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Catholics Tell House Body U.S. Must Back Internationalized Jerusalem

WASHINGTON, July 28 (JTA)--Two Roman Catholic leaders today declared that the city of Jerusalem should be internationalized, and said that the United States "must do everything possible to see that Israel withdraws from the territories occupied in June, 1967." In their statement to the Subcommittee on the Near East of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Dr. James Kritzeck of the Institute for Advanced Religious Studies at Notre Dame University and the Reverend Joseph L. Ryan, S.J. of the Cambridge Center of Social Studies in Cambridge, Mass., said that "this would be only the first step to peace in the Holy Land, but Christians are praying that it will be taken in recognition and application of the requirements of justice." After citing the actions and resolution of the United Nations and the views of the Vatican and the State Department which call for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories, the statement continued to say that "If Israel wishes peace, she can have it. But she cannot also have the territories occupied in June 1967. It is essential that she withdraw from them, and that the United States, but for whose permissiveness she would be unable to continue to defy the United Nations year after year, must do everything possible to see that she does." It also invited official organizations of Christians here to speak out on these subjects.

The statement said, "We recommend that our government and citizens make a contribution which is uniquely theirs to make, to peace and justice in the Near East by admitting the injustices that have been done to the Palestinian people, and by recognizing that their rights...have important applications to the matter of Jerusalem and the Holy Places. The problem of Jerusalem arises in its present context out of the progressive and persistent refusal of the government of Israel to honor the United Nations' resolution, which is illegal; or anybody else's opinions including the U.S. and the Pope's, which is impertinent." Father Ryan noted a "progressive decline" in the number of Christians in Jerusalem from 25,000 in 1948 to about 10,000 this year. Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, opened the rebuttal by suggesting that those who left did so not because of Israeli oppression, but rather "for economic and other practical reasons." The important thing, the rabbi added, was to work for "a genuine pluralistic society under Israeli sovereignty." The original statement continued to say that "If a fresh phrasing" would be "more conducive to acceptance, let us suggest 'international guarantee' instead of 'internationalization.'" The statement pointed out that no other nation has recognized Israel's annexation of the Old City of Jerusalem and other territories, and the UN has repeatedly declared it invalid.

The third and final witness at the subcommittee hearing was Dr. Muhammad Abdul Rauf, director of the Islamic Center in Washington, D.C. He said "that the practical and legitimate solution to the problem of Jerusalem is to restore it fully to Muslim rule," adding that until the 1967 war, Muslim inhabitants constituted a vast majority of the city's population. He told the subcommittee that Islam "represents a continuity of the one true religion of God, revealed to a series of prophets," and that Islam has "a more legitimate claim to the custody" of the Christian and Jewish holy places "than they may have over Islam's own sacred shrines." Dr. Rauf added that Muslim tolerance gave the Jews "access" to the Walling Wall, but the Zionists capitalized on this tolerance. He referred to the Wall as a "myth" seized upon by the Zionists to serve as a focal and rally point for Jewish attention. Dr. Rauf concluded that any other solution that does not recognize Muslim authority over the entire city would be in violation of the right of self-determination laid down in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Sisco Arrives in Israel; Makes No Statement

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA)--Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, arrived at Lydda Airport this evening on a commercial flight from Washington accompanied by Alfred R. Atherton, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the region. Sisco made no statement at the airport where he was met by U.S. Ambassador Walworth Barbour and Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Yitzhak Rabin. Mordechai Gazit, deputy director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry was also present. Sisco is expected to be in Israel for about a week. He will stay at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. Sources here said he might be bringing a message from President Nixon to Premier Golda Meir.

American Orthodox Leader Attacks Dayan For Intervening in Religious Matters

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA)--An American Orthodox rabbi levelled a sharp attack against Defense Minister Moshe Dayan today, accusing the Israeli leader of intervening in problems of halacha--Jewish religious law. According to Rabbi Issachar Dov Bergman, chairman of the 62nd annual convention of the American Mizrahi Organization which opens in Jerusalem Aug. 4, Dayan's attempt to intervene "in problems which are under the sole jurisdiction of the Rabbinate" is "undermining" that body and has "adverse implications" for the mutual relations between Israel and Orthodox Jewry in America. Bergman apparently was referring to Gen. Dayan's intervention in behalf of a brother and sister, both members of Israel's armed forces, who were denied marriage licenses by the local rabbinical authorities because they were deemed "illegitimate." According to religious law, as interpreted by the Orthodox establishment in Israel, persons the rabbis determine to be of illegitimate birth may not marry legitimate persons.

The case which shocked and outraged most Israelis, is still pending. Gen. Dayan has also suggested on several occasions that the dual Chief Rabbinate be abolished in favor of a single Chief Rabbi. Rabbi Bergman said the questions of who is a Jew, inter-marriage, illegitimates and similar problems would be dealt with by a special committee of the convention on mutual relations between Israel and American Orthodox Jews. Referring to another matter, Shraga Kahan, a Mizrahi leader and

official of the Israel Bond Organization in New York, said he would try to head off the forthcoming visit of a Black Panther delegation to the United States this fall. Kahan claimed the visit would be harmful to Israel and said he would try to persuade the Panther leaders to give it up. He said he would propose a special "yad achim"--"hand to brethren" campaign to be conducted in Orthodox synagogues to raise money to help poverty families in Israel. The Black Panthers, Jerusalem aium youths of North African and Asian background, have been demonstrating against poverty and alleged discrimination. They announced early in July that a delegation would visit the U.S. in September to arouse the American Jewish community to the problems of poverty in Israel so that they would pressure the Israeli Government to do something about it. The trip is being financed by undisclosed sources.

Israelis, Syrians In Mortar Battle On Golan Heights

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA)--Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged mortar fire for an hour in the Golan Heights last night in what was described as the fiercest clash on that front in almost a year. No Israeli casualties were reported.

Schumann, Israeli Envoy Confer In Paris

PARIS, July 28 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Asher Ben-Natan met with French Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann at the Quai D'Orsay for more than an hour today. Informed sources said the major differences between the French and Israeli positions on the Middle East were apparent as the two diplomats conferred but that the possibility of a future meeting between M. Schumann and Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban reportedly was raised. Observers recalled in that connection that Schumann said during a recent foreign policy debate in the National Assembly that if Eban should visit Paris, he would be "delighted to meet him." Present at today's meeting were Herve Alphand, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general and Michel Bidard, chief of the Israeli section of the French Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Ben-Natan was accompanied by Yosef Hadaass, Israeli Minister Plenipotentiary. An official announcement said the bilateral problems of both countries were discussed. The meeting was considered significant inasmuch as France is the most influential member of the six member nations of the European Common Market which has shown an increasing diplomatic interest in the Middle East in recent weeks. It took place as Foreign Minister Pierre Harmel of Belgium, another of the Six, was in Jerusalem on an official visit conferring with Israeli leaders.

Prime Defendant Confesses In Sabotage Trial

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA)--The prime defendant in the sabotage trial of five French citizens retracted her not guilty plea and confessed to a Lydda military tribunal last night that she had planned to carry out "demonstrative acts" of sabotage in Israel. Evelyn Barge, 28, believed to be the leader of the sabotage ring, said she joined an Arab terrorist organization because she felt the Palestinians were being hurt by Israel. She insisted that her planned acts of sabotage were not intended to cause injury to anyone. According to the charges against them, Miss Barge and two sisters from Casablanca, Nadia and Mariene Bardall, intended to plant explosive charges in various public places in Israel. They were to have picked up the explosives from an elderly French couple, Pierre and Edith Burghalter who arrived in Israel last April 9 with explosives concealed in their clothing.

The Bardall sisters confessed earlier to charges of illegally transporting explosives. They were arrested at Lydda Airport on April 11 when a search of their baggage yielded explosive devices. Miss Barge testified last night that she was supposed to have picked up a transistor from the Burghalters in which activating devices were concealed. The Burghalters so far have not confessed to the charges against them. They allegedly received \$1,000 for bringing explosives into Israel. Miss Barge has been linked to aerial hijackings and various acts of sabotage aimed at Israeli installation in Europe while working for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The military panel trying the case consists of three Army officers, one of them a woman. She is Lt. Col. Zeeva Levi. Her fellow officers are Lt. Cols. Abraham Frisch and Yoram Fried.

Soviet Yiddish Poet Denied Exit Visa

NEW YORK, July 28 (JTA)--A prominent Soviet Yiddish poet has had his request for a visa to Israel rejected by the Soviet authorities, Jewish informants said here today. He is Meir Kharatz, 59, of Czernowitz, the Ukraine, who was imprisoned during the Stalin regime for what the sources called "loyalty to Jewish values." In April, 1960, he was attacked in the Ukrainian newspaper Radianska Bukovina. His poems have occasionally appeared in Sovietish Heimland, the only Yiddish periodical in the USSR, but he has been published mainly in leftist journals outside the Soviet Union, such as the Folksstimme of Warsaw, the Nele Presse of Paris and the Yiddisher Kultur of New York. The sources also reported that Benito Borokhovin, a Jewish engineer from Moscow who was arrested June 14 after two searches of his apartment turned up Jewish materials, suffered a heart attack during his interrogation.

SSSJ Threatens To Picket Wine Importers Over Soviet Vodka Deal

NEW YORK, July 28 (JTA)--Members of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry threatened yesterday to picket Monsieur Henri Ltd., a leading wine and liquor importer and certain "selected merchants" if the firm decides to market Russian vodka in the U.S. Members of the SSSJ distributed leaflets outside the St. Moritz Hotel where Monsieur Henri officials were meeting with Soviet trade representatives to discuss an import deal. The leaflets claimed that Soviet Jews wishing to go to Israel lost their jobs and were the objects of threats and harassment of their children in schools. "Vodka, as the Russian National Liquor, should be symbolic of good cheer between peoples," the leaflets stated. "Unfortunately, observing the situation of Soviet Jews, we as young Jews of the free world cannot feel cheerful." Addressing itself to Monsieur Henri, the leaflets said, "We cannot agree that 'business as usual' takes precedence over human rights. Regretfully, we reserve to ourselves the option at a later stage to engage in the legal picketing of Monsieur Henri wines and of selected merchants."

Prospective Olim From Canada Worried About Social Unrest In Israel

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA)--A Jewish Agency spokesman conceded today that the phenomenon of the Black Panther movement in Israel has adversely affected immigration prospects among French-speaking Jews from Canada. Many who had planned to settle in Israel this summer are now waiting for the report of a 50-man mission of Jews from Quebec sent to investigate allya prospects, the spokesman said. The group is paying special attention to the question of social unrest in the wake of Black Panther demonstrations in recent weeks. The Panthers, Jerusalem slum youths of North African and Asian origin, have been protesting against squalid living conditions and alleged discrimination against Jews of Oriental origin in housing, education and employment. They have adopted the name of the militant American Black Panther Party but have no known connection with that organization.

Soviet Tactic Kept Israelis From International Anti-TB Conference In Moscow

TEL AVIV, July 28 (JTA)--The Israeli Anti-Tuberculosis League lodged a strong protest with its parent body today over the refusal of Soviet authorities to allow Israeli physicians to attend the International Tuberculosis Conference held in Moscow July 12-16. The Soviets had given the International Union Against Tuberculosis assurances that the Israeli delegation would be admitted and allowed the names of Israeli doctors to be included on the printed program of speakers. But at the last minute, no visas were issued to the Israelis. A spokesman for the League said the Russian authorities employed a familiar tactic of hedging on visas until it was too late to move the site of the conference to another country. A delegation of 20 Israeli scientists will leave for Washington this week to participate in the first International Congress of Immunology opening Aug. 1 under the sponsorship of the International Union of Immunological Societies. The Israeli delegation will be headed by Prof. Michael Sela, dean of the biology faculty at the Weizmann Institute of Science who is chairman of the Israeli Society of Immunological Scientists.

Western Consortium To Build \$236 Million Oil Pipelines For Egypt

WASHINGTON, July 28 (JTA)--A consortium made up largely of Western governments and private oil companies led by French interests, will build two petroleum pipelines for the Egyptian government from the Red Sea near Suez to the Mediterranean near Alexandria, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed today. A contract for the project will be signed in Cairo tomorrow. American officials here said the project will be completed in 18 months at an overall cost of \$236 million. Egypt will operate the pipelines which will carry approximately 80 million tons of oil annually, and eventually be increased to 120 million tons. The JTA was informed that to start with, Egypt will derive an income of \$120-\$180 million per annum.

Sources here would not speculate on the effects the new pipelines might have on the flow through the existing pipelines running through Syria and Lebanon and the new Israeli pipeline from Eilat to Ashkelon. They also refused to speculate as to whether the project was initiated on the supposition that the Suez Canal will remain closed to shipping for some time to come. President Anwar Sadat, of Egypt, announced at the Arab Socialist Union party congress last weekend that the contract would be signed but gave no details. The new lines will run from a point south of Port Suez, will cross the Nile 30 miles south of Cairo and continue northwest to a point near Alexandria. France owns the lion's share of the consortium, sources here said. The French government is guaranteeing some of the loans and French banks are involved. The Italian government is also helping to back the capitalization. The only U.S. involvement, the sources said, is an American oil company, Amoco, which is operating in Egypt south of Suez and has a "minor share" in the project. British, Spanish and Italian oil companies are also participating and Japanese, West German and American companies were reported to be interested in providing construction materials and equipment. A feasibility study for the lines was conducted by a British firm, Imag. The consortium itself, known by the acronym, Socia, is said to be largely French and headed by French personnel.

Israelis Ease Restrictions To Help West Bank Farmers

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA)--Israeli authorities today eased restrictions on the sale in Israel of fruit grown by West Bank farmers. The move was intended to help Arab farmers who lost a large part of their market when Syria and Iraq closed their borders with Jordan earlier this week. Much of the fruit and other farm produce shipped across the Jordan River bridges was normally destined for markets in other Arab countries. Restrictions on the sale of West Bank produce in Israel are expected to be abolished altogether in September when the Arab League plans to implement its boycott of farm products from the occupied territories. The League claims that Israeli-made goods were infiltrated into the Arab states disguised as products from the occupied territories.

Most West Bank Highschoolers Pass Matric Exams

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA)--Nearly 75 percent of the West Bank highschool students who took the matriculation examinations this year passed them, it was reported today. The passing number, 4,350, was slightly less than the 4,584 who succeeded last year but this year's percentage--73.4--was slightly higher. The examinations are identical with those given in Jordan and passing grades are recognized in that country. A majority of the students are majoring in the humanities, the rest in scientific subjects.

U.S. Diamond Dealers Plan Israel Visits

NEW YORK, July 28 (JTA)--Groups of major American jewelry store owners will visit Israel as part of a program of jeweler tours announced by the Israel Diamond Institute today to leaders of the Retail Jeweler's Association at their annual trade fair and convention in New York. A tour and buying mission organized by the national office of the RJA leaves for Israel tomorrow. A detailed program for group trips from the 7,500-man RJA was outlined to executives of the State Associations affiliated with the jewelry trade body by Burton Halpern, special events director, representing the Israeli diamond industry.

SPECIAL REPORT

WILL THE AUTHOR OF "NIHONJIN TO YUDAYAJIN" PLEASE STAND UP

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF, Chief of JTA Washington Bureau

TOKYO, July 28 (JTA)--"Nihonjin To Yudayajin" is the transliterated Japanese title of this country's run-away non-fiction best-seller, "The Japanese and the Jews." The 208-page volume made its appearance eight months ago with a modest first run of 2,500 copies. Since then it has sold over a half million, been quoted from by Japan's Premier Eisaku Sato on national television, grabbed an important literary prize and, in the process, created an intriguing mystery surrounding its authorship. Why the book made an impact in Japan was explained to this correspondent by Moshe Bartur, Israel's Ambassador to Tokyo. For one thing, he said, "It identifies modern Japan's quest and search for its own identity and mission in today's world." Secondly, "It reflects the fascinating spiritual relationship between Japan and the Japanese people and Judaism and the Jewish State--Israel."

Bartur noted that the book's language is "very rich Japanese, very difficult to translate." He said the "perspective is such that it could have been written only by one fully versed in Japanese history, though from the point of view of a foreigner who fully understands Japanese literature and peculiarities." Beyond that, the Israeli envoy was no better able to identify the author than the scores of other literary detectives who have been probing the mystery since the book attained prominence.

The name of the author appearing on the cover is Isaiah Ben-Dasan, obviously a nom-de-plume. A brief preface to the book describes him as a Jew who was brought up in Kobe before World War II. He left there during the war and returned to Japan in the post-war period. Bartur said the publisher, a Christian who operates a small company specializing in Biblical works, explained that he must respect the author's desire for anonymity. The publisher will only say that he is a businessman and obviously also a scholar well versed in Japanese literature and history and knowledgeable in Jewish classics. A professor at Indiana State University in Terre Haute who handles the author's mail and apparently knows him, offers no clues. He says the writer "is not ready to disclose his identity."

The director of the United States Information Service in Japan, Allan Carter, told the JTA correspondent that the author is not a Jew but a Japanese Biblical scholar who is now studying at a theological school in North Carolina. Walter Citrin, president of the Jewish Community Center in Tokyo agreed that the author probably was not Jewish. He pointed out "some errors" in the Jewish context of the book. But the publisher insists that the mystery writer "is not a Japanese." This re-enforces Ambassador Bartur's belief that he is a bi-cultural person born of a mixed marriage--possibly a Jewish father and Japanese mother.

The book draws a parallel between Japanese philosophy and literature and Hebrew learning, including the Talmud. It speaks of contemporary problems that Japanese and Jews--Israelis--have in common, among them matters of national security and defense.

Prime Minister Sato quoted from the book seven months ago during a television appearance at which Japan's defense problems were discussed. When Gideon Rafael, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry visited Japan, the book was Mr. Sato's first subject. Two days later, when the Prime Minister met King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, he immediately began talking about "Nihonjin To Yudayajin," to the obvious consternation of the Arabian monarch.

Meredith Weatherby, president of John Weatherhill, Inc., in Tokyo, announced recently that an English language edition of the book is scheduled for publication early next year. Western readers will then have a chance to find out what so tremendously impressed the Japanese. Perhaps then, the author will come out of hiding.

Israeli Imports Will Continue To Rise Commerce Dept. Organ Says

WASHINGTON, July 28 (JTA)--Israel's imports, which reached a record \$1.4 billion in 1970, an increase of nine percent over the 1969 level, are expected to grow at the same pace during 1971 according to "Commerce Today," a bi-weekly publication of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The magazine says the import situation is a reflection of the rapid growth of Israel's economy since the 1967 Six-Day War. It states, "This overall growth is likely to continue" unless it is impeded by inflation which began in 1970 and the massive trade deficits which have been financed by borrowings from abroad. "Commerce Today" says that the rate of increase in Israel's gross national product has decreased from 14 percent in 1968, to 10 percent in 1969 and nine percent last year and is expected to be only eight percent this year. The magazine also reported that in 1970 the U.S. sold Israel \$342 million worth of goods, or 23.8 percent of Israeli imports. At the same time the U.S. purchased \$149 million of Israeli goods, or 19.1 percent of all Israeli exports.

Israel's Trade Deficit Up 14%

JERUSALEM, July 28 (JTA)--Israel's balance of trade deficit rose by 14 percent during the first six months of 1971 owing mainly to the purchase of ships and aircraft abroad, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported. If ships and planes are excluded, Israel's trade deficit actually declined by eight percent for the period. According to the Bureau's figures it stood at \$298 million for the period Jan.-June, 1971 compared to \$325 million for the same period last year. Adding the purchase of ships and planes, the deficit climbed to \$412 million. Israeli over-all imports grew by 19 percent during the Jan.-June period to total \$879 million net while exports rose by 24 percent, totalling \$468 million.