



daily news bulletin

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Thursday, August 17, 1972

No. 160

Soviets Impose Stiff Costs PROTESTS MOUNTING OVER NEW 'EXORBITANT' CHARGES FOR JEWISH SCIENTISTS SEEKING EXIT

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Protests mounted steadily today in the United States and Israel over a confirmed new policy of the Soviet Union to charge Jewish scientists exit fees at such high levels as to make it virtually impossible for them to seek to emigrate from Russia.

Israel's leading scientists quickly announced plans to rally scientists throughout the world on behalf of the Soviet scientists. Among the organizations demanding cancellation of the new high exit costs were the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, Hadassah, the American Zionist Federation and others.

Jewish sources in Moscow confirmed by telephone to Tel Aviv today that Jews leaving the Soviet Union must refund the cost of their education to the Soviet government. The sources said that the new ruling, reported to have been approved Aug. 3, imposed "special taxes" also known as "education refunds."

For a graduate of a "humanistic institution," the exit charge will be 4500 rubles (\$4995); for a graduate of a polytechnium, 7700 rubles (\$8547); for a graduate of a high school of arts and music, 9600 rubles (\$10,556); for a university graduate, 12,200 rubles (\$13,542) plus another 5400 rubles (\$5994) if the individual is a graduate of an institute of science, for a total of 17,600 rubles (\$19,536); and for a professor, 19,400 rubles (\$21,534). The Moscow sources stressed that such sums are beyond the resources or even dreams of Soviet academicians or technicians, whose salaries range from 200 to 300 rubles (\$222 to \$333) a month.

Israel Scientists Mobilize

Officials of the Hebrew, Tel Aviv and Bar-Ilan Universities met with the Public Committee for Russian Jewry and agreed to revive the dormant Special Scientists Committee in Israel for Russian Scientists with Prof. Yuval Neeman, Tel Aviv University president, as its chairman. Prof. Neeman said he would leave soon for the United States to seek to rally public opinion on behalf of the victimized Jewish scientists.

Hadassah Appeals To Nixon

Hadassah announced it had sent an appeal to President Nixon to intervene for the Russian Jewish scientists. Mrs. Faye Schenck, Hadassah president, said the Soviet Union had started on "new forms of blackmail and extortion." The effect of the new exit charge policy, she said, was that Jews applying for exit visas could neither practice their professions in Russia nor leave to practice in Israel.

She declared that "to penalize the educated was one of the abuses of a slave system" and called the new Soviet policy "a uniquely abhorrent violation of human rights, making a mockery of Soviet protestations that there is no anti-Jewish policy in the USSR." She said the message to President Nixon had asked him "to exert every possible protest at his command to influence the Russian government to rescind this move." She said it placed "an insuperable obstacle" to emigration from Russia.

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Rabbi Gilbert Klapperman, chairman of the Greater New York Conference, and Stanley Lowell, chairman-elect, said it would take many years "for all but a few Jews to accumulate the kind of money" now needed for an exit visa. Maass urged President Nixon to name immediately a committee to investigate the "discrimination and plight" of Soviet Jewry. The two officials asked the United States government, the United Nations and other international agencies to join in demanding "an end to these violations of human rights and decency."

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In Statements To AJCommittee NIXON, MCGOVERN EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO QUOTAS; AFFIRM SUPPORT OF MERIT SYSTEM

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (JTA)--President Nixon and Sen. George McGovern expressed today, in separate statements, their opposition to quotas in employment, education, and governmental appointments and affirmed their support of the merit system. Their views were contained in letters to Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee. In identical letters, written two weeks ago, Hoffman had urged the two political leaders to oppose quotas "in implementing vitally

essential affirmative action programs." Affirmative action programs refer to efforts to bring about equal opportunities for members of disadvantaged groups.

The Nixon and McGovern replies, along with Hoffman's letter, were made public today by the AJCommittee here and simultaneously by the White House and the McGovern Presidential campaign headquarters in Washington.

Bertram H. Gold, AJCommittee executive vice-president, applauded the positions of the President and Sen. McGovern. Gold cited the need for American society "to rectify historical injustices suffered" by Blacks and other disadvantaged minority groups. However, he added that "the American system, which is an open society, is based on individual rights, not group rights. We are opposed to quotas because quotas are the negation of a man on his worth alone."

Gold said that the AJCommittee had worked emphatically since its 1906 founding to eliminate discrimination based on arbitrary factors of race or religion. He added that "it would be tragic now to adopt a national policy, whatever the motivation, that would reintroduce the concept of judging a man on the basis of his skin color or the church he attends."

Both the President and Sen. McGovern praised the AJCommittee's efforts in combatting discrimination and both pledged further action against quotas. President Nixon wrote that he had asked "appropriate department heads" to review their policies to make certain they conformed with his views. Sen. McGovern said he was planning, in a major statement soon, to deal with what he called the "interrelated issues" of quotas, the merit principle and "affirmative action."

President Nixon wrote that quotas were not appropriate means of achieving equal employment opportunity. He added he would continue to seek to enlarge government opportunities for men and women of all backgrounds to serve in responsible positions "but the criteria that I have employed and will continue to employ will be based on merit."

The President endorsed the AJCommittee's position in support of affirmative efforts "to ensure that all Americans have an equal chance to compete for employment opportunities and to do so on the basis of individual ability." He added that, in pursuing such programs, numerical goals "must not be applied in such a fashion as to, in fact, result in the imposition of quotas."

Sen. McGovern called the quota system "detrimental to American society" and he added that "I believe it is both necessary and possible to open the doors that have long been shut to minority group members without violating basic principles of non-discrimination and without abandoning the merit system." He added that he had pledged in his campaign for the Presidency "to expand the opportunities for employment, for education, for housing and for personal growth and achievement for every citizen. I am confident that this goal can be reached in ways consonant and consistent with our basic commitment to a society based on the principle of full equality in a free society for all Americans."

The letters described the AJCommittee's long-time stand and programs for "affirmative action" plans to help Blacks and other members of disadvantaged minority groups, including support of compensatory education programs, open enrollment in universities and special job counseling and recruitment. He warned, however, that such affirmative action programs must not be allowed to lead "to the acceptance by government or the private sector of the concept of proportional rep-

resentation which we believe is but a euphemism for quotas," He asserted that this concept "substitutes new forms of discrimination for old, creates new breeding grounds for intergroup hostility and anger and greatly downgrades the importance of merit."

At GOP Platform Hearing

JAVITS URGES CONTINUED U.S. HELP TO ISRAEL AND SOVIET JEWS

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Strong endorsements to the Nixon administration policy in the Middle East, with emphasis on continued US support for Israel and for freedom of Soviet Jews to emigrate marked the statements presented today to the Republican Resolutions Committee by Sen. Jacob Javits, New York senior Senator, and Mark Tullis, a Boston University law student. Tullis, 22, of Manhasset, N.Y. spoke as one of five members of "The Young Voters for the President Committee." Formal hearings before the committee, headed by Rep. John Rhodes of Arizona, will end tomorrow and the committee will start drafting Friday a platform for the Republican National Convention opening here next Monday.

Sen. Javits called the US policy in the Middle East "very sound" and presented a 500-word strongly pro-Israel statement. Sen. Javits credited the Nixon administration with "keeping the peace in the Middle East by maintaining Israel's deterrent strength." Citing the Mideast ceasefire, Javits asked for continuation of the "successful policy" of the past four years" of "essential military and economic assistance" to Israel.

Sen. Javits recommended a "strong US defense presence in the Mediterranean to discourage adventurism there and to protect vital US interests in the area." He also recommended that the US "be prepared to lend its good offices to assist in the attainment of a peace agreement" in the Middle East through "direct negotiations." He urged a pledge to "preserve the unity and peace of Jerusalem" and move the US Embassy there from Tel Aviv. Additionally, Sen. Javits advocated promoting "the rehabilitation and resettlement of the Palestine Arab refugees," helping Israel absorb Jewish refugees from Arab lands and the Soviet Union, and intensifying diplomatic efforts to "obtain basic human rights, including the right of emigration and family reunion, for Jews and other minorities suffering maltreatment and denial of their rights in the USSR, in Syria and other lands where they have lived in peace for centuries."

Sen. Javits added strong support for US ratification of the Genocide Convention--a subject omitted from the Democratic platform. He said Senate ratification should be "prompt" in view of President Nixon's "expressed desire" for approval.

Tullis said the US "should continue to pressure the Soviets to release those Jews willing to leave the country, as we should pressure any country that oppresses a people." He said the Mideast truce "has stood because the President has made it clear to the world that Israel's autonomy would not be sacrificed."

I.L. Kenen, executive vice-president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, urged a plank which "serves notice on the Arab states and the Soviet Union of our unswerving resolution to preserve Israel's survival and to promote an Arab-Israel peace settlement." The AIPAC statement is endorsed by the 26-member Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and by the American Jewish Committee.

JEWS EDUCATORS OFFER PLEAS TO GOP UNIT FOR TUITION CREDITS

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Jewish advocates of governmental support for non-public schools, including Hebrew day schools, received sympathetic attention today from a subcommittee of the Republican resolutions committee gathering testimony for the Republican Party's platform.

Comprehensive statements were presented by Rabbi Moshe Sherer, of New York, president of the Citizens Relief for Education by Income Tax (CREDIT), and Moses I. Feuerstein of Boston, executive committee chairman of Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools.

Rabbi Sherer is executive president of Agudath Israel of America. He appeared before the subcommittee with Robert N. Lynch, executive director of Parents for Nonpublic Education, an organization of Catholic parents, and Ivan E. Zylstra, CREDIT's executive director who was a member of President Nixon's panel on nonpublic education.

"The moment we compel a parent to send his child to a public school, not by constitutional coercion but by pocketbook persuasion," Rabbi Sherer said, "we are violating one of the precepts of open educational choice that has been the hallmark of our nation since colonial days." CREDIT, he said, is a Washington-based coalition of non-public school leaders organized six months ago to speak for 5,000,000 nonpublic school children.

During his testimony, Rabbi Sherer suggested a tax credit of \$200 to parents of each child in a non-public school. Mrs. Louisa Jambor, a delegate from Kansas, questioned the sufficiency of this amount, pointing out she has two children in military schools and their costs to her is \$6000 per annum.

Feuerstein reported that the country now has "some" 400 Hebrew day schools of which 270 are elementary and 130 secondary schools located in 150 cities in 32 states with a total enrollment of 82,000 pupils.

On the average, he said, approximately 40 percent of their budgets are covered by tuition. "The tuition rates," he said, "are approximately \$350 to \$400 per year, but in the large metropolitan communities, where the majority of these schools are found, a large percentage of the parents have very limited economic earnings which makes them dependent on tuition grants should they wish to enroll their children in a Hebrew day school."

In New York City, he said, half of the Jewish children attend Hebrew day schools. Nearly 120 of the city's 181 schools are located in poverty areas, he continued, and about 35,000 pupils attend such schools in poor and lower middle class areas.

MANY ARABS ATTEND FAIR AT NABLUS IN WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Thousands of Arabs from the West Bank, as well as Arabs from other Arab countries on summer visits have visited a three-day agricultural fair which was opened near Nablus in the occupied West Bank yesterday. A total of 75 Israeli firms, 60 West Bank firms and 18 women's groups are participating in the fair which has included competitive farm, industrial and commercial exhibits. Israel Agriculture Minister Chaim Givati and other high-ranking Israeli officials were joined by several West Bank Mayors at the opening ceremonies. Modern farm machinery and farm products are among the main attractions.

Vets Feel 'Demeaned' **WHITE HOUSE RUSHES RICHARDSON TO** **JWV CONVENTION AS SPEAKER AFTER** **VETS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN IGNORED**

HOUSTON, Aug. 16 (JTA)--The White House sent Elliot L. Richardson to address the Jewish War Veterans convention here within hours of being charged by the JWV's national commander with deliberately avoiding speeches before Jewish groups. The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare was scheduled to address the organization this afternoon.

The White House responded to a telegram in which JWV leader Jerome B. Cohen told President Nixon: "We have been trying desperately for six months to obtain a high Republican spokesman from the administration to articulate your position on public issues before our 77th annual national convention currently in session in Houston, Tex. The White House has been advised that the Democratic candidate for Vice President, Sargent Shriver, is scheduled to appear on Friday. As a politically nonpartisan organization, the JWV deems the White House position in refusing to dispatch such a speaker demeaning."

Cohen added that "Indeed, we have sought such speakers from the administration since 1969 without avail." He asked Nixon: "Are we to assume that the JWV organization, the oldest active war veterans group in the United States representing grass-roots Jewry, is remote from your political interests?"

Warren Adler, JWV spokesman, added to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that since its inception nearly four years ago, the Nixon administration "just didn't recognize Jewish groups as very important." He said the only instance in that period of a top administration figure delivering a major speech to a Jewish organization was Vice President Spiro T. Agnew's appearance last June before the Religious Zionists of America.

Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs and the White House's resident Middle East expert, will address the JWV convention Saturday night in an appearance arranged in the spring. But Adler explained that the JWV considers Sisco "a career diplomat and not a political spokesman for the administration." The White House, he said, offered as today's speaker Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R, N.Y.), Undersecretary of Labor Laurence H. Silberman, and other Republican officials--all Jews. But the JWV, he said, insisted on someone of "Cabinet rank or above," and considers Richardson "very acceptable."

Albert E. Arent, chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, told the JWV delegates yesterday that in the face of the social disorders confronting the United States, "it is difficult for the Jewish leadership to show proper concern for the minority groups whose emergence from years of oppression has sparked the terrible problems of our changing society."

He said that was one of the reasons why the "so-called Jewish Establishment, of which the Jewish War Veterans has long been an honored member, has become a convenient whipping boy for those who, for whatever reason, are unhappy about the inability of our society to find solutions for the problems of war, inflation, poverty, race, violence and disorder."

He said the role of Jewish leadership was that of "trying to overcome backlash, of trying to give perspective, so that Jews, at least, will not buy quack remedies from people like George Wallace," the Governor of Alabama, "or Frank Rizzo," Mayor of Philadelphia; "so that Jews will not vote down school bond issues, federal aid to education, family welfare and equal opportunity legislation and whatever else may be necessary to lay a foundation

for the long-range solutions."

He added that Jewish leadership would not be properly fulfilling its role unless it recognizes the problems Jews are now facing and their reactions. He added that "until we can convince them that we understand their predicament and want to help, we cannot expect them to support our efforts in behalf of civil rights and social reform." He warned that "unless solutions are found for the basic problems and poverty, the damage and insult which now offend and arouse so many Jews will seem like a slap on the wrist compared with the troubles ahead."

EAST JERUSALEM ARABS NOW **RECEIVING OLD-AGE PENSIONS**

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Officials announced today that pension checks have been handed for the first time to 600 residents of East Jerusalem from the Institute of National Insurance. The residents had waited five years--since the Six-Day War--to become eligible for old-age pensions. Such pensions are payable to Israeli residents who have worked for at least five years before becoming 65 and must have paid premiums during those working years. The average monthly pensions amount to about \$40. Old-age pensions were not available to East Jerusalem residents during the period of Jordanian control and residents who retired from work before the Six-Day War are not eligible but they can get support from the Jerusalem municipal welfare department, if they qualify.

Yosef Almogi, Israel's Labor Minister, explained at the initial presentation of the pension checks that since the East Jerusalem residents had been Israeli citizens since 1967, they now qualified for pensions under Israel's national insurance law. The residents received their checks at the branch office of the National Insurance Institute.

L.A. FEDERATION AIDS LOCAL JEWS **SEEKING TO HELP RUSSIAN EMIGRES**

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16 (JTA)--The Jewish Federation-Council of Los Angeles is offering the services of its agencies and departments to provide information, counseling and the processing of documents to local residents who wish to help their Russian relatives emigrate.

According to Robert Weil, chairman of the Community Relations Committee, the Soviet Jewry Information Office at the JFC Community Service Center will provide general information regarding the processes involved in US-USSR immigration. Those who wish to discuss bringing their relatives out of the Soviet Union and who need help with the necessary documents should contact the Jewish Family Service. Weil said that for those people who do not know the address of their relatives in Russia, a search will be initiated by the service.

According to Soviet law, a letter of invitation from an American relative must precede the start of immigration processing of a Soviet Jew. The letter indicates to Soviet authorities that the prospective immigrant will be taken care of upon arrival in the US. Relatives must at the same time apply for the appropriate US permits, so that the Soviet relative will be allowed to enter the United States, JFC officials explained.

Israel's Ministry of Transport signed an agreement in Jerusalem with the Italian government permitting Israeli towing and towed vehicles to move within Italian borders. At the same time, Italian vehicles will be given the right of passage in Israel.



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Both the President and Sen. McGovern praised the AJCommittee's efforts in combatting discrimination and both pledged further action against quotas. President Nixon wrote that he had asked "appropriate department heads" to review their policies to make certain they conformed with his views. Sen. McGovern said he was planning, in a major statement soon, to deal with what he called the "interrelated issues" of quotas, the merit principle and "affirmative action."

President Nixon wrote that quotas were not appropriate means of achieving equal employment opportunity. He added he would continue to seek to enlarge government opportunities for men and women of all backgrounds to serve in responsible positions "but the criteria that I have employed and will continue to employ will be based on merit."

The President endorsed the AJCommittee's position in support of affirmative efforts "to ensure that all Americans have an equal chance to compete for employment opportunities and to do so on the basis of individual ability." He added that, in pursuing such programs, numerical goals "must not be applied in such a fashion as to, in fact, result in the imposition of quotas."

Sen. McGovern called the quota system "detrimental to American society" and he added that "I believe it is both necessary and possible to open the doors that have long been shut to minority group members without violating basic principles of non-discrimination and without abandoning the merit system." He added that he had pledged in his campaign for the Presidency "to expand the opportunities for employment, for education, for housing and for personal growth and achievement for every citizen. I am confident that this goal can be reached in ways consonant and consistent with our basic commitment to a society based on the principle of full equality in a free society for all Americans."

The letters described the AJCommittee's long-time stand and programs for "affirmative action" plans to help Blacks and other members of disadvantaged minority groups, including support of compensatory education programs, open enrollment in universities and special job counseling and recruitment. He warned, however, that such affirmative action programs must not be allowed to lead "to the acceptance by government or the private sector of the concept of proportional rep-

resentation which we believe is but a euphemism for quotas," He asserted that this concept "substitutes new forms of discrimination for old, creates new breeding grounds for intergroup hostility and anger and greatly downgrades the importance of merit."

At GOP Platform Hearing

JAVITS URGES CONTINUED U.S. HELP TO ISRAEL AND SOVIET JEWS

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Strong endorsements to the Nixon administration policy in the Middle East, with emphasis on continued US support for Israel and for freedom of Soviet Jews to emigrate marked the statements presented today to the Republican Resolutions Committee by Sen. Jacob Javits, New York senior Senator, and Mark Tullis, a Boston University law student. Tullis, 22, of Manhasset, N.Y. spoke as one of five members of "The Young Voters for the President Committee." Formal hearings before the committee, headed by Rep. John Rhodes of Arizona, will end tomorrow and the committee will start drafting Friday a platform for the Republican National Convention opening here next Monday.

Sen. Javits called the US policy in the Middle East "very sound" and presented a 500-word strongly pro-Israel statement. Sen. Javits credited the Nixon administration with "keeping the peace in the Middle East by maintaining Israel's deterrent strength." Citing the Mideast ceasefire, Javits asked for continuation of the "successful policy" of the past four years" of "essential military and economic assistance" to Israel.

Sen. Javits recommended a "strong US defense presence in the Mediterranean to discourage adventurism there and to protect vital US interests in the area." He also recommended that the US "be prepared to lend its good offices to assist in the attainment of a peace agreement" in the Middle East through "direct negotiations." He urged a pledge to "preserve the unity and peace of Jerusalem" and move the US Embassy there from Tel Aviv. Additionally, Sen. Javits advocated promoting "the rehabilitation and resettlement of the Palestine Arab refugees," helping Israel absorb Jewish refugees from Arab lands and the Soviet Union, and intensifying diplomatic efforts to "obtain basic human rights, including the right of emigration and family reunion, for Jews and other minorities suffering maltreatment and denial of their rights in the USSR, in Syria and other lands where they have lived in peace for centuries."

Sen. Javits added strong support for US ratification of the Genocide Convention--a subject omitted from the Democratic platform. He said Senate ratification should be "prompt" in view of President Nixon's "expressed desire" for approval.

Tullis said the US "should continue to pressure the Soviets to release those Jews willing to leave the country, as we should pressure any country that oppresses a people." He said the Mideast truce "has stood because the President has made it clear to the world that Israel's autonomy would not be sacrificed."

I.L. Kenen, executive vice-president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, urged a plank which "serves notice on the Arab states and the Soviet Union of our unswerving resolution to preserve Israel's survival and to promote an Arab-Israel peace settlement." The AIPAC statement is endorsed by the 26-member Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and by the American Jewish Committee.

JEWSH EDUCATORS OFFER PLEAS TO GOP UNIT FOR TUITION CREDITS

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Jewish advocates of governmental support for non-public schools, including Hebrew day schools, received sympathetic attention today from a subcommittee of the Republican resolutions committee gathering testimony for the Republican Party's platform.

Comprehensive statements were presented by Rabbi Moshe Sherer, of New York, president of the Citizens Relief for Education by Income Tax (CREDIT), and Moses I. Feuerstein of Boston, executive committee chairman of Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools.

Rabbi Sherer is executive president of Agudath Israel of America. He appeared before the subcommittee with Robert N. Lynch, executive director of Parents for Nonpublic Education, an organization of Catholic parents, and Ivan E. Zylstra, CREDIT's executive director who was a member of President Nixon's panel on nonpublic education.

"The moment we compel a parent to send his child to a public school, not by constitutional coercion but by pocketbook persuasion," Rabbi Sherer said, "we are violating one of the precepts of open educational choice that has been the hallmark of our nation since colonial days." CREDIT, he said, is a Washington-based coalition of non-public school leaders organized six months ago to speak for 5,000,000 nonpublic school children.

During his testimony, Rabbi Sherer suggested a tax credit of \$200 to parents of each child in a non-public school. Mrs. Louisa Jambor, a delegate from Kansas, questioned the sufficiency of this amount, pointing out she has two children in military schools and their costs to her is \$6000 per annum.

Feuerstein reported that the country now has "some" 400 Hebrew day schools of which 270 are elementary and 130 secondary schools located in 150 cities in 32 states with a total enrollment of 82,000 pupils.

On the average, he said, approximately 40 percent of their budgets are covered by tuition. "The tuition rates," he said, "are approximately \$350 to \$400 per year, but in the large metropolitan communities, where the majority of these schools are found, a large percentage of the parents have very limited economic earnings which makes them dependent on tuition grants should they wish to enroll their children in a Hebrew day school."

In New York City, he said, half of the Jewish children attend Hebrew day schools. Nearly 120 of the city's 181 schools are located in poverty areas, he continued, and about 35,000 pupils attend such schools in poor and lower middle class areas.

MANY ARABS ATTEND FAIR AT NABLUS IN WEST BANK

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Thousands of Arabs from the West Bank, as well as Arabs from other Arab countries on summer visits have visited a three-day agricultural fair which was opened near Nablus in the occupied West Bank yesterday. A total of 75 Israeli firms, 60 West Bank firms and 18 women's groups are participating in the fair which has included competitive farm, industrial and commercial exhibits. Israel Agriculture Minister Chaim Givati and other high-ranking Israeli officials were joined by several West Bank Mayors at the opening ceremonies. Modern farm machinery and farm products are among the main attractions.

Vets Feel 'Demeaned' **WHITE HOUSE RUSHES RICHARDSON TO** **JWV CONVENTION AS SPEAKER AFTER** **VETS SAY THEY HAVE BEEN IGNORED**

HOUSTON, Aug. 16 (JTA)--The White House sent Elliot L. Richardson to address the Jewish War Veterans convention here within hours of being charged by the JWV's national commander with deliberately avoiding speeches before Jewish groups. The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare was scheduled to address the organization this afternoon.

The White House responded to a telegram in which JWV leader Jerome B. Cohen told President Nixon: "We have been trying desperately for six months to obtain a high Republican spokesman from the administration to articulate your position on public issues before our 77th annual national convention currently in session in Houston, Tex. The White House has been advised that the Democratic candidate for Vice President, Sargent Shriver, is scheduled to appear on Friday. As a politically nonpartisan organization, the JWV deems the White House position in refusing to dispatch such a speaker demeaning."

Cohen added that "Indeed, we have sought such speakers from the administration since 1969 without avail." He asked Nixon: "Are we to assume that the JWV organization, the oldest active war veterans group in the United States representing grass-roots Jewry, is remote from your political interests?"

Warren Adler, JWV spokesman, added to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that since its inception nearly four years ago, the Nixon administration "just didn't recognize Jewish groups as very important." He said the only instance in that period of a top administration figure delivering a major speech to a Jewish organization was Vice President Spiro T. Agnew's appearance last June before the Religious Zionists of America.

Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs and the White House's resident Middle East expert, will address the JWV convention Saturday night in an appearance arranged in the spring. But Adler explained that the JWV considers Sisco "a career diplomat and not a political spokesman for the administration." The White House, he said, offered as today's speaker Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R, N.Y.), Undersecretary of Labor Laurence H. Silberman, and other Republican officials--all Jews. But the JWV, he said, insisted on someone of "Cabinet rank or above," and considers Richardson "very acceptable."

Albert E. Arent, chairman of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, told the JWV delegates yesterday that in the face of the social disorders confronting the United States, "it is difficult for the Jewish leadership to show proper concern for the minority groups whose emergence from years of oppression has sparked the terrible problems of our changing society."

He said that was one of the reasons why the "so-called Jewish Establishment, of which the Jewish War Veterans has long been an honored member, has become a convenient whipping boy for those who, for whatever reason, are unhappy about the inability of our society to find solutions for the problems of war, inflation, poverty, race, violence and disorder."

He said the role of Jewish leadership was that of "trying to overcome backlash, of trying to give perspective, so that Jews, at least, will not buy quack remedies from people like George Wallace," the Governor of Alabama, "or Frank Rizzo," Mayor of Philadelphia; "so that Jews will not voted down school bond issues, federal aid to education, family welfare and equal opportunity legislation and whatever else may be necessary to lay a foundation

for the long-range solutions."

He added that Jewish leadership would not be properly fulfilling its role unless it recognizes the problems Jews are now facing and their reactions. He added that "until we can convince them that we understand their predicament and want to help, we cannot expect them to support our efforts in behalf of civil rights and social reform." He warned that "unless solutions are found for the basic problems and poverty, the damage and insult which now offend and arouse so many Jews will seem like a slap on the wrist compared with the troubles ahead."

EAST JERUSALEM ARABS NOW **RECEIVING OLD-AGE PENSIONS**

JERUSALEM, Aug. 16 (JTA)--Officials announced today that pension checks have been handed for the first time to 600 residents of East Jerusalem from the Institute of National Insurance. The residents had waited five years --since the Six-Day War--to become eligible for old-age pensions. Such pensions are payable to Israeli residents who have worked for at least five years before becoming 65 and must have paid premiums during those working years. The average monthly pensions amount to about \$40. Old-age pensions were not available to East Jerusalem residents during the period of Jordanian control and residents who retired from work before the Six-Day War are not eligible but they can get support from the Jerusalem municipal welfare department, if they qualify.

Yosef Almogi, Israel's Labor Minister, explained at the initial presentation of the pension checks that since the East Jerusalem residents had been Israeli citizens since 1967, they now qualified for pensions under Israel's national insurance law. The residents received their checks at the branch office of the National Insurance Institute.

L.A. FEDERATION AIDS LOCAL JEWS **SEEKING TO HELP RUSSIAN EMIGRES**

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16 (JTA)--The Jewish Federation-Council of Los Angeles is offering the services of its agencies and departments to provide information, counseling and the processing of documents to local residents who wish to help their Russian relatives emigrate.

According to Robert Weil, chairman of the Community Relations Committee, the Soviet Jewry Information Office at the JFC Community Service Center will provide general information regarding the processes involved in US-USSR immigration. Those who wish to discuss bringing their relatives out of the Soviet Union and who need help with the necessary documents should contact the Jewish Family Service. Weil said that for those people who do not know the address of their relatives in Russia, a search will be initiated by the service.

According to Soviet law, a letter of invitation from an American relative must precede the start of immigration processing of a Soviet Jew. The letter indicates to Soviet authorities that the prospective immigrant will be taken care of upon arrival in the US. Relatives must at the same time apply for the appropriate US permits, so that the Soviet relative will be allowed to enter the United States, JFC officials explained.

Israel's Ministry of Transport signed an agreement in Jerusalem with the Italian government permitting Israeli towing and towed vehicles to move within Italian borders. At the same time, Italian vehicles will be given the right of passage in Israel.