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Jewish Leaders Hopeful Of Restoring Jewish Chaplains To Hospital System

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5 (JTA)--Jewish leaders of California are hopeful of restoring the only three Jewish chaplains in the service of this state's huge mental hospital system. However, indications from Sacramento, the state capital, are that the chaplains will be dropped on July 1--as ordered by Governor Ronald Reagan. He has ordered millions of dollars in health cutbacks. A tremendous campaign has been mounted--including Protestant and Catholic groups--to retain the three Jewish chaplains. They travel from one hospital to another, up and down California, to minister to the 900 Jewish mental patients. By comparison, Protestant and Catholic chaplains are based on the hospital premises. A spokesman for the California Human Relations Agency, which administers the state's mental hospital program, said it "can't be said at this time" whether the chaplains would be retained. He said several alternative proposals were being studied. But other sources in the state capital were agreed that Governor Reagan would step in, "if necessary," and repeat his order to cut the chaplains--so intent is he on reducing the state's health costs. The charge of anti-Semitism has been made against Reagan. However, most responsible Jewish leaders in this state regard his action as "unthinking," not discriminatory.

Rabbi Harry Levenberg, who is Jewish chaplain for five northern California state mental hospitals, put it this way: "We're not accusing anyone of anti-Semitism, but we do feel it is unfair to take away a professional chaplaincy from one faith group." Under one alternative proposal being studied by the Reagan administration, each mental hospital would contract with a rabbi in its area for chaplain services as needed. However, interestingly, administration detail men have so far been unable to find any rabbis willing to accept such a contract. It appears that the rabbis have effectively banded together as a boycott group. Recently, a subcommittee of the California State Assembly held a standing-room-only hearing on the issue in Sacramento and recommended restoration of the three chaplains. At that session, support was voiced by such groups as the Northern and Southern California Boards of Rabbis, by the Council of Churches, by a bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and by mental health associations from many of California's 58 counties. A petition asking restoration came from patients from the Napa State Hospital. Jewish chaplains, who are specially trained for their work and serve brief residencies in mental hospitals, receive \$13,000 a year in salary plus travel expenses. They are generally acknowledged to be a "special breed" in the rabbinate.

Nixon Urged To Exert Diplomatic Pressure On USSR To Permit Jews To Emigrate

WASHINGTON, April 5 (JTA)--A New Jersey Congressman introduced a resolution today urging President Nixon to "exert diplomatic pressure" on the Soviet government to permit Russian Jews to emigrate to Israel or any other country willing to receive them. Rep. Peter W. Rodino, a Democrat from Newark, said on the House floor, "It is the moral responsibility of this nation" to persuade the Soviet government "to cease their educational, religious, employment and cultural persecution of Soviet Jewry." Rodino, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on immigration, said he was introducing his resolution "to bring to the attention of the American public the horrifying plight of Jewish people in the Soviet Union." He said "The increasing number of anti-Semitic practices by Soviet officials has generated great dismay in this nation and should be the concern of all people in the free world." Rodino observed that despite conservative estimates that 300,000 Jews would leave Russia if they were so permitted, the Soviet authorities reluctantly allow only some 2,000 to emigrate annually.

Rabbi Prinz Critical Of Look Magazine Article In Which He Is Extensively Quoted

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA)--An article on "The Agonized American Jews" in the new issue of Look magazine has been scored as "superficial" and "terribly distorted" by Dr. Joachim Prinz, past president of the American Jewish Congress, who is extensively quoted in it. "They misquote me terribly," Dr. Prinz told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, adding that on the basis of previous experience with Look he assumed he would see the text of the article before publication. The three-page piece, by senior editor Gerald Astor, appears in the magazine's April 20 issue, out tomorrow. Dr. Prinz said Astor did not tape-record their three-hour interview. The rabbi advised the JTA that the printed version of his remarks about the Jewish Defense League was "milder than I meant." He is quoted as saying: "The Jewish Defense League is something Freud would have described as psychopathology. It is sick, ludicrously ineffective, trying to imitate a philosophy of violence that is not only inimical to Jews but utterly alien. It grew out of a sick reaction to the black revolution. Auschwitz created the slogan of the JDL, 'Never Again.' It is based on the assumption that if the Jews had done something about Hitler, six million wouldn't have died. The assumption is entirely false. What Jews did learn from Auschwitz is that the home of Beethoven and Bach could kill with impunity."

Another passage said by Dr. Prinz to be improperly reported is Astor's sentence that "Even Prime Minister Golda Meir, much to his (Dr. Prinz's) distress, attempted to draw a parallel between Communist efforts in Indochina and in the Middle East." The Look writer, Dr. Prinz charged, omitted the substance of his argument, which is that the two wars are "of a different quality," one involving American intervention and the other involving Soviet intervention. Rabbi Prinz endorsed the section of the article quoting his condemnation of American Jewry, which he said was taken from the text of a recent speech. In the passage he declares: "In terms of Jewish culture, American Jewry is a disaster area. It has not attracted anybody of intellectual stature. The most mediocre people lead. The most illiterate Jewry in the world is in the U.S.A. Our kids know about Martin Luther King's

letter from a Birmingham jail but not about Jeremiah's letter from jail in Jerusalem. I'm quite desperate about American Jewry." Astor also reports that Rabbi Prinz in the interview warned that American Jews must not be forced to place their stamp of approval on every action by Israel. According to Astor, Rabbi Prinz told him that American Jewry "must acknowledge Israel as sovereign over itself, not governed by U.S. Jews. And Israel must acknowledge the independence and integrity of American Jewry." Rabbi Prinz was also quoted as saying: "Because we are close to Israel, we must not be forced to accept every move of Israel as prudent or acceptable. Israel must not become the manager of American Jewry, but only of its own affairs." Dr. Prinz, who is nearly 69 and is recuperating from an operation, told the JTA by telephone from his New Jersey summer home that he would send a formal letter of complaint to Look.

Galili: No Cabinet-Level Committee Drafting Israeli Terms For Canal Reopening

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--Israel Galili, a Minister-Without-Portfolio close to Premier Golda Meir denied today that he heads a Cabinet-level committee drafting Israeli terms for reopening the Suez Canal. Galili insisted that, contrary to press reports, no such committee exists. But reports persisted today that the government is waiting for an opinion by defense experts as to conditions that would permit the waterway to be reopened without jeopardizing Israel's military position in the Sinai peninsula. Informed sources said those conditions would be the basis of a counter-proposal by Israel to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's offer to reopen the canal if Israeli forces were withdrawn from its banks and Egyptian troops allowed to enter the evacuated area. Sadat's terms were categorically rejected by Premier Meir in her speech to the opening session of the Israel Labor Party convention yesterday. Nevertheless, sources said that Israel has specifically promised the United States government an early reply to the latter's proposal that it consider an "interim solution" for the time being in lieu of a final peace settlement.

(Sen. J. William Fulbright delivered a stinging criticism of Israel yesterday accusing it of resorting to "Communist-baiting humbugery" in order to "manipulate" U.S. policy in the Mideast. The Arkansas Democrat, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, maintained that Israel and the U.S. have different conceptions of American interests in the region. The over-riding American interest, he told a Yale University student forum in New Haven, was to avoid another Mideast war that could lead to a Soviet-American confrontation. In contrast, Israel has "an essentially cold-war conception" that as "the bastion of democracy in the Middle East" she is "defending American interests by holding the line against a surging tide of Communist imperialism.") Informed sources said Cabinet members differed on conditions for an interim arrangement that would permit Egypt to reopen the Suez Canal. They said Defense Minister Moshe Dayan insisted on a formal armistice or termination of belligerency status by Egypt as a condition for a limited Israeli troop withdrawal. Some of his colleagues believe that is not realistic and would be satisfied with a formal extension of the present de facto cease-fire.

Soviet Embassy Official Hedges; State Dep't. Mum On Fulbright's Attack On Israel

WASHINGTON, April 5 (JTA)--A Soviet Embassy official told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that "Of course, we fully agree" with a charge by Sen. J. William Fulbright yesterday that certain small countries were resorting to "Communist-baiting humbugery" to manipulate American foreign policy in their favor. The Arkansas Democrat, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, mentioned Israel and South Vietnam in that context in an address to Yale University students. But Alexander Yefstafyev, press counselor at the Soviet Embassy here hedged when the JTA reporter pressed him to say whether he thought Israel was indulging in "Communist-baiting" as charged by Fulbright. "I better not comment," Yefstafyev replied. State Department sources advised newsmen today that they "shouldn't expect any practical response" to Fulbright's charges from official quarters. The Department's spokesman, Charles Bray, maintained a perfect record of "no comment" on the Fulbright statement and other Middle East related matters at today's news briefing. He refused to say whether he agreed with Fulbright's judgement that "Were it not for the fact that they are Communists--and therefore 'bad' people--while we are Americans--and therefore 'good' people--our (U.S. and Soviet) policies would be nearly indistinguishable" in the Middle East. Bray also refused to comment on Premier Golda Meir's rejection yesterday of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's terms for reopening the Suez Canal.

Bazooka Shells Injure Woman; Report Arafat, Habash Join Forces

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA)--A 49-year-old woman was injured by flying glass when exploding bazooka shells shattered windows in the Upper Galilee village of Sasoufa early today. The victim was identified as Rebecca Bitoon. The shells were fired by Arab terrorists who infiltrated across the Lebanese border about four miles away. Security forces combed the area for the perpetrators. No other casualties were reported. King Hussein of Jordan vowed yesterday to restore order in his country after ten days of bloody clashes with Palestinian guerrillas. According to reports from Beirut, El Fatah leader Yasser Arafat has given orders for an all-out campaign to topple the Hussein regime and establish Jordan as the main base for guerrilla activities against Israel.

Arafat, who is reportedly in Syria, was said to have joined forces with Dr. George Habash, the Marxist leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The PFLP, one of the most extreme of the Arab terrorist groups, was responsible for a rash of aerial hijackings last September. Arafat was said to have linked up with Habash in order to suppress his rivals for power within El Fatah ranks. El Fatah was badly mauled in the Jordanian civil war last September and its ranks were decimated by mass desertions. The image of the Palestinian guerrilla movement has suffered and it no longer enjoys the popular support it once had in neighboring Arab countries. The Jerusalem Arabic daily Al Kuds reported today that the current fighting in Jordan has not produced the same anti-Hussein feelings that were prevalent among West Bank Arabs during the Jordanian civil war. The paper said an anti-Hussein campaign by former Mayor Hamdi Kanaan of Nablus was a complete failure.

Allen: Orthodox Religious Establishment Must Yield Some Of Its Exclusive Authority

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA)--Deputy Premier Yigal Alon warned Israel's Orthodox religious establishment today that there would have to be some changes made in the exclusive authority it wields over the private affairs of Israelis in such matters as marriage and divorce. Addressing the Labor Party convention, Alon said, "We are not a religious movement, but we are anti-religious. However, one cannot accept the situation that the fate of individuals in this country is in the hands of those whose thinking and way of life is obsolete." Alon said the problem was not one of separation between State and religion "but the creation of legal conditions by which every one in this country will be able to live according to his own belief." Alon's remarks reflected growing impatience inside and outside the government with the Orthodox rabbinate's conduct in matters of conversion and in denying marriage licenses to persons it considers unfit to have them. The rabbinate recently refused to recognize the conversions performed in Vienna of the non-Jewish spouses of 54 Soviet immigrant families on their way to Israel. It denied marriage licenses to two young Israelis because their mother never formally divorced her first husband who, she thought, perished in the Nazi holocaust. According to religious law as practiced by the Israeli rabbinate her children were "illegitimate" and therefore unfit to marry "legitimate" persons. The case aroused widespread indignation in Israel. Labor Party leaders are reportedly considering the introduction of legislation that would provide civil marriages for Israelis who want them.

Conclave Urges USSR To Abandon Impending Trial Of Jews; 70 Jews Protest To Kremlin

LONDON, April 5 (JTA)--A resolution urging the Soviet Union to abandon the impending trials of Jews was adopted today by a substantial majority at the annual conference of the United Nations Association at Loughborough. The conference, after heated debate, also adopted a resolution on the Middle East which, among other things, called for the establishment of a "secular State of Palestine." The resolution on Soviet Jewry was submitted by the British section of the World Jewish Congress. In addition to abandonment of the trials, it called for the release of Jews under arrest and permission for them to emigrate. A petition urging the USSR to end discrimination against Jews and to grant them emigration rights was delivered today to the Soviet Embassy by a delegation representing the British Zionist Federation. The delegation, headed by Lord Janner, was received by the Embassy's political secretary, Leonid Leontiev.

Meanwhile, reports reaching here from Moscow said that 70 Soviet Jews have sent letters to Kremlin leaders protesting the arrest of a large group of Jewish petitioners last Friday at the offices of the Soviet chief prosecutor Roman A. Rudenko. The petitioners were seeking information on the fate of Jewish prisoners awaiting trial on alleged hijack plot charges. The United Nations Association's resolution on the Middle East proposed the creation of an "economic federation" in the region which could ultimately lead to "political integration and the creation of a secular Palestine State." Sidney Shipton, chairman of the British Zionist Federation, asked that the second part of the resolution be deleted but his proposal was rejected. An 84-84 tie vote was cast on a resolution to empower United Nations mediator Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring to submit his own independent proposals for a Mideast settlement to the Security Council should his present peace efforts based on Resolution 242 show no progress by June 30. The conference chairman cast the deciding vote to defeat the resolution.

Goldberg Raps Critics Who Claim Israel Lacks Flexibility In Negotiating With Arabs

TEL AVIV, April 5 (JTA)--Arthur J. Goldberg, who was United States Ambassador to the United Nations at the time of the Six-Day War, lashed out today at critics of Israel who claim it is not sufficiently flexible in negotiating with the Arabs. Goldberg, a former U.S. Supreme Court Justice, addressed the Israel Labor Party convention which convened in the Mann Auditorium here today after its formal opening last night in Jerusalem. Goldberg endorsed virtually every position taken by the Israeli government. He upheld Israel's insistence on "secure and defensible borders" declaring that "the return to the June 4, 1967 borders is not a prescription for peace but for renewal of hostilities." He supported Israel's claim that any external pressure, including that from Washington, could lead to a new Mideast war. He opposed the stationing of American and Russian forces in a regional peace-keeping force because, according to Goldberg, that would increase the danger of a confrontation between the superpowers. Finally, Goldberg maintained that Four Power suggestions for international guarantees and peace-keeping forces "simply would not fit into the region and would not bring peace."

Hughes: No Comparison Between Israel, Vietnam; U.S. Totally Committed To Israel

WASHINGTON, April 5 (JTA)--Sen. Harold E. Hughes, Iowa Democrat, declared yesterday that "the United States has a total commitment to Israel" and maintained that "there is no comparison between Israel and Vietnam." Hughes, frequently mentioned as a possible Presidential nominee in 1972, replied to questions on the Middle East and Indo-China on the NBC television program "Meet The Press." He said the U.S. was trying to keep the balance of power between Israel and the Arab nations supplied by Soviet Russia but "the balance of power has been on the minus side for Israel." He said the ratio was about 4-1 in the Arabs' favor though it was offset by "the improved efficiency in training of the Israelis themselves." Hughes is opposed to continued American involvement in Indo-China. He observed that unlike South Vietnam "Israel has not asked us to supply manpower and come in and fly airplanes and fight their war for them. They are quite willing to do the fighting themselves if we maintain the balance of power," he said.

Israeli Scientists Seeking Ways To Preserve Dead Sea Scrolls

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--The problem of preserving the Dead Sea Scrolls is the subject of a basic research project--the first of its kind anywhere--that is currently engaging Israeli scientists at the behest of the Israel Museum. They are trying to determine why such factors as variations in temperature, light intensity or humidity, as well as fungi and bacteria, cause damage to the ancient parchments. They are also studying why one set of scrolls--the Manual of Discipline and the Book of Psalms--remain in good condition while the Isaiah Scroll has proven sensitive to light.

Saxbe Scores Jarring Formula; Welfare Fund, IEF Drive Nets Record \$9,149 Million

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 5 (JTA)--Senator William B. Saxbe told a record-pledging Welfare Fund Appeal dinner meeting here that "I reject the Jarring formula seeking to force Israel from its present area." In his talk at the kickoff dinner for the 41st annual Welfare Fund Drive, being conducted with the Israel Emergency Fund Appeal, the Ohio Republican senior Senator, just back from a trip to the Middle East declared: "The Jarring formula seeking from Israel a clear cut commitment to withdraw to the international boundary of the United Arab Republic is unsatisfactory. I reject it. There are 2,500,000 people living in Israel surrounded by untold millions of Arabs. Israel's survival is at stake; Arab survival is not." Even though the Arab states have promised a peace agreement with Israel on the precondition of a total Israeli withdrawal from their territories, there has never been an expression of peaceful intent by the Arab states, Saxbe said. "I have yet to find an instance where President (Anwar) Sadat of Egypt has told his own people that at some point they would have to live in peace with Israel." He paid tribute to the Cleveland community which announced a record-breaking opening dinner campaign pledge of \$9,149,000 for both its regular and IEF appeals from 20 divisions in the campaign which closes April 29.

JDL, Black Youth March Together Against Klan; 16 Arrested Including Klansmen

HIGHTSTOWN, N.J., April 5 (JTA)--Sixteen persons, including eight members of the Jewish Defense League and four members of the Ku Klux Klan, were arrested yesterday during a JDL rally to protest a recent series of cross-burnings here. The 250 JDL demonstrators were from Trenton, New York and Philadelphia. The Klansmen were also mainly out of towners, as the police chief here has said there are under half a dozen of them in Hightstown. Some 75 black youngsters joined the anti-KKK protest, joining in shouts of "No more racism! No more Klan!" Hightstown and the surrounding area have some 500 Jewish families, according to Orthodox Rabbi Joseph Weiss of Temple Beth-El.

Rabbi Urges Jews To Use Union Lettuce For Karpas Used At The Passover Seder

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA)--Rabbi Haskel Lookstein of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun is urging that American Jews use lettuce picked by members of the United Farm Workers' Union at the Passover seder. In the latest issue of the temple's bulletin, Rabbi Lookstein called attention to the struggle of the union, under the leadership of Cesar Chavez, to obtain decent working conditions for the migrant farm workers in California's lettuce industry. Attempts by workers to improve their living conditions and to organize themselves are being resisted by the lettuce growers, he observed. Rabbi Lookstein suggested that Jewish families use union lettuce, which can be identified by the Aztec Eagle on its wrapping, for the karpas used at the seder. Karpas is a spring vegetable which is dipped in salt water and eaten to commemorate the spring harvest. Using the lettuce as an act of solidarity with the farm workers is an "opportunity to join the great Passover experience to the struggle of one of the poorest segments of our population; a segment that desperately needs redemption from slavery to freedom," he said. The rabbi commended Chavez as a man who has "always been a great friend of the Jewish people and the State of Israel."

Ohio Governor Criticized For Failing To Appear At Soviet Jewry Rally

CLEVELAND, April 5 (JTA)--Gov. John J. Gilligan was publicly criticized yesterday for failing to appear at a statewide rally for Soviet Jewry on the steps of the State Capitol. The throng loudly applauded Dr. Louis Rosenblum, national coordinator of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, when he declared: "We are insulted. We have been taken for granted. We expected that the Governor would wish to identify personally with this serious issue, an issue of vital concern to the Jewish people."

How To Avoid Playing World Series On Yom Kippur Without TV Loss Suggestions Sought

NEW YORK, April 5 (JTA)--With another major league baseball season opening today, the office of Commissioner Bowie Kuhn has indicated a willingness to accept suggestions on how to avoid playing World Series games on Yom Kippur without loss of income to NBC-TV. Joe Reichler, public relations director of the office, has advised the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, as did another spokesman last October, that while "we have reviewed this from time to time over the years and Baseball has given it serious consideration," no way has been found to get around the financial factor. Reichler, a former sportswriter who is Jewish "and very proud of it," pointed out that a nighttime Series game tentatively scheduled for this season--not on Yom Kippur--will cost the network \$500,000 in prime-time revenues. Rubbing out a weekend game is even more difficult, he noted, because the television audience then is far greater and "the ratings are important." World Series conflicts with the Day of Atonement occurred in 1965, 1967, 1968 and 1970, and will recur in 1973 and 1978 if Baseball continues its practice of starting Series on Saturdays.

Rothberg Reelected As Chairman Of Hebrew U Board Of Governors

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--The Hebrew University's Board of Governors has reelected Samuel Rothberg as its chairman. The Russian-born Rothberg, who was 60 last December, will serve a second three-year term. He lives in Peoria, Ill. The board, closing its 33rd annual meeting, approved the decision of the executive council to award two special prizes for distinguished service in Jewish education. Those cited were Dr. Alexander Mordechai Dushkin, 80, professor emeritus of the Hebrew U., and Tal Dekel, a recent emigrant from the Soviet Union, where he was known as Anatoly Dekatov.

Street Named In Honor Of Dominican Republic For Support Of Israel

JERUSALEM, April 5 (JTA)--A street named in honor of the Dominican Republic was dedicated here yesterday at ceremonies attended by Mayor Teddy Kollek and Dr. Jaime Manuel Fernandez Gonzalez, Foreign Secretary of the Caribbean nation. Mayor Kollek presented him with a silver Jerusalem Medal and expressed thanks to the Dominican Republic for its diplomatic support of Israel during the past 22 years. The new street is located in the Kiryat Yovel quarter.