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LAST MINUTE NEWSISRAELI CABINET MEETS "INCONCLUSIVELY" ON SECURITY COUNCIL'S CEASE-FIRE ORDER IN NEGEV

TEL AVIV, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Israeli Cabinet met "inconclusively" tonight on the U.N. Security Council's cease-fire and withdrawal order in the Negev. It was understood here that before issuing the necessary order to Israeli troops in the field, the government will demand that the Security Council guarantee that the Egyptian cease-fire order will be issued simultaneously with that of Israel's.

It is also understood here that the government will ask for the setting up of mediation machinery and will request clarification from the Security Council on several points embodied in its order, including a simultaneous cease-fire and the implementation of armistice negotiations. (See earlier story on Page 2.)

FIVE PERSONS HURT WHEN UNIDENTIFIED PLANE BELIEVED TO BE EGYPTIAN BOMBS JERUSALEM AREA

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Five persons were injured today when an unidentified plane, reportedly an Egyptian craft which approached Jerusalem from the direction of Ramallah, dropped several bombs in the Jerusalem area and escaped under cover of darkness before Israeli ack-ack could go into action. Jerusalem was alerted for 35 minutes before the all-clear sounded. The alarm was ordered following a loud explosion.

An official communique reported later that three sticks of bombs were dropped and said that the raid is under investigation. If it is discovered that the plane is Egyptian, the communique added, and that the attack was Egyptian provocation to involve the Arab Legion in the war, appropriate action will be taken.

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MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS IN NEGEV CONTINUING ON REDUCED SCALE, ISRAELI SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCES

TEL AVIV, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Mopping-up operations in the Negev are continuing on a "much-reduced scale," an official spokesman declared here today. At the same time, he denied reports of any military activity on the Iraqi or Syrian fronts.

The Israeli spokesman also denied that any contact had been established with Lebanon, but said that whatever contacts have been maintained with Transjordan are still being continued. Referring to a statement allegedly made by the British Foreign Office--that R.A.F. planes are watching Israel action in Egypt--the spokesman declared:

"Britain is exercising considerable influence trying to save the Egyptians from the results of their aggression. Britain is extremely active in her partisan attitude, which shows that Egypt cannot look after her own aggression or defense."

Egypt Warned on Cairo Bombing If Air Attacks Continue; Tel Aviv Hit

Tel Aviv was alerted today after unidentified aircraft flew over the city, but no bombs were dropped. The city was subjected to enemy aerial and naval bombardment over the week-end. Two Egyptian warships which attacked Tel Aviv early yesterday from a distance of six miles, and which were driven off by Israeli coastal batteries, "steamed off and were then spotted by Israeli air reconnaissance," an official communique said. "The Israeli Navy intercepted the vessels, but the engagement was inconclusive and the enemy withdrew."

Commenting on the attacks, a government spokesman warned that if "the Egyptian Navy or Air Force repeat their action against Tel Aviv, we will bomb Cairo. Up to now we avoided attacking any area outside the battle zone and we did not use our Navy, Air Force or ground forces indiscriminately. If the Egyptian Navy's action against Tel Aviv continues, or Israel behind the front lines is bombed again by the Egyptian Air Force, we will take whatever action we deem proper in Egypt, particularly against Cairo."

"Faced with the choice between embarking on a course leading to peace or pursuing a further line of aggressive invasion, Egypt chose the latter," an Israeli spokesman said today following the partial lifting of the security blackout. "Israel could not possibly acquiesce to a situation exposing its safety and territorial integrity to the ever-present menace compelling Israel to carry, indefinitely, the burdens of war readiness," he added.

"Attacks by the Egyptian aggressors on Israeli positions at every convenient opportunity, as well as the flow from Egypt of fresh men and equipment, left no doubt about the intentions of the Egyptian Government. Under these circumstances, not only the release of the Egyptian brigade encircled at Faluja was inconceivable, but the government found itself constrained to resume freedom of action and ordered, once and for all, the ending of this intolerable situation, to stabilize Israel's security. For a final, lasting peace settlement," he said, "the government of Israel is ever ready with the firm conviction that the sooner it is achieved, the better it will be for all concerned."

ISRAELI CABINET MEETS TO CONSIDER U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL'S CEASE-FIRE ORDER IN NEGEV

TEL AVIV, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Israeli Cabinet met today to begin consideration of the United Nations Security Council cease-fire order in the Negev, which was received in Tel Aviv yesterday. Premier David Ben Gurion and Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok, who studied the official communication last night, will participate in the Cabinet's deliberations, an official announcement said.

ISRAEL-BOUND BRITISH FREIGHTER SEARCHED BY BOARDING PARTY FROM EGYPTIAN WARSHIPS

HAIFA, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- An international naval incident occurred on the high seas 110 kilometers off Haifa Friday night, when two Egyptian warships forcibly stopped and searched the Israel-bound British freighter "Richard Borchard," commanded by a British captain, it became known today when the ship landed here.

The same two Egyptian vessels, it was reported, later shelled the Tel Aviv coastal area. They were identified as a Corvette and a large minesweeper and were flying a black and blue flag with a circle, which, being of unregistered nationality, were disregarded by the Borchard on being challenged.

The Egyptians fired across the Borchard's bows and she stopped. The boarding party consisted of an English-speaking officer and Arabic-speaking sailors. They searched the Borchard for "contraband goods" bound for Israel. The Borchard's captain signalled to British Navy vessels in those waters. However, the Egyptians soon left on discovering that the cargo was only food.

BRITISH OFFICIALS CONFER IN LONDON, WASHINGTON, PARIS, CAIRO ON FIGHTING IN NEGEV

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- British Foreign Office pressure and diplomatic activity centered over the week-end on four capitals. In London, Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin spent New Year's closeted with Middle Eastern advisers.

In Cairo, Chapman Andrews, British Minister, had a long interview with the new Premier, Ibrahim Abdel Hadi Pasha. In Washington, Sir Oliver Franks, the British Ambassador met with Acting Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett, and in Paris French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman was kept fully informed of British moves.

The central subject of all these four conferences was the grave view taken by Bevin over the situation which has arisen in southern Palestine on the Egyptian frontier. The British Government, it is learned, has indicated that it would propose at the United Nations Security Council meeting this month in New York, that an arms embargo should partially be lifted and that Britain would propose to supply arms to those Arab states with whom it had treaties of alliance and which were, in the British view, victims of aggression.

MARSEILLES DOCK WORKERS REFUSE TO LOAD ARMS CARGO ON LEBANON-BOUND GREEK SHIP

MARSEILLES, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- French dock workers here refused today to load the Greek steamer, S.S. Ionia, with 75 guns destined for Lebanon. The cargo is to be delivered to Lebanon by the French Government under a contract concluded with Beirut before the outbreak of hostilities in Palestine.

528 JEWS SAIL FROM GENOA FOR ISRAEL; MAJORITY OF PASSENGERS COME FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ROME, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Italian steamer Abacia sailed from Genoa for Israel today with 528 immigrants. Four hundred of the passengers come from Czechoslovakia, 90 are refugees who have been living in the Permio displaced persons camp in Italy, 20 are British Jews and the remaining 18 are South Africans.

JCS. KEENAN, U.S. MEMBER OF U.N. PALESTINE CONCILIATION COMMISSION, CONFERS WITH TRUMAN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Joseph Keenan, newly-appointed U.S. representative on the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission discussed "matters relating to Palestine" over the week-end with President Truman, but would not elaborate on the details of their talk.

He told reporters after his call, however, that, without any implications affecting either party in the Palestine controversy, it was his personal observation that "any people who have not yet learned that brute force cannot be substituted for reason are very blind." Asked if he had been given a Presidential message to take to either of the parties in Palestine, Keenan replied that he had no messages to deliver.

REPORTS OF IMMINENT RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT CIRCULATE IN PARIS

PARIS, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Persistent reports circulated here today that French recognition of Israel was imminent. The reports gained some degree of credence by the publication in several newspapers of predictions that de facto recognition of the Jewish state would come in the early future.

A spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry would not confirm these reports, but admitted that the question of recognition had been discussed at a Cabinet meeting last Wednesday where, he said, it had been generally agreed that the Israeli Government in recent months had demonstrated it could exercise "adequate authority" within the territory allotted Israel by the United Nations.

CANADA MAY ASK U.S. TO REPRESENT IT IN TEL AVIV; WILL STUDY ISRAELI RELATIONS THIS WEEK

MONTREAL, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government will ask the United States to represent this country in Israel for diplomatic dealings, reports from Ottawa indicated here today.

The government, it is said, plans to launch a study of Canada's relationships with Israel this week, when the volume of diplomatic business and the need for official representation there will be checked. It will be as a result of this survey that the American Government will probably be asked to speak for Canada. On the other hand, there is nothing to stop Israel from sending a properly-accredited diplomatic representation to Ottawa.

It is pointed out that in countries where Canada does not maintain diplomatic or consular representation, the custom has been to ask Britain to look after this country's interests. But in the case of Israel it is highly improbable that Britain will be asked to do so, even when it does give recognition to the Jewish state.

DYSENTERY REPORTED AMONG CHILDREN ON DAMAGED ISRAEL-BOUND SHIP IN CRETE; JDC SENDS AID

ATHENS, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Several cases of dysentery were reported today among the children on the damaged Israel-bound vessel, S.S. Tampa, which was towed into Suda Bay in Crete by a Dutch salvage vessel after floundering helplessly in the Mediterranean for four days.

The Joint Distribution Committee is sending a shipment of medical supplies by air to aid the 500 DP passengers, it was announced here. Harry Goldfarb, a J.D.C. representative, left for Suda Bay to supervise the distribution of medical supplies. The ship's engineers stated that the vessel will be repaired within a few days.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL RAISED TOTAL OF \$150,000,000 IN 1948, NATIONAL CHAIRMEN REPORT

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- A record total of \$150,000,000 was raised during 1948 by the United Jewish Appeal, it was announced over the week-end by William Rosenwald, Herman L. Weisman and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, national chairmen of the U.J. A. The 1948 effort was described as the "greatest campaign in the history of private philanthropy."

The announcement stated that the \$150,000,000 figure represented not only the largest sum ever raised by the U.J.A. since its inception in 1939, but that it "established a new level of giving for any non-governmental humanitarian or relief campaign in the history of the United States." In making the year-end report, the national chairmen pointed out that campaigns in behalf of the U.J.A. were conducted in 4,950 cities, towns and villages with more than 1,000,000 Jewish contributors. In scores of communities substantial contributions were also received from non-Jews, the report added.

The U.J.A. chairman stated that a detailed report on the results of last year's drive would be presented at the 1949 national conference of the United Jewish Appeal, which will be held in Atlantic City on Jan. 12-13, to map plans for the 1949 campaign on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and United Service for New Americans. More than 1,200 Jewish communal leaders from all parts of the nation will participate in the conference.

Of the total raised in 1948, the J.D.C. will receive \$64,900,000; the U.P.A. will receive \$74,700,000; and the U.S.N.A., \$10,400,000.

Special tribute was paid by Rabbi Wise and Messrs. Rosenwald and Weisman to the "extraordinary energy and devotion" of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former Secretary of the Treasury, who served as general chairman of the campaign in 1948 as well as in 1947. "His inspirational leadership represented a historic contribution to the success of the 1948 United Jewish Appeal and helped make the year that has just ended truly a 'Year of Destiny' for the Jewish people in Israel, in Europe and elsewhere," the national chairmen declared. "Under the impact of his statesmanship and vigorous stimulation, Jewish communities throughout the United States were encouraged to unprecedented response to the 1948 drive."

NEARLY \$71,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY J.D.C. IN 1948; 120,00 JEWS EMIGRATED FROM EUROPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee appropriated a total of \$70,901,000 during 1948 in behalf of 750,000 Jews in 20 countries overseas, it was disclosed over the week-end in a year-end report made by Edward M.M. Warburg, chairman of the J.D.C.

Key factor in the progress of Europe's Jews towards genuine revival in 1948, Mr. Warburg noted, was the increased opportunity for emigration. "During the past year, 120,000 European Jews found new homes in Israel, the United States, Latin America and other lands. Israel alone absorbed 100,000 of these DP's, he said. Mr. Warburg pointed out that the J.D.C. provided in-transit food, clothing and medical care and covered transportation costs for the great majority of the migrants, who came from displaced persons camps and other areas on the continent.

The emptying of the DP camps, now proceeding at the rate of more than 5,000 persons per month, was described by Mr. Warburg as the greatest single event in Europe affecting Jewish life abroad during 1948. A second great accomplishment during the past 12 months, the J.D.C. chairman said, was the restoration to full or partial self-support of 140,000 persons--breadwinners and their dependents. These persons are no longer on J.D.C. relief rolls as a result of the agency's reconstruction

program, which includes the operation of more than 250 producers' and loan cooperatives, 190 vocational training centers and 370 agricultural training centers throughout Europe, he said.

The year just completed was marked by a substantial decrease in the number of persons requiring purely relief types of assistance, Mr. Warburg said. Total recipients of J.D.C. cash relief fell from 98,000 in 1947 to 56,000 in 1948. Similarly the number depending on the agency for their daily food dropped from 410,000 to 320,000. Despite these decreases, the J.D.C. is still heavily engaged in clothing and feeding Europe's Jewish survivors, Mr. Warburg said, adding that over 72,000,000 pounds of supplies--valued at \$15,820,000--was shipped abroad during 1948 by the committee.

EINSTEIN SPENDS RESTFUL NIGHT, HIS CONDITION SATISFACTORY, HOSPITAL SAYS AFTER OPERATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Prof. Albert Einstein "spent a very restful night and his condition is satisfactory," an announcement by Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, where the 69-year-old world-famed scientist underwent an abdominal operation on Friday, said today. It is expected that Prof. Einstein will be discharged from the hospital in about two weeks.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE CLOSES ITS OFFICE; FINAL MEETING TO BE HELD JAN. 19 IN N.Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The American Jewish conference closed its offices this week-end and thus terminated its existence. The Conference announced that all of its debts and commitments were met and said that its library, documents, pamphlets and original records had been turned over to the Zionist Archives and Library. Other materials were given to the American Jewish Congress.

The closing meeting of the Conference executive committee, at which final reports will be presented, will be held Jan. 19, at the Hotel Biltmore here.

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE LAUDS ISRAEL FOR PROTECTION OF HOLY PLACES

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The American Christian Palestine Committee, meeting in executive session today, unanimously adopted a resolution hailing Israel and calling for the "consolidation of a separate political existence for the Arab part of Palestine." The resolution also demanded the withdrawal of all invading Arab forces from Israel and called upon Great Britain to forsake her unfriendly attitude toward the Jewish state.

Praising the government of Israel for the "scrupulous manner" in which it respected the sanctity of the Holy Places in Palestine, the A.C.P.C. especially singled out the recent Israel action which "in the midst of a war offered all facilities for the Christians in Israel to celebrate the Holy Day of Christmas in keeping with the dignity and tradition of that revered festival."

BNAI ZION SETS UP AWARD TO AMERICAN MAKING TOP CONTRIBUTION TO U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The establishment of an annual award to the American "making the most outstanding contribution towards the fostering of better relations between the United States and Israel" was announced today at the semi-annual conference of Bnai Zion, fraternal Zionist organization of America, which was attended by over 500 persons from all sections of the United States. The parley reviewed the organization's plans for aiding the Jewish state in 1949 in its tasks of upbuilding and absorption of new immigrants.

The decision to set up the Bnai Zion Golden Plaque award was taken in the form of a resolution submitted by Herman Z. Wittman, national secretary. The awards will be made on May 14, the anniversary of the proclamation of Israeli statehood.

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