages" for having "provoked" and "caused" ill will "in certain countries at certain times." He said that it was always feared that "once they gathered on the site of their former grandeur (meaning Palestine) they might come to change into a fervent and conquering ambition, the very touching hopes that they had for 19 centuries."

These remarks by de Gaulle appeared in the official translation of his press conference, issued here today by the French Mission to the United Nations. They were made in a lengthy preface that Gen. de Gaulle attached to his reply to a question from an Israeli correspondent, who had asked what the French leader thought of developments in the Middle East since last June's Six-Day War.

President de Gaulle said that the establishment of the State of Israel after World War II had raised apprehensions, "even among many Jews" that "implantation of this community on land that had been acquired under more or less justifiable conditions, and in the middle of Arab peoples who were thoroughly hostile to it, was going to produce constant and interminable friction and conflict." Gen. de Gaulle described the Jews at this point as having remained "what they had been down through the ages, an elite people, sure of itself and dominating." He said that "despite the tide, sometimes mounting, sometimes receding, of ill-will that they provoked, that they caused more exactly, in certain countries and at certain times, a considerable capital of interest and even of sympathy had formed in their favor, especially, it must be said, in Christendom; the capital that resulted from the vast memory of the Bible, nourished at all the springs of the magnificent liturgy, maintained by the commiseration inspired by the ancient misfortune and poeticized in our own country by the legend of the Wandering Jew, heightened by the abominable persecution that they experienced during World War II, and swelled since they had again found a homeland, by their constructive efforts and the courage of their soldiers."

"That is why," de Gaulle said, "independent of the vast assistance in money, influence and propaganda that the Israelis received from the Jewish circles in America and Europe, many countries, among them France, saw with satisfaction the establishment of their state on the territory that had been recognized them by the powers, while hoping that they would succeed, by using a little modesty, in finding a peaceful *modus vivendi* with their neighbors."

Said Warrior State Emerged After Suez Campaign in 1956

De Gaulle went on to say that "these psychological factors have changed somewhat since 1956; as a result of the French-British expedition, we saw in fact appear a State of Israel, warrior and determined to enlarge itself. Then, the campaign it conducted to double its population through immigration of new elements led one to think that the territory it had acquired would not be sufficient for long

and that, to enlarge it, it would be led to use any occasion that would present itself," Gen. de Gaulle said that "the Akaba affair, unfortunately created by Egypt, was to offer a pretext to those who dreamed of fighting."

He said that, last June 2, the French Government officially declared that it would blame any conflict in the Middle East on "whomever would first enter into combat" and that, on May 24, he had personally warned Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban, in Paris, that "war in the Middle East cannot fail to increase a deplorable tension in the world and to have very unfortunate consequences for many countries, so much so that it is on you, having become conquerors, that the disadvantages would be blamed. We know," he said, "that the voice of France was not heard."

De Gaulle said that "once the Algerian affair was concluded we resumed with the Arab peoples of the Middle East the same policy of friendship and cooperation that had been France's for centuries in that part of the world, and that reason and sentiment dictate must today be one of the fundamental bases of our foreign action. Of course," de Gaulle said, "we did not let the Arabs ignore that, for us, the state of Israel was a fait accompli, and that we would not allow it to be destroyed."

Knesset Committee Accuses de Gaulle of 'Grave Distortion' of History

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA)—President Charles de Gaulle's bitter attack on Israel at his Paris press conference Monday, was denounced by a special Cabinet committee this morning as "a distortion of history, and a grave injury to the Jewish people and the State of Israel." The Parliament's committee on foreign affairs and security, and the entire Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, met in closed session at 8 o'clock last night and adjourned well after midnight after hearing and discussing Foreign Minister Abba Eban's report on the recent United Nations Security Council deliberations and the Middle East resolution adopted by the Council.

The committee reiterated the Government's policy, endorsed by the Knesset (Parliament) on November 11, that Israel will give up no occupied Arab territory except under the terms of a peace treaty arrived at by direct negotiations with the Arabs and that, until then, the present cease-fire lines will be maintained and respected.

There was speculation today that Prime Minister Eshkol or another Cabinet minister would make a detailed reply to President de Gaulle at an early opportunity, and rebut the allegations he made on Israel's aims in the Middle East and the ideological bases for the founding of the Jewish State. An occasion for the reply may be Mr. Eshkol's traditional press luncheon on Friday to mark the anniversary of the United Nations 1947 Palestine partition decision, which paved the way for the establishment of the State of Israel.

De Gaulle Advised Israel to Fight for Freedom of Navigation, Ex-Envoy Says

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Israel's former Ambassador to France recalled in a radio interview here last night how President Charles de Gaulle once pledged to him that France would always support Israel because it was traditional French policy to back small states in the Middle East, and that France's relations with the Arab world would never be conducted at Israel's expense.

Ambassador Yaacov Tsur, now chairman of the Jewish National Fund, said that, in an interview with the French leader in 1956, General de Gaulle urged Israel to take a militant stand against the Arabs and fight if necessary to assert its right of free navigation through international waterways. (At his press conference in Paris, Monday, de Gaulle had claimed that Israel used Nasser's blockade of the Gulf of Akaba as an excuse to launch the Six-Day War.)

Ambassador Tsur disclosed that, on November 16, 1956, right after the Sinai campaign, Gen. de Gaulle expressed approval of the Suez war and told him that he thought Britain and France were mistaken to have suspended their action before the Suez Canal was taken. This was during the Fourth Republic and before de Gaulle's election to the presidency of France. Mr. Tsur recalls that de Gaulle said to him at the time; "Tell Ben-Gurion, that, even if Israel is forced to withdraw her troops, she will never lose the immense gains that she made in international prestige or her strengthened position in the Middle East that resulted from the war."

West Germany Rejects de Gaulle View of Israel as Aggressor Nation

BONN, Nov. 29 (JTA)—West Germany made it clear today that it does not share French President Charles de Gaulle's view that Israel is an aggressor nation bent on expansion, an accusation made by de Gaulle at his Paris press conference Monday. A Government spokesman indicated this in reply to questions at a press conference here.

The spokesman also denied reports that Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger, on his trip to India, had asked the New Delhi Government to mediate a resumption of diplomatic relations between West Germany and the Arab states. He said that the situation actually was the reverse, and that the Indian Government had offered to mediate and to explain the German viewpoint to the Arab countries. The Arabs severed relations with Bonn, when West Germany exchanged ambassadors with Israel in 1965.

Dutch Foreign Minister Says Israel Was Not Responsible for Start of June War

PARIS, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Dr. Josef Luns, the Dutch Foreign Minister, said today in an interview with the Paris daily, Aurore, that Israel had not been responsible for the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli war last June. He said the Arab states must recognize the existence of Israel, and there must be a solution of the Palestinian refugee problem before peace can be assured in the Middle East.

Jarring Mission to Mideast May Be Postponed Until After Arab Summit Meeting

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Nov. 29 (JTA)—Reports circulated here tonight that Ambassador Gunnar Jarring is considering a postponement of his mission to the Middle East until after the Arab summit conference, which is scheduled to open in Rabat, Morocco, December 9.

According to reliable sources, Ambassador Jarring, Secretary-General Thant's special representative to the Middle East, will stress the need for more time to study the problem at U.N. headquarters here. Ambassador Jarring met today with the representatives of the United States, Britain and France.

In another development, Mr. Thant summoned the Syrian representative, presumably to discuss Ambassador Jarring's mission to the Middle East. Syria rejected the Security Council's resolution under which Mr. Jarring was appointed.

Attempts to Organize Arab Protest Strike On Partition Anniversary Fizzle Out

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Efforts to organize a protest strike among the Arabs in Jerusalem and on the West Bank today, on the 20th anniversary of the United Nations decision to partition Palestine and establish separate Jewish and Arab states, were described tonight as fruitless. Although leaflets calling for a strike were widely distributed, authorities said no disturbances had occurred.

The Damascus Radio, monitored here, reported huge demonstrations in the streets of the Syrian capital, denouncing the United Nations decision and repudiating the most recent Security Council resolution under which a U.N. representative is to visit the Middle East on a peace-making effort. According to the broadcasts, members of the Government and leaders of the dominant Baath Party participated in the demonstrations.

Mrs. Meir Sees 'Revolutionary Change' in American Jewry's Relationship With Israel

NEW YORK, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Mrs. Golda Meir, former Foreign Minister of Israel, said tonight that the crisis and war in the Middle East last summer had created a "revolutionary change in American Jewry's relationship to Israel." In a statement prior to her return to Israel after a month here for Israel Bonds and other causes, Mrs. Meir said that "it has been a source of deep satisfaction to see during the past several weeks that the all-out support born in the period of greatest crisis for Israel has been adopted as a criterion and standard for the future, and that community leaders have no thought of returning to the levels of campaigning that existed before the outbreak of the June War."

Argentine Jewry Protests Soviet Treatment of Jews, Anti-Israel Policies

Buenos Aires, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Resolutions protesting Soviet persecution of Russian Jewry and the USSR's policies on Israel were adopted unanimously here last night at a mass rally attended by 2,000 persons.

Jewish and non-Jewish leaders of Argentine public opinion addressed the meeting, organized under the joint auspices of DAIA, this country's central body of organized Jewry, the Jewish community of Buenos Aires and the Argentine Zionist Federation. The resolutions adopted also demanded that the Soviet Government cease arming the Arab states.

Calling attention to the current celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, the meeting called on the USSR to restore to Russian Jewry the cultural and religious rights guaranteed it under the Soviet Constitution. Another resolution assailed Communists in this country who support the Soviet Union's anti-Israel attitude, and attacked specifically Jewish Communists for turning "against their blood brothers."

Bonn Studies Future Use of Wannsee Villa Where 'Final Solution' Was Decided

Bonn, Nov. 29 (JTA)—The future of the notorious villa at Wannsee, in Berlin, where Nazi leaders decided the "final solution" of the Jewish question, is under consideration by the Government, but no decision has been announced. A suggestion that the building be converted into an international archive on the Nazi era has been advanced by the anti-Nazi playwright, Rolf Hochhuth, former Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt, now Foreign Minister, and by various Jewish groups. The Wannsee house is now being used as a children's recreation center.

Arson Involved in Synagogue Fire in London Suburb, Police Say

LONDON, Nov. 29 (JTA)—Police said here today that arson was involved in two small fires that damaged a synagogue in Slough, near here, last night. The blaze was reported in a telephone call to a local newspaper.

British See Big Advantage for Their Automotive Industry in Israel Market

LONDON, Nov. 29 (JTA)—The British and Israeli currency devaluations will give the British automotive and machinery industries a big advantage over their American and Continental competitors in the Israeli market, according to the London Financial Times.

Prices of the British cars and machinery exported to Israel will remain more or less on the same level as before devaluation, since the exchange rate between sterling and the Israel pound remained unchanged. Imports from America and other countries which did not devalue will, however, be about 15 percent higher in cost. Last year, when Israel's imports were sharply restricted by the recession accompanying the realignment of the Israeli economy, Britain sold motor vehicles to the value of \$33.6 million to Israel. Sales were considerably higher in the boom year of 1965.

Study Finds Churchmen Unprepared For Jewish Attachment to Israel in June War

NEW YORK, Nov. 29 (JTA)--The absence of unqualified Christian support of Israel or total identification with Israel's aims in the aftermath of last June's Six-Day War which has disappointed Jews and affected the progress of interfaith dialogues, stems from different viewpoints and different orders of priority held by the two communities, according to a study just completed by the American Jewish Committee's department of interreligious affairs.

The study, prepared by Judith H. Banki, assistant director of the department, is titled "Christian Reactions to the Middle East Crisis, New Agenda for Interreligious Dialogue." It analyzes statements by leading Christian theologians and articles published in church-sponsored newspapers and periodicals to record the attitudes toward Israel and the Middle East generally in the period of rising tensions prior to the Six-Day War, during the war itself and in the war's aftermath which brought to the forefront such questions as the future of occupied territories, Jerusalem and the refugee problem.

"Perhaps the basic point at issue between the organized Jewish and Christian communities was whether support of Israel's survival -- the survival of the population as well as the juridical state -- constituted a clear-cut moral commitment," the study said. "Jews certainly saw it that way, and viewed such a commitment as the starting point for any discussion of political solutions or problems arising from the war. It was the unwillingness of most church organizations to declare themselves on this key question which aroused the resentment of Jewish spokesmen."

On the other hand, the study noted, "many Christian leaders believe that settlement of the refugee problem, the status of Jerusalem and the strengthening of the United Nations are the primary objectives, and that recognition of Israel's sovereignty is contingent upon, or secondary to, these goals."

The study observed that Christian leaders were surprised and perplexed by the intensity of the Jewish response to Israel's crisis. "As spokesmen for both groups have noted, the dialogue had not prepared Christians for the Jews' passionate demonstration of peoplehood and attachment to Israel. And that sudden demonstration has directed attention to some of the unexplored theological issues that influence, directly or indirectly, political attitudes toward the State of Israel."

"The significance of this persistent sense of peoplehood has yet to be fully explored in the deepening dialogue between Christians and Jews," the study said.

Minneapolis CRC Offers Guidelines on Holiday Observances in Public Schools

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 29 (JTA)--The observance of religious festivals in public schools, including Christmas-Chanukah or Easter-Passover services, and the display of any religious symbols, whether the Star of David or the Christian Nativity scene, crucifixes or menorahs, "have no proper place in the public schools," the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota declared here today.

Samuel Scheiner, executive director of the state's JCRC, issued a set of guidelines regarding the desired principles for the Jewish community at this season. He requested that Jewish parents consult with the JCRC or their rabbis concerning any actions pertaining to religious observances in the public schools, and cautioned that "unwise or poorly-timed action by an individual parent may create community relations problems without producing results." In the guidelines, he declared that, among the non-desirable phenomena for Jews are:

"The recitation of prayers or any use of Biblical excerpts in a devotional manner; the distribution of Bibles or religious tracts; religious holiday observances by visiting clergymen; the singing of religious hymns, including Christmas carols of a religious nature."

The JCRC also took exception to religious holiday programs in the form of public school assemblies or in school corridors or over a school's public address system. On the other hand, it stated that the following may be permitted in the public schools:

"The use of religious and Biblical themes in the teaching of art, literature and music, avoiding religious indoctrination; the role of religion in history; examining religion as a cultural phenomenon; descriptions by teachers of how other religious groups in the community and in the world may celebrate their particular holidays which happen to fall during the same season of the year."

Yohanan Twersky, Author and Editor, Dies in Tel Aviv, Aged 67

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29 (JTA)--Yohanan Twersky, Israeli author, editor and educator, died here yesterday at the age of 67. Mr. Twersky, who was noted for his historical novels, won the Lamed literary prize in the United States in 1945. He was editor of the Dvir publishing house here and of Hachinuch, review of educational psychology. Born in Berlin, Mr. Twersky was educated at the Philosophical and Religious Academy there and at Harvard University. He settled in Israel in 1947.

Ernest Bloch's Violin is Donated to America-Israel Cultural Foundation

NEW YORK, Nov. 29 (JTA)--The children of the late Ernest Bloch, the composer, have donated his violin to the America-Israel Cultural Foundation which will lend the instrument to one of its Israeli scholarship students studying in New York. The Foundation will open an exhibit next Tuesday of Ernest Bloch memorabilia.