



daily news bulletin

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Tuesday, March 14, 1972

No. 51

JEWISH RADICALS FROM U.S. MEET VIETNAMESE IN PARIS; DONATE FUNDS TO REPLACE TREES

PARIS, March 13 (JTA)--A group of American Jewish radicals met with members of the North Vietnamese delegation to the Paris peace talks, a North Vietnamese spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here today. Members of the group included Mike Tabor, leader of the "Community of Micah," a Washington-based activist group; Rabbi Michael Robinson, chairman of the Jewish Peace Fellowship; and Mitchell Krucoff, president of the Middle Atlantic Federation of Temple Youth, a Reform group.

The North Vietnamese spokesman said the group donated funds to replant trees in North Vietnam "which have been burned down during the aggressor's defoliation campaign." The spokesman refused to indicate the size of the contribution. He added that the Jewish activists expressed sympathy for the "North Vietnamese fight for independence and against imperialism" but expressed no desire to visit North Vietnam.

RABBI CLARIFIES SOURCE OF NEWS OF JEWISH POWs IN N. VIETNAM

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--Rabbi Schulem Rubin said today that it was "absolutely not" the North Vietnamese but other "people who are involved in this matter" who had informed him that 30 Jewish prisoners of war were held by the Hanoi regime in 1969. He would not say who the other people were.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Daily News Bulletin of March 9 had named the North Vietnamese as the source. Rabbi Rubin, of Young Israel of Pelham Parkway in the Bronx told the JTA today that the North Vietnamese have "never denied that they have Jewish prisoners." In that connection, he denounced the statement in Paris today by a Hanoi spokesman that his government does not know how many Jewish POWs there are because "we are not racists and we do not divide prisoners according to religion or race." Rabbi Rubin condemned what he called the implication that the United States is racist for that reason.

(The Hanoi spokesman also denied that Rabbi Rubin's request for permission to visit POWs had been rejected. "This is a lengthy process which is being dealt with by the North Vietnamese general delegation which enjoys consular facilities," he said.)

Rabbi Rubin stressed to the JTA that he was engaged in the effort to reach Jewish POWs "as a private citizen, as a rabbi who is interested in the plight of people all over the world."

EX-PRES. JUAN PERON DENOUNCES ANTI-ZIONIST ADS IN ARGENTINE PRESS

Believed Paid For By Arab League

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more extraneous than anti-Semitism for the ideology of a movement like Peronism."

Davidovich, who met with Peron in Madrid for two-and-one-half hours while en route to Argentina following the conclusion of the 28th World Zionist Congress, said that Peron told him "During my government there never were problems of anti-Semitism or persecution against any national group." He also noted that his regime had been one of the first to recognize Israel, and added that "any problem promoted between Arabs and Jews in our country is artificial."

When the advertisements appeared, it was believed that they had been promoted and paid for by the Arab League.

89 JEWISH NEWSMEN IN NIXON-LAND

WASHINGTON, March 13 (JTA)--Eighty-nine editors and publishers of Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish newspapers and periodicals in the United States and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency met with top officials of President Nixon's staff and administration in the White House today to hear briefings on the President's achievements and policies in areas of general and Jewish interest. The guests were treated to a tour of the White House before the briefings began and were entertained at lunch. The President did not meet with the group although previously it had been rumored that he might. Herbert Klein, the White House director of communications explained that Mr. Nixon was occupied writing a statement on the issue of bussing school children.

The Jewish journalists attended the briefings on invitations issued in the President's name. There was an undercurrent of feeling among some of them that the briefings, which lasted almost five hours, were an apparent bid to extol the virtues of the Nixon Administration in a very soft sell approach.

Others, however, felt that they were instructive and an effective way to put on the record the immediate and long-range interests of the Jewish community as implemented by President Nixon. When asked by one editor why they were invited at this particular time--a Presidential election year, Klein said the purpose was to give the visitors an opportunity to evaluate the administration's record now that it is nearing completion.

William Safire, who described himself as a drafter of Presidential speeches on economic and foreign policy subjects, claimed that the briefings were not intended to sway Jewish voters or views. He asserted that the President does not consider Jewish votes in connection with the US government's relations with Israel. (See late story on Page 3.)

LATEST ROCKEFELLER PAROCHIAL PLAN CALLED INADEQUATE BY AGUDATH ISRAEL

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Agudath Israel of America, as insufficient to meet the needs of families sending their children to such schools, including Jewish day schools.

The bill would provide funds for maintenance and repair programs for non-public schools. It would provide \$30 a year per pupil in aid for each enrolled program, as well as an additional \$10 per pupil for the 1971-72 year only, plus an additional \$12 per pupil for those in designated poverty areas. Payments of half of the aid would be made by May 15 each year.

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive vice-president of Agudath Israel, said the legislation "merits careful consideration but falls far short of coming to grips with the government's responsibility to help financially stricken parents of children attending non-public schools." He said the Agudath legislative commission would advocate introduction of additional constitutional measures to provide government aid to parents of non-public school children. A plan to provide tuition grants to parents to enable them to exercise their "parental rights" for free choice in education is high on the list of the commission's recommendations, Rabbi Sherer said.

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In a related proposal, the Orthodox Rabbinical Council of America has proposed that Congress adopt legislation enabling the Internal Revenue Service to give tax deductions for the tuition which such parents pay.

Rabbi Bernard L. Berzon, president, said the religious school system faced "its worst financial crisis" in history. He said that without some form of help, the schools will disappear, "a loss not only to the religious communities involved but to the whole educational system in this country."

Rabbi Berzon said the tax exemption approach resolved both the issue of separation of church and state and the ability of parents to send their children to religious-sponsored schools. He noted that such schools are presently tax-exempt and that contributions to them are exempt from taxation.

WESTERN IMMIGRANTS PROTEST HIGH COST OF HOUSING IN ISRAEL, DEMAND GOVT. ACTION Olim From U.S., Canada, Britain At Conventions, Assail "Negative Atmosphere" Prevailing Toward Immigrants And Planned Curtailment Of Incentives

TEL AVIV, March 13 (JTA)--Two associations representing immigrants from North America and from Britain have protested bitterly over the high cost of housing in Israel and demanded that the government do something about it without delay. The convention of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel which wound up a two-day session in Haifa today called on the government and the Jewish Agency to implement "a radical change" in the present housing policy to bring down soaring prices and to provide more rental housing.

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The British settlers called for the mass construction of low rental housing for young single adults and married couples. The Americans and Canadians suggested that the authorities change the present restrictions imposed by the Government Land Authority and release public land which it was

holding back so that prices could be reduced.

The North American immigrants also protested the government's plan to reduce the incentives presently granted new settlers in the acquisition of housing and the exemption from customs levies on certain dutiable items they bring into the country. The government's plan, announced last year, was in response to economic exigencies and also to complaints in many quarters that new immigrants were getting favored treatment.

Concerned Over Aliya Lag, High Returnee Rate

At the convention representing 40,000 Americans and Canadians in Israel, serious concern was voiced over the lag in immigration from North America which fell below expectations last year and over the high rate of return among immigrants from the US and Canada. Speakers blamed the situation in part on what they described as the negative atmosphere toward immigrants prevailing in substantial segments of Israeli society. The plan to reduce incentives was a contributory factor, they said.

Several speakers referred to Premier Golda Meir's recent remarks that she was "shocked" at the negative atmosphere but said her remark was "too little and too late." The convention decided to implement an extensive information program to explain the new immigrants to the established population.

Negative Attitude In Govt., Agency Circles

Dr. George Wise, Chancellor of Tel Aviv University who was the principal speaker at the opening session, blamed the negative atmosphere for the high percentage of returnees among American and Canadian olim. He said that while the rate of return decreased somewhat last year, it was still in the neighborhood of 30 percent compared to ten percent among immigrants from other areas. The convention expressed concern over the fact that only 8500 persons emigrated from North America last year instead of the 10,000 anticipated. Dr. Wise said the negative atmosphere was found not only among the general public but in certain governmental and Jewish Agency circles. He urged American and Canadian settlers nevertheless to make all possible efforts to become integrated into the Israeli population because Israel is now their home and the home of their children.

TAX OFFICIALS, BAKERS END SLOWDOWN; PORT LABOR BACK TO NORMAL

JERUSALEM, March 13 (JTA)--Income tax officials who began a work slowdown two weeks ago, agreed to resume their normal work today after the Treasury promised that they would receive incentive and overtime pay beginning April 1. Government revenues dropped to one-tenth the normal amount while the slowdown was in effect. Meanwhile, Israel's bakers have returned to a normal work schedule following agreement on some of their wage demands.

The main issue, a wage agreement which would exceed labor-management guidelines, remained unsettled and will continue to be negotiated. The bakers began a production slowdown last Wednesday. Bakery owners said their wage demands would require a 20 percent increase in bread prices which the cost-of-living conscious government opposes.

Ashdod port foremen resumed normal work schedules after a special committee was set up to study their demands. Activities at Israel's second largest port were paralyzed Wednesday.

JEWISH EDITORS AT WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING URGED TO SUPPORT CONTIN- UATION OF BROADCASTS TO USSR, COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES

Told They Are In Interest Of Soviet Jews

WASHINGTON, March 13 (JTA)--Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Richard Davies urged Jewish editors visiting the White House today to support the administration's efforts to keep alive broadcasts by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty because it is in the interests of Soviet Jews. Davies was one of a number of administration officials and Presidential aides who briefed a group of 89 American Jewish editors and publishers invited to the White House today to hear and question administration officials on matters of interest to the American Jewish community.

Davies characterized Soviet policy toward Jewish emigration as carrot-and-stick--the carrot of emigration and the stick of intimidation but said that 40,000 Soviet Jews were expected to go to Israel in 1972. Asked whether President Nixon would take up the issue of Soviet Jews when he visits Moscow in May, White House Director of Communications Herbert Klein said the agenda would not be disclosed in advance of the summit meeting.

Klein supported Davies' plea for support of the two radio services whose programs are beamed to the Soviet Union and to East European Communist bloc countries. Davies said he understood Congress would accept a compromise to continue the broadcasts until June 30, 1972, but predicted a "tough fight" to extend their life for another year. "We will appreciate all the help we can get on this subject," he said.

Non-Violent Pressure On Moscow Urged

Davies urged the Jewish visitors that in putting pressure on the Soviet government, violence be avoided. "It is very important not to turn this humanitarian issue into a cold war confrontation," he said, adding that the pressure of public opinion, without violence, "is the most effective means to get this done." The State Department official said the government would do its part "privately." He disclosed that more than half of the 300 US immigration documents issued to Soviet citizens in 1971 went to Jews.

Poverty Fund Guidelines Questioned

At another briefing session Herbert Stein, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, was asked what the Federal government will do to change the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) guidelines to provide Federal anti-poverty funds for Jews who are not now eligible because they do not live in federally designated poverty areas. Stein replied that the poverty program does not break down in terms of minority and ethnic lines and maintained that poverty funds were available to all who are in need.

Asked again if the Federal government is willing to respond to Jewish poverty as it has to Black and other minority demands, Stein said he didn't have available the statistics of the studies made. The Jewish editors were also briefed by Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs who reviewed the Middle East situation and the American peace initiative there.

The gathering of Jewish journalists, representing Yiddish dailies, Anglo-Jewish weeklies and periodicals, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Seven Arts-World-Wide News Service, was described by Milton Firestone, editor of the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle as "undoubtedly the largest and most representative gathering of the American Jewish press

in the country's history."

Philip Slomovitz, editor of the Detroit Jewish News, said, however, that today's visit was at least the third visit of representative Jewish editors to the White House. He recalled that in 1949, when he was president of the American Jewish Press Association, he led a group of Jewish editors to a meeting with President Truman and that a similar visit was made in 1964 during the administration of President Johnson.

FEDERAL GOVT. WILL PROVIDE KOSHER FOOD FOR ELDERLY JEWS

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--Kosher food will be provided to elderly Jews under Federal auspices for the first time when the Bratemas-Pepper-Kennedy bill, which has been approved by both House and Senate, is signed by President Nixon, according to the Office for the Aging of New York City.

The bill provides for expenditure of \$10 million in fiscal 1972 and \$13 million in 1973 to provide nutritious meals for the elderly in New York State. Half of that sum is expected to go to New York City, according to Mrs. Alice Brophy, director of the city Office for the Aging. She pointed out, however, that an appropriations bill must still be approved and the actual funding may fall below the totals specified in the federal legislation. The measure is now on President Nixon's desk for signature.

The funds will be allocated by the New York State Office for the Aging to public and private agencies, which will handle the actual feeding of elderly. The law provides that consideration is to be given to the "religious needs of clients." Mrs. Brophy said this was understood to mean kosher food for elderly Jews who request it.

She said her office had called together representatives of various groups to examine the implications of the bill, which provides for a total national allocation of \$100 million for 1972 and \$150 million for 1973 and that the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies had been invited and had sent representatives, including representation for the Jewish Services for the Aged.

BONN, ARAB STATES IN CONTACT ON RENEWAL OF FORMAL TIES

JERUSALEM, March 13 (JTA)--Contacts have been made between representatives of the West German government and those of Egypt, Syria and other Arab states concerning restoration of diplomatic relations, Amman television reported last night.

The start of meetings followed a decision by the Arab League Council to permit individual Arab countries to resume relations with West Germany. Most of the Arab countries broke off relations with West Germany in 1956 after the Bonn government established diplomatic ties with Israel.

But in most of the Arab countries, West German trade missions and consulates remained in operation. The Arab League decision was seen here as an expression of concern that relations between the Arab states and West Germany will become worse after the scheduled exchange of visits between Prime Minister Golda Meir and Chancellor Willy Brandt.

The remains of Sir Moses Montefiore, the British Jewish philanthropist and scholar who aided Jewish settlement in Palestine during the last quarter of the 19th century, will be brought to Israel shortly for reburial. The decision was made by the trustees of the Montefiore Endowment Fund.

COOPERATION URGED BETWEEN REFORM, CONSERVATIVE BRANCHES OF JUDAISM IN US

Necessary For Survival, Rabbi Polish Tells Rabbinical Assembly Convention

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., March 13 (JTA)--A leading Reform rabbi addressing the 72nd annual convention of the Conservative Rabbinical Assembly of America here suggested today that the two branches of Judaism get together on a broad front of cooperation in the US and in Israel. "If capitalist Americans and Communist Chinese can play ping-pong, why can't Conservative and Reform rabbis play chess?" Rabbi David Polish, of Chicago, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, asked the 1000 members of the Conservative rabbinical body attending the convention.

In this day of crisis for an embattled Jewish people, cooperation is necessary for survival, Rabbi Polish said. He added that Jewish youth and even the older generation do not understand conflict and recriminations among Jews and want their leadership to "address ourselves to the Jewish issues that they place at the top of their agenda."

Rabbi Polish suggested the establishment of corresponding committees on cooperation between the Central Conference and the Rabbinical Assembly. He also said the two branches must work together to "contribute a non-Orthodox religious component into Israel's complex structure."

Areas Of Cooperation Cited

Other possible areas of cooperation according to Rabbi Polish included the development of a joint approach to the problem of intermarriage "a problem and a reality that transcends denominational lines"; joint projects for the improvement of the "quality and direction of Jewish education"; collaboration, even if unofficial on matters of theological interpretation; and joint pension, health insurance and tenure policies.

HOUSE BODY TO CONSIDER EXPANSION, LIBERALIZATION OF REFUGEE PROGRAM

Subcommittee Chairman Tells Hias Meeting He Favors Changes

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--The House Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality will hold hearings in May to discuss proposals for revising the existing refugee provisions in the immigration law, Rep. Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D, N.J.) the subcommittee chairman, told the 88th annual meeting of United Hias Service, the worldwide Jewish migration agency. Rep. Rodino said his subcommittee will consider substantial liberalization and expansion of the current refugee program.

He advocated an "open-ended refugee program with continuous legislative oversight" because he had found it "illogical to set a specific number on refugee admissions and later worry about separating a family or deciding which of two individuals may suffer the greater hardship."

Another speaker, Max M. Fisher of Detroit, who is president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, lauded the heroism of the Soviet Jews. The present exodus of Jews from the Soviet Union holds the promise of restoring large numbers of people to the free world who had been thought lost forever, Fisher remarked.

He commended President Nixon and former Attorney General John Mitchell for making it possible for increased numbers of Soviet Jews to emigrate here under the Attorney General's parole

authority and asserted that a similar provision in the Hitler years could have saved thousands of lives. He commended United Hias Service officials for recognizing the opportunity offered by the parole provisions.

AZF ANNOUNCES BOOK PROGRAM TO COUNTER ANTI-ISRAEL PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--A program to counter what was described as "continuing anti-Israel and anti-Zionist propaganda" on the campuses and among other sectors of American life was announced by the American Zionist Federation last night. According to AZF president Rabbi Israel Miller, the program is designed "to promote a better understanding and knowledge of Zionism and the role of Israel in the furtherance of peace and Jewish survival."

Rabbi Miller said one of the first moves will be to expand the distribution of books, literature and fact sheets among the estimated 400,000 Jewish students on the campuses dealing with the issues and background of Israel's emergence as an independent state, and a deeper analysis of the evolution and meaning of Zionism as a movement aimed at instilling a sense of Jewish identity among Jewish youth.

Among books already published or promoted by the AZF now being distributed on campuses and to college libraries are: "Israel's Fight for Life" by Harry Milt, former news editor and managing editor of the Washington Times Herald; "True/False About Israel" by Dr. Jacob R. Rubin, author and former correspondent at the UN; "Border Kibbutz" by Michael Gorkin, who was active in neighborhood poverty programs in East Harlem; "Encounter with Israel" by Dr. A. Roy Eckardt, Professor of Religion at Lehigh University co-authored with his wife, Alice.

Rabbi Miller said, "We are particularly concerned with the large, if somewhat diminishing, number of alienated Jewish youth who are either uninformed or misinformed on their heritage and who are prone to fall prey to the blandishments of the spurious propaganda of Israel's enemies."

SOVIET UNION SELLING JEWISH ARCHIVES SEALED SINCE 1917 REVOLUTION

National Library In Ottawa Getting Microfilm Of Documents, Some 1000 Years Old

MONTREAL, March 13 (JTA)--Manuscripts pertaining to Jewish life and lore in Eastern Europe, some of them at least 1000 years old, are being sold by the Soviet Union to the National Library in Ottawa as part of a new cultural exchange project between Canadian and Russian scholars, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. About 20,000 frames of microfilm representing 40,000 pages of manuscript, much of it hand written on parchment, have already arrived from Moscow.

They had been sealed away in the Soviet State Library since the Revolution in 1917. So far, \$50,000 has been raised privately from Jewish and non-Jewish sources to finance the project, the total cost of which may reach \$500,000. According to David Rome, former director of the Jewish Public Library in Montreal who initiated the exchange, the project represents "the rescue of the whole manuscript lore of Eastern European Jewish learning."

All of the documents are of pre-18th century origin and some date as far back as the 10th century. Their value, according to scholars is religious and historical and allows comparisons to be made between original manuscripts and later known versions of the same document.



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The main issue, a wage agreement which would exceed labor-management guidelines, remained unsettled and will continue to be negotiated. The bakers began a production slowdown last Wednesday. Bakery owners said their wage demands would require a 20 percent increase in bread prices which the cost-of-living conscious government opposes.

Ashdod port foremen resumed normal work schedules after a special committee was set up to study their demands. Activities at Israel's second largest port were paralyzed Wednesday.

JEWISH EDITORS AT WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING URGED TO SUPPORT CONTIN- UATION OF BROADCASTS TO USSR, COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES

Told They Are In Interest Of Soviet Jews

WASHINGTON, March 13 (JTA)--Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Richard Davies urged Jewish editors visiting the White House today to support the administration's efforts to keep alive broadcasts by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty because it is in the interests of Soviet Jews. Davies was one of a number of administration officials and Presidential aides who briefed a group of 89 American Jewish editors and publishers invited to the White House today to hear and question administration officials on matters of interest to the American Jewish community.

Davies characterized Soviet policy toward Jewish emigration as carrot-and-stick--the carrot of emigration and the stick of intimidation but said that 40,000 Soviet Jews were expected to go to Israel in 1972. Asked whether President Nixon would take up the issue of Soviet Jews when he visits Moscow in May, White House Director of Communications Herbert Klein said the agenda would not be disclosed in advance of the summit meeting.

Klein supported Davies' plea for support of the two radio services whose programs are beamed to the Soviet Union and to East European Communist bloc countries. Davies said he understood Congress would accept a compromise to continue the broadcasts until June 30, 1972, but predicted a "tough fight" to extend their life for another year. "We will appreciate all the help we can get on this subject," he said.

Non-Violent Pressure On Moscow Urged

Davies urged the Jewish visitors that in putting pressure on the Soviet government, violence be avoided. "It is very important not to turn this humanitarian issue into a cold war confrontation," he said, adding that the pressure of public opinion, without violence, "is the most effective means to get this done." The State Department official said the government would do its part "privately." He disclosed that more than half of the 300 US immigration documents issued to Soviet citizens in 1971 went to Jews.

Poverty Fund Guidelines Questioned

At another briefing session Herbert Stein, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, was asked what the Federal government will do to change the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) guidelines to provide Federal anti-poverty funds for Jews who are not now eligible because they do not live in federally designated poverty areas. Stein replied that the poverty program does not break down in terms of minority and ethnic lines and maintained that poverty funds were available to all who are in need.

Asked again if the Federal government is willing to respond to Jewish poverty as it has to Black and other minority demands, Stein said he didn't have available the statistics of the studies made. The Jewish editors were also briefed by Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs who reviewed the Middle East situation and the American peace initiative there.

The gathering of Jewish journalists, representing Yiddish dailies, Anglo-Jewish weeklies and periodicals, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and Seven Arts-World-Wide News Service, was described by Milton Firestone, editor of the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle as "undoubtedly the largest and most representative gathering of the American Jewish press

in the country's history."

Philip Slomovitz, editor of the Detroit Jewish News, said, however, that today's visit was at least the third visit of representative Jewish editors to the White House. He recalled that in 1949, when he was president of the American Jewish Press Association, he led a group of Jewish editors to a meeting with President Truman and that a similar visit was made in 1964 during the administration of President Johnson.

FEDERAL GOVT. WILL PROVIDE KOSHER FOOD FOR ELDERLY JEWS

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--Kosher food will be provided to elderly Jews under Federal auspices for the first time when the Bratemas-Pepper-Kennedy bill, which has been approved by both House and Senate, is signed by President Nixon, according to the Office for the Aging of New York City.

The bill provides for expenditure of \$10 million in fiscal 1972 and \$13 million in 1973 to provide nutritious meals for the elderly in New York State. Half of that sum is expected to go to New York City, according to Mrs. Alice Brophy, director of the city Office for the Aging. She pointed out, however, that an appropriations bill must still be approved and the actual funding may fall below the totals specified in the federal legislation. The measure is now on President Nixon's desk for signature.

The funds will be allocated by the New York State Office for the Aging to public and private agencies, which will handle the actual feeding of elderly. The law provides that consideration is to be given to the "religious needs of clients." Mrs. Brophy said this was understood to mean kosher food for elderly Jews who request it.

She said her office had called together representatives of various groups to examine the implications of the bill, which provides for a total national allocation of \$100 million for 1972 and \$150 million for 1973 and that the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies had been invited and had sent representatives, including representation for the Jewish Services for the Aged.

BONN, ARAB STATES IN CONTACT ON RENEWAL OF FORMAL TIES

JERUSALEM, March 13 (JTA)--Contacts have been made between representatives of the West German government and those of Egypt, Syria and other Arab states concerning restoration of diplomatic relations, Amman television reported last night.

The start of meetings followed a decision by the Arab League Council to permit individual Arab countries to resume relations with West Germany. Most of the Arab countries broke off relations with West Germany in 1956 after the Bonn government established diplomatic ties with Israel.

But in most of the Arab countries, West German trade missions and consulates remained in operation. The Arab League decision was seen here as an expression of concern that relations between the Arab states and West Germany will become worse after the scheduled exchange of visits between Prime Minister Golda Meir and Chancellor Willy Brandt.

The remains of Sir Moses Montefiore, the British Jewish philanthropist and scholar who aided Jewish settlement in Palestine during the last quarter of the 19th century, will be brought to Israel shortly for reburial. The decision was made by the trustees of the Montefiore Endowment Fund.

COOPERATION URGED BETWEEN REFORM, CONSERVATIVE BRANCHES OF JUDAISM IN US

Necessary For Survival, Rabbi Polish Tells Rabbinical Assembly Convention

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., March 13 (JTA)--A leading Reform rabbi addressing the 72nd annual convention of the Conservative Rabbinical Assembly of America here suggested today that the two branches of Judaism get together on a broad front of cooperation in the US and in Israel. "If capitalist Americans and Communist Chinese can play ping-pong, why can't Conservative and Reform rabbis play chess?" Rabbi David Polish, of Chicago, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, asked the 1000 members of the Conservative rabbinical body attending the convention.

In this day of crisis for an embattled Jewish people, cooperation is necessary for survival, Rabbi Polish said. He added that Jewish youth and even the older generation do not understand conflict and recriminations among Jews and want their leadership to "address ourselves to the Jewish issues that they place at the top of their agenda."

Rabbi Polish suggested the establishment of corresponding committees on cooperation between the Central Conference and the Rabbinical Assembly. He also said the two branches must work together to "contribute a non-Orthodox religious component into Israel's complex structure."

Areas Of Cooperation Cited

Other possible areas of cooperation according to Rabbi Polish included the development of a joint approach to the problem of intermarriage "a problem and a reality that transcends denominational lines"; joint projects for the improvement of the "quality and direction of Jewish education"; collaboration, even if unofficial on matters of theological interpretation; and joint pension, health insurance and tenure policies.

HOUSE BODY TO CONSIDER EXPANSION, LIBERALIZATION OF REFUGEE PROGRAM

Subcommittee Chairman Tells Hias Meeting He Favors Changes

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--The House Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality will hold hearings in May to discuss proposals for revising the existing refugee provisions in the immigration law, Rep. Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (D, N.J.) the subcommittee chairman, told the 88th annual meeting of United Hias Service, the worldwide Jewish migration agency. Rep. Rodino said his subcommittee will consider substantial liberalization and expansion of the current refugee program.

He advocated an "open-ended refugee program with continuous legislative oversight" because he had found it "illogical to set a specific number on refugee admissions and later worry about separating a family or deciding which of two individuals may suffer the greater hardship."

Another speaker, Max M. Fisher of Detroit, who is president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, lauded the heroism of the Soviet Jews. The present exodus of Jews from the Soviet Union holds the promise of restoring large numbers of people to the free world who had been thought lost forever, Fisher remarked.

He commended President Nixon and former Attorney General John Mitchell for making it possible for increased numbers of Soviet Jews to emigrate here under the Attorney General's parole

authority and asserted that a similar provision in the Hitler years could have saved thousands of lives. He commended United Hias Service officials for recognizing the opportunity offered by the parole provisions.

AZF ANNOUNCES BOOK PROGRAM TO COUNTER ANTI-ISRAEL PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, March 13 (JTA)--A program to counter what was described as "continuing anti-Israel and anti-Zionist propaganda" on the campuses and among other sectors of American life was announced by the American Zionist Federation last night. According to AZF president Rabbi Israel Miller, the program is designed "to promote a better understanding and knowledge of Zionism and the role of Israel in the furtherance of peace and Jewish survival."

Rabbi Miller said one of the first moves will be to expand the distribution of books, literature and fact sheets among the estimated 400,000 Jewish students on the campuses dealing with the issues and background of Israel's emergence as an independent state, and a deeper analysis of the evolution and meaning of Zionism as a movement aimed at instilling a sense of Jewish identity among Jewish youth.

Among books already published or promoted by the AZF now being distributed on campuses and to college libraries are: "Israel's Fight for Life" by Harry Milt, former news editor and managing editor of the Washington Times Herald; "True/False About Israel" by Dr. Jacob R. Rubin, author and former correspondent at the UN; "Border Kibbutz" by Michael Gorkin, who was active in neighborhood poverty programs in East Harlem; "Encounter with Israel" by Dr. A. Roy Eckardt, Professor of Religion at Lehigh University co-authored with his wife, Alice.

Rabbi Miller said, "We are particularly concerned with the large, if somewhat diminishing, number of alienated Jewish youth who are either uninformed or misinformed on their heritage and who are prone to fall prey to the blandishments of the spurious propaganda of Israel's enemies."

SOVIET UNION SELLING JEWISH ARCHIVES SEALED SINCE 1917 REVOLUTION

National Library In Ottawa Getting Microfilm Of Documents, Some 1000 Years Old

MONTREAL, March 13 (JTA)--Manuscripts pertaining to Jewish life and lore in Eastern Europe, some of them at least 1000 years old, are being sold by the Soviet Union to the National Library in Ottawa as part of a new cultural exchange project between Canadian and Russian scholars, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. About 20,000 frames of microfilm representing 40,000 pages of manuscript, much of it hand written on parchment, have already arrived from Moscow.

They had been sealed away in the Soviet State Library since the Revolution in 1917. So far, \$50,000 has been raised privately from Jewish and non-Jewish sources to finance the project, the total cost of which may reach \$500,000. According to David Rome, former director of the Jewish Public Library in Montreal who initiated the exchange, the project represents "the rescue of the whole manuscript lore of Eastern European Jewish learning."

All of the documents are of pre-18th century origin and some date as far back as the 10th century. Their value, according to scholars is religious and historical and allows comparisons to be made between original manuscripts and later known versions of the same document.