

WJC CAUTIONS JEWS ON WORLD ISSUES

LONDON (WNS) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress president, urged diaspora Jews to think and act independently on major issues confronting the world, saying there was a great reluctance on the part of some Jewish leaders to speak out on great humanitarian issues not directly affecting the Jewish people.

At the Conference of European Jewish Communities, Dr. Goldmann said, although Israel might not always be able to intervene in the great issues not directly concerning her, diaspora Jewry "must stand guard against Jewish isolation."

In other matters,

Prof. Richard Lowenthal, professor of international relations at the Free University of Berlin, took direct issues with Dr. Goldmann's statement at the conference, stressing the need to fight for the rights of Soviet Jews to live as Jews in the USSR. His main point was that the international situation was an important factor but not a decisive one in the treatment of Soviet Jews. Dr. Bruno Pitterman, former Austrian Vice-Chancellor, said his government had always demanded that the Soviet Union facilitate family re-unification as a matter of human rights and that Soviet Jews be permitted to leave if they wish.

DUKE JUDAIC STUDIES PROGRAM

DURHAM, N. C. -- A major fund-raising effort, hoped eventually to reach at least \$1 million, has been launched to support a new comprehensive cooperative Judaic Studies program at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The program's development will be financed by an endowment fund being established through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Evans of Durham who have committed themselves to raising initially over \$500,000 through alumni of the two universities and other sources in

North Carolina and elsewhere in the Southeast.

The program, designed to afford students, faculty and area residents "significant opportunities for study, research and participation in cultural activities," contemplates on bringing in visiting professors and developing cooperative faculty and student exchange programs with Israeli universities.

A Center for Judaic Studies and a professorship in Judaic studies will be established within Duke's religion department.

NO FRENCH JEWISH VOTE

LONDON (WNS) -- France's 300,000 Jewish voters will not play a decisive role, as Jews, in the French national elections in March, according to a group of French Jewish leaders here to attend the Conference of European Jewish Communities.

They stressed they were presenting their views as individuals rather than as members of the French delegation to the conference.

One leader from Paris said there was no such thing as a Jewish vote in France, and that while French Jews solidly supported Israel, they tended to vote for left, right or center candidates according to their interests as did other citizens.

The president of the Jewish community in Toulouse said there was a dichotomy in that French Jews were disa-

appointed by French Middle East policy, but they recall the sympathetic attitude of the same French government toward North African and Soviet Jews.

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TERRITORIES NO ISRAELI BURDEN

JERUSALEM (WNS)

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has called for a full-dress debate in the Knesset on policy in the territories and their future. Reviewing his policy in administering the territories, Dayan repeatedly stressed that the Governor of the Bank of Israel, Moshe Sanbar, believed that administering the territories was not a burden on Israel's economy. This was seen as a challenge to Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir who recently complained the

territories were a drain on the economy.

Meanwhile, Dayan said Israel must not agree again to demilitarize zones or accept "pious guarantees from other nations" because experience has shown that these only established a wedge between Israel and the Arabs, and that Israel's "peace objective must be to live together peacefully as we are doing now with the Arabs of the areas."

He also said Israel would have to get rid of United Nations observers.

SPY RING DAMAGED ISRAEL

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- did not report to Egyptian intelligence. He said there was no Syrian-Egyptian cooperation in the ring's operation. He confirmed directly that the four Jewish detainees were cooperating with investigators.

The affair is still receiving extensive press coverage, and Adiv's birthplace, Kibbutz Gan Shmuel of the Hashomer Hatzair movement, has become a target of public hostility.

He confirmed reports that a Jewish member of the ring, Ehud Adiv, who had visited Damascus several times, had also visited Cairo but

WEST GERMANY DEFENDS ISRAEL

BONN (WNS) -- In a policy statement to the Bundestag, West German Chancellor Willy Brandt said his country "wishes to cultivate the traditional friendship with all Arab states," but "The Arabs are beginning to understand that for us Israel's right to exist is incontestable."

He said the Middle East conflict does not leave West Germany

"indifferent". The fact that Brandt did not mention Israel specifically in his 1969 policy statement led to sharp criticism from Israeli press and public.

This time, Brandt's statement seemed to imply that, against the background of Nazi atrocities, West Germany supports and defends Israel's right to existence against aggression.

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