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N.Y. TIMES - 5/17/65

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9 ZIONIST GROUPS AGREE ON PROGRAM

The American Zionist movement took a major step yesterday toward revising its program to strengthen every phase of Jewish religious and cultural life in this country.

Three hundred delegates of nine Zionist groups, which represent varying ideological viewpoints, agreed for the first time on a program of unified action "to safeguard the survival and growth of the American Jewish community."

The action was taken at an all-day national planning conference at 515 Park Avenue convened by the American Zionist Council, the representative body of the groups, which have an overall membership of 750,000.

The delegates reaffirmed "Zionist responsibility toward the security and welfare of Israel" and the need for the United States Government "to reaffirm in unmistakable terms America's commitment to the security and independence of all Middle East nations and its determination to prevent aggression be it military or economic." They urged that there should be no appeasement at the expense of Israel.

However, the meeting's principal emphasis was oriented toward the American Jewish community. The delegates adopted a series of recommendations and decisions that were embodied in a program encompassing Zionist participation in Jewish communal affairs, the furtherance of Jewish and He-

brew education, youth activities, as well as marshaling of American public opinion in support of Israel's security. The program calls for Zionist participation in those national Jewish institutions "which today are shaping the character and future of Jewish education."

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