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CJFWF Gives Views On 5 Major Jewish Areas Involving Crisis Or Near-Crisis Conditions

ATLANTA, Nov. 17 (JTA).--Five areas of Jewish concern where situations have reached — or are approaching — crisis proportions and which require urgent measures were treated in a series of resolutions adopted here yesterday at the closing sessions of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds' 37th General Assembly. The areas are: The Middle East, where according to speakers Israel is facing the greatest threat to its survival since the June, 1967 war; American cities, where racial conflicts and growing Negro anti-Semitism is testing Jewish resolve to participate in the struggle for civil rights; the American Jewish community, faced with alienated or indifferent youth and serious criticism of its educational programs; Eastern Europe where renewed anti-Semitism in Poland and continued cultural and religious repression in the Soviet Union pose new perils to Jewish survival; and the Arab countries where Jewish communities are apparently being held as political hostages in the struggle with Israel.

A key resolution on 1969 fund-raising which delineated these areas of concern gave no quota figures. But speakers in the discussion that followed called for a \$200 million target for 1969 — more than double the estimated total to be raised in 1968. The resolution called on every contributor to increase his gift to the regular drive of his community federation or welfare fund and to give "more than ever before" to the Israel Emergency Fund of 1969. This was underlined by Edward Ginsberg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, who told a panel on overseas needs that "at no time since the Six-Day War has Israel's mettle been so severely tested, have her people faced such bold threats to their survival, has the nation been pushed so close to the brink of war."

Louis J. Fox of Baltimore was re-elected for a third term as president of the CJFWF at the closing session Sunday. Morris Glasser, Chicago; Lawrence E. Irell, Los Angeles; and Morris L. Levinson, New York, were re-elected vice-presidents. Also elected to that post were Irving Blum, Baltimore; Irving W. Rabb, Boston; Hyman Safran, Detroit; Samuel J. Silberman, New York; and Ray D. Wolfe, Toronto. Mrs. Joseph Cohen, New Orleans, was re-elected secretary, and Edwin Rosenberg, New York, was elected treasurer.

Fisher Urges Deeper Involvement In Solving Urban Crisis

A plea for deeper Jewish involvement in solving America's urban crisis was voiced by Max M. Fisher of Detroit who served as President-elect Richard M. Nixon's consultant on urban affairs during the recent Presidential campaign. He said that Negro anti-Semitism "does not give the Jews any excuse to withdraw from the battle for equal rights and Negro justice." If Jews "truly believe that advancing social justice is a Jewish obligation, there can be no lingering doubts that helping people in the inner city does represent a genuine Jewish commitment."

The resolution on the urban crisis warned that the deteriorating situation in the cities presented a serious threat to American democratic institutions that would not be solved by "polarization of prejudices by extremists" nor by Congressional cut-backs of essential programs. The resolution called for the full implementation of the report by the President's Commission on Civil Disorders and stressed that programs undertaken by Jewish agencies were "expressions of fundamental Jewish purpose and commitment."

The resolution on the Middle East welcomed the "steadfast and consistent American rejections of proposals which would recreate the dangerous circumstances which led to the 1967 war." It commended President Johnson's Sept. 10 call for a "real peace of justice and reconciliation" and welcomed President-elect Nixon's "vigorous and forthright declarations reaffirming the traditional U.S. commitment to the security and peace of Israel." The resolution stressed that "an Arab-Israeli peace settlement must continue to be the major objective of American policy in the Middle East."

Another resolution adopted at the closing session of the General Assembly warned of the "accelerated loss of Jewish commitment among Jewish youth on our college campuses" and said there is a need to "come to grips with...the alienation of many Jewish faculty members of the university community from our traditional Jewish institutions and from the values which these institutions seek to preserve and enhance." In a related area, the Assembly passed a resolution calling for strengthening Jewish education "in quality and effectiveness." It recommended summer programs to train administrators, consultants and teachers for Jewish schools. Also adopted was a resolution instructing the Council's new National Committee on Small Cities to continue efforts which, it said, were "making a significant impact to help strengthen Jewish life, organization and services in the 125 smallest member communities."

The General Assembly earlier heard a plea to the American Jewish community to give top priority to the 1969 Israel Emergency Fund campaign of the UJA. The appeal was contained in a message signed by Aryeh L. Pincus, Jewish Agency chairman, and endorsed by Zeev Sharef, Israel's Finance Minister. The delegates gave a standing ovation to Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., who declared that Israel would continue to grow and develop despite the burdens of maintaining security in the absence of peace. Gen. Rabin gave a somber assessment of peace prospects. He said it did not appear that Egypt or the Soviet Union wanted peace and that any other Arab state

that was inclined to reach a settlement was thereby precluded from doing so. Gen. Rabin said he believed the Soviet Union's position in the Middle East depended on continued tension in the area because it could not compete with the Western nations in programs of assistance and building which would follow the establishment of peace. He stressed that Israel did not want war but that in the absence of immediate prospects of peace, Israel had to prepare for a new war. "If there is another war," he said, "it will be ended in the same way as the Six-Day War."

Glasser Says LCBC Plans To Develop 'Fair Share' Formulas With Agencies

Morris Glasser, chairman of the Large City Budgeting Conference (LCBC), announced at the plenary session Sunday that the LCBC was planning to work with several national service agencies in developing "fair share" formulas on which community allocations to these agencies should be based. The LCBC is a cooperative activity of the 25 largest Federations and Welfare Funds, which reviews the budgets of 15 national agencies and make recommendations on support to the communities.

Mr. Glasser, who told the session that a special committee is currently reviewing LCBC procedures, said the objective should be to provide reports to the communities not solely on an agency by agency basis but to relate specific problems which concern the communities to the programs and policies of the national agencies. He stressed that "LCBC must be the means of conveying to the communities their responsibility to support those national agencies which have and will continue to demonstrate their effectiveness in meeting and carrying out their obligations."

Mr. Glasser noted that LCBC had completed 20 years of service to the community. He declared that it had made "a real contribution to American Jewish philanthropy, in helping to bring about desirable reforms in financial management, in developing sounder and more rational fiscal planning, in providing better and more informative reporting to the communities, and in achieving an improved atmosphere of reasonable and sympathetic understanding between national agencies and the communities."

Gives Somber Assessment Of Jewish Needs Overseas

An increase in the cost of living in France following the summer disturbances there has aggravated the situation of needy Jews in France, intensifying the Jewish relief problem in Europe and the Middle East which already had been seriously aggravated by conditions created by the Six-Day War and the recent political upheavals in Eastern Europe, the General Assembly was told.

Addressing a session on overseas needs, Samuel L. Haber, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, painted a dark picture of Jewish overseas needs. He said that the JDC had not been able to deal adequately with the emergency situation following the political upheavals in Poland and Czechoslovakia and the conditions created by the Six-Day War, all of which had added to the Jewish refugee problem. He said funds from ongoing programs had to be diverted to meet the needs of 2,000 Jews from Poland and 4,000 Jewish refugees from Czechoslovakia. Mr. Haber also reported that more than 20,000 Jews from Morocco and Tunisia had entered France since the Six-Day War and that the 60 cents a day food allowance they received from French agencies supported by the JDC had been inadequate even before increases in the French cost of living followed last summer's disorders. He cited needs for intensified relief programs in Morocco, Tunisia, Rumania and France, as well as for expanded Malben services in Israel, adding that in 1968, "thousands of Jews throughout the world were denied the help they needed."

Gaynor I. Jacobson, United Hias Service executive vice-president, told the Assembly that the present "major areas of concern are Jews leaving Czechoslovakia, Egypt and Poland." He said that more than 1,500 refugees had applied to the Hias office in Vienna for emigration help and that more than 800 of them had already been resettled in the U.S., Canada, Western Europe and Australia. Of the 700 still awaiting aid, 300 want to settle in the U.S., he said. Mr. Jacobson also reported that more than 500 Egyptian Jewish refugees in Europe were being aided in making resettlement plans, mainly in the U.S. He said that 439 Egyptian Jews were settled in the U.S. during the first 10 months of 1968. He reported that fewer than 1,500 Jews remained in Egypt. He said 225 heads of families were interned in Egyptian jails and reported that the anti-Semitic campaign in Poland had "triggered a whole new wave of Jewish migration." He disclosed that 1,800 Polish Jews had arrived in Vienna in the past eight months and that Hias will have resettled 400 of them by the end of this year. He added that "there is every reason to believe that the 20,000 to 25,000 Jews remaining in Poland also will choose to emigrate."

Eban Reports To Cabinet On Middle East Situation, Special Meeting Slated

JERUSALEM, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban concluded his report to the Cabinet today on the Middle East political situation and his latest contacts with United Nations peace envoy Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring and Secretary of State Dean Rusk. The Cabinet scheduled a special meeting for tomorrow to discuss Israel's position in light of Mr. Eban's report.

This information was given to newsmen by Michael Arnon, the Cabinet's secretary and spokesman to the press. He refused to say whether plans for the West Bank proposed by Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan would come up for discussion tomorrow. Several newspapers said today that those plans would be aired within the Labor Party councils before being brought to the Cabinet. Mr. Eban was known to have told the Cabinet that he had assured Dr. Jarring of Israel's continued cooperation with his mission so that every possibility for a peace settlement can be explored.

Polish Reds Oust Last Jew On Politburo, Plan To Speed Up Trials Involving Jews

LONDON, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Wladyslaw Gomulka was re-elected First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party at the Party Congress in Warsaw yesterday which dismissed Vice Premier Eugeniusz Syzr, the only Jew remaining in the powerful party Politburo. It dropped as well Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki who had taken a moderate line in foreign policy and had reportedly disagreed with the invasion of Czechoslovakia and the purge of hundreds of "Zionists" and "revisionists" from party and Government posts last spring.

According to reports from Warsaw, the Polish Government also decided to speed up the secret trials of students and faculty members, mostly Jewish, who were arrested for allegedly fomenting the student demonstrations for democratic reform last spring. The Government had reportedly intended to delay the trials until after the party Congress but changed its mind when the World Union of Jewish Students announced here last week that it was mobilizing student protests all over the world in opposition to them. Party leaders said they wanted to "take the wind out of the students' sails" by moving up the trial date. Some of the arrested students have been in jail for more than six months.

Reports from Warsaw said the composition of the new Politburo and the party Central Committee is definitely "hard line" and linked more strongly than before to the Kremlin which has given its full support to Mr. Gomulka. The latter's chief rival, former Interior Minister Gen. Mieczyslaw Moczar, who was regarded as the main force behind the anti-Jewish purges and propaganda campaign last spring and summer, was denied full membership in the Politburo. The apparent political setback for Gen. Moczar surprised some observers in the Polish capital but it was attributed to his advocacy of extreme nationalism rather than his hard-line on "Zionists" and "revisionists." Gen. Moczar was named an alternate member of the Politburo and the Central Committee's secretary in charge of security and armed forces last July when the anti-"Zionist" campaign was at its height. He had appeared in line for full membership in the Politburo and is still considered to be a power for Mr. Gomulka to reckon with.

Another hard-liner elected to the Politburo was Wladyslaw Kruczek, party leader from the Asessow area, who delivered the toughest denunciation of "Zionism" and "revisionism" heard at the Congress. Mr. Kruczek was one of three new members elected to replace Mr. Rapacki, Vice Premier Franciszek Waniołka and Vice Premier Syzr. The latter had been in charge of science and technology. His removal left the Politburo without a Jewish member for the first time since the Communists took power in Poland in 1944. Mr. Syzr was associated with much criticized shortcomings in scientific and technological fields.

Dr. Goldmann Says Position Of Czech Jews Has Not Deteriorated Since Invasion

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--The president of the World Jewish Congress said today that the position of Czechoslovakian Jewry has not deteriorated since the Warsaw Pact invasion and that Jewish communities in the occupied country can continue their normal activities. Dr. Nahum Goldmann told a meeting of the WJCongress' American Section, however, that there was good reason to be worried about the consequences for the Jews of a change of policy of the Dubcek Government or of a change in the Government itself.

He called upon the international public to protest renewed anti-Semitism in Poland which he called crude and contrasted with Poland's "very good record of only two years ago of fostering Jewish culture and life."

He called the "governmentally-organized persecution" of Polish Jews a "tragic situation" and said that the regime's anti-Jewish and anti-"Zionist" crusade stemmed from an internal power struggle in which Jews were being used as a "scapegoat." The principals in the struggle he identified as Communist Party First Secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka and Gen. Mieczyslaw Moczar, former Interior Minister.

"It is incomprehensible that the great Polish people are not ashamed to accuse the tiny Polish community of not more than 25,000 of undermining the country and demoralizing the population. The Polish Government and Communist Party should be ashamed of daring to take such a position." World public opinion, Dr. Goldmann declared, should be mobilized "in order to put an end to this demagoguery and to prevent the Polish Government from preparing show-trials to justify their immoral anti-Jewish policy."

Designation Of Schroeder As Christian Democratic Presidential Candidate Ires Jews

BONN, Nov. 17 (JTA)--The appointment of Defense Minister Gerhard Schroeder as Christian Democratic candidate for the West Germany Presidency is regarded with some consternation by Jewish circles here. Dr. Schroeder sought to join the Nazi SA (Sturm Abteilungen or Storm Troops) in 1933 after Adolf Hitler's rise to power. The SA played an important role in the Nazi Party's early anti-Jewish actions.

After he became Foreign Minister, Dr. Schroeder said that he sought membership in the SA because he wanted to continue his university studies. JTA's West Germany correspondent Alfred Wolfmann reports, "It is well known that in 1933 no student was expelled for not belonging to a Nazi group."

Dr. Schroeder will face Justice Minister Gustav Heinemann, candidate of Foreign Minister Willy Brandt's Social Democratic Party, when the Federal Assembly convenes early in 1969 to elect the head of state, succeeding Dr. Heinrich Lueke. Dr. Heinemann was an opponent of Hitler.

Dr. Sterling Brown, NCCJ President, Worried By Rising Negro-Jewish Tensions

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Dr. Sterling W. Brown, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, is worried about "rising passions of Negro anti-Semitism" and "retaliatory feelings among Jews."

In his annual report prepared for delivery to members of the Conference's board, Dr. Brown called for a new assertion of brotherhood. He said, "racism of any kind will lead us into the wilderness of anarchy. Anti-brotherhood sentiments have set kettles of Negro anti-Semitism boiling." The NCCJ tomorrow will begin its 40th anniversary meeting here.

"No Jews or Negroes, other than those who speak up boldly for brotherhood and practice it, will be able to cool the rising passions of Negro anti-Semitism or lessen the retaliatory feeling among Jews, before this needless, senseless prejudice brings incalculable hurt to the two American minority groups who can and should be of maximum help to each other," Mr. Brown said.

The NCCJ board of trustees has named two new national co-chairmen. They are Oscar S. Straus II, son of Roger W. Straus, a NCCJ founder, representing Judaism; and William F. May, a Protestant. Still representing Roman Catholicism is former Ambassador Robert D. Murphy. They are the organization's three top lay leaders. Mr. Straus succeeds Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, co-chairman since 1957; Mr. May replaces Carrol M. Shanks, a co-chairman since 1960. The board also agreed to add a fourth national co-chairman representing Eastern Orthodoxy, which the NCCJ believes has become a fourth major faith in the United States.

Goldberg Sends Message Of Condolence To Vatican On Death Of Cardinal Bea

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--The president of the American Jewish Committee yesterday expressed sorrow over the death in Rome on Friday of Augustin Cardinal Bea, author of the Vatican Council's Declaration which voiced Catholic absolution of Jewish collective guilt for the Death of Christ. A message of condolence to Pope Paul VI was sent by Arthur J. Goldberg, who declared that Cardinal Bea would be "remembered by Jewish history as the architect of the Vatican declaration on non-Christian Religions" which "has provided the foundation for an unprecedented improvement in relations between Catholics and Jews throughout the world."

Mr. Goldberg's message recalled that Cardinal Bea had met in March, 1963 with a group of leading Jewish scholars at the AJCommittee's New York headquarters when the issue of Catholic-Jewish relations was being considered by the Vatican Council. "Out of that intense experience, Jewish leadership was deeply impressed by the Cardinal's sincerity and friendship, his keen sensitivity to and appreciation of Judaism as a living faith and the spiritual vitality of the Jewish people, and his firm commitment to uproot the ancient theological roots of anti-Semitism," Mr. Goldberg wrote.

Cardinal Bea, born 87 years ago in Germany, joined the Jesuit order and later came to Rome where he initiated a new type of historical research in Biblical studies and served as spiritual advisor to Pope Pius VII. Pope John XXIII elevated him to the rank of Cardinal and entrusted him with drafting the Declaration on non-Christian Religions which was presented when the Ecumenical Council opened in Rome in 1960. The Declaration brought some of the bitterest debate to the Council but Cardinal Bea argued that neither the Jews of Christ's time, who were scattered throughout the Roman Empire, much less the Jews of today, could be held responsible for the Crucifixion. His view prevailed.

Cardinal Bea noted in his report to the Council in September, 1964 that no other matter before the Ecumenical Council had commanded such widespread attention as the Declaration on Jews. "The simple fact of this interest," he wrote, "shows how the world is looking to the Church for approval or rejection of this document and how the judgment on the whole Council will be made almost solely on this point. The Church," his report continued, "must follow the example of Christ and of the Apostles in their love of the Jewish people."

Mr. Goldberg said in his message that, "In the tradition of Judaism, Cardinal Bea is regarded as one of the truly righteous men among the peoples of the earth who is assured of a blessed portion in the world to come...His memory is an inspiration for all future generations who seek to build a more humane world based on mutual trust and understanding."

Rabbi Sandrow New Chairman of JWB Chaplaincy Commission; Rabbi Rackman Vice-Chairman

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow of Temple Beth El in Cedarhurst, Long Island, has been installed as chairman of the National Jewish Welfare Board's Commission on the Jewish Chaplaincy. Installation ceremonies were held at a plenary session at JWB headquarters here. Rabbi Sandrow, vice-chairman of the commission since 1956, succeeded Rabbi Selwyn D. Rüslander of Dayton, Ohio. Rabbi Emanuel Rackman of the Fifth Ave. Synagogue was installed as vice-chairman of the commission and chairman of its executive committee. In Leavenworth, Kansas, the U.S. Army on Friday honored Rabbi Jerome J. Rosen on completion of 50 years of uninterrupted service as an active duty, reserve and part-time chaplain in the Army and Veterans Administration.

Miss Doris May, Long-Time Secretary To Dr. Weizmann, Dies At 69

LONDON, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Miss Doris May, the private secretary of the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann for more than 30 years, died in Sussex Nov. 14 at the age of 69. Miss May joined Dr. Weizmann's staff shortly after the Balfour Declaration was issued in November, 1917 and retired in May, 1948, when Israel proclaimed its independence and Dr. Weizmann became its first President. Miss May worked with Dr. Weizmann when he wrote his autobiography, "Trial and Error" and her help was acknowledged in the book.