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## LAST JEWISH DP'S LEAVE CYPRUS; BRITISH SOLDIERS SHOUT "SHALOM" IN ENTHUSIASTIC FAREWELL

FAMAGUSTA, Cyprus, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Another dreary chapter in the lives of thousands of Jewish refugees ended happily today when the last group of detainees left the Kyliorymbou camp to board the Israeli vessel Atzmauth (Independence) for the short voyage to Haifa. The last group included 1,595 men, women and children.

As the party began boarding trucks for the trip to the Famagusta docks, British soldiers and their erstwhile prisoners embraced, pounded each other on the shoulders and posed for snapshots arm-in-arm. As the truck convoy started the troops waved farewell enthusiastically and shouted: "Shalom." Even the merchants in the area surrounding the camp, who will suffer heavy financial losses with the departure of the refugees, expressed happiness that the Jews were at last "going home."

Similar scenes took place on the dock. As the Atzmauth eased away from the pier the passengers shouted and waved to the Greeks, while the hundreds of islanders responded by cheering. Thus ended the 29-month history of the British detention camps on Cyprus. In all, some 10,280 Jews left Cyprus since the reversal of the detention policy.

The Cypriot press today headlined the announcement of the Israeli Government that it was contributing \$14,000 for the erection of a youth center at Famagusta in grateful appreciation of the friendly attitude displayed by the local population toward the detainees. Acknowledging the gift, Famagusta's mayor declared that his people had always sympathized with the Jewish cause.

## ISRAELI FINANCE MINISTER VISITS STATE DEPARTMENT; INAUGURATES TALKS ON EXCHANGE RATES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Discussions on the establishment of a currency exchange rate between the United States and Israel started today with the arrival here of Eliezer Kaplan, Israeli Finance Minister, a spokesman of the State Department said. He described the talks as "informational" only.

The spokesman revealed that Kaplan called on Joseph C. Satterthwaite, chief of the State Department Office on Near Eastern and African Affairs, to inaugurate a series of discussions on various technical financial matters. He was accompanied by Eliah Epstein, Israel's special representative in this country.

## ISRAELI STATE COUNCIL APPROVES GENERAL AMNESTY FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Israeli State Council today approved a proposal providing for a general amnesty for all political prisoners. The motion was introduced by Minister of Justice Dr. Felix Rosenbluth. (See early story on sentencing of Sternist leaders on Page 2.)

ISRAELI MISSION IN PARIS DENIES PEACE TALKS WITH LEBANON WILL BE HELD IN FRENCH CAPITAL

PARIS, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Israeli mission here today denied press reports that Elias Sassoon, Israeli expert on Arab affairs, had arrived in Paris for the beginning of separate peace negotiations with Lebanese representatives. A spokesman said that the mission had no knowledge of the arrival or anticipated arrival of Sassoon.

Turning to the report that Lebanon had proposed Paris rather than Rhodes as the site for peace talks, the spokesman pointed out that such reports had circulated previously, and had proven to be without foundation.

U.N. PALESTINE CONCILIATION COMMISSION SETS UP BODY TO DEAL WITH JERUSALEM'S FUTURE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission will journey to Jericho tomorrow to meet the Transjordanian Premier for preliminary talks, the Commission announced last night.

On Saturday, the three-man Commission and its staff will leave Jerusalem for visits to the Egyptian, Transjordanian and Saudi Arabian capitals, returning here on Feb. 19. It will again leave Jerusalem two days later for visits to Bagdad, Damascus and Beirut, ending this tour by a visit to Tel Aviv, and returning here on March 5.

Meanwhile, the Commission has set up a committee to handle preparatory work on the question of Jerusalem's future. This committee is composed of Commission advisors.

STERNIST LEADER SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS IMPRISONMENT BY ISRAELI MILITARY TRIBUNAL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Nathan Friedman-Yellin, Stern Group leader, and his aide, M. Schmulevitz, who have been standing trial in the Acre military court for the past five months on charges of conducting terrorist activities in the Jewish state, were today sentenced to eight and five-year prison sentences, respectively.

The sentences were imposed after the court's president solemnly read a 20,000-word judgment reviewing the charges brought against the two defendants. Friedman-Yellin and Schmulevitz scarcely paid heed to the proceedings in view of the fact that the State Council is expected to be asked today to approve a general amnesty, which would include the two Stern defendants.

Immediately after passing sentence, the court proposed the swift release of both men provided they signed a declaration that they would abstain from underground activities, submit to police supervision for two years and advise all members of the Stern Group to give up underground activities. Both men declined any answer to the court's proposal.

PERU GRANTS FULL RECOGNITION TO ISRAEL; BECOMES 38TH NATION TO ACCEPT JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Government of Peru today granted full recognition to Israel, a cable received by the Jewish Agency office here reported. Peru's action makes her the 38th nation to have extended de facto or de jure recognition to the Jewish state.

Israel has now been recognized by 38 countries, of which 32 are member states of the United Nations. De jure recognition was extended to Israel by 25 countries and de facto recognition by 13. Eight of the U.N. states are members of the Security Council.

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STATE COUNCIL APPROVES CANDELABRA WITH OLIVE BRANCHES AS OFFICIAL ISRAELI EMBLEM

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The State Council, at its last session here, tonight approved the traditional Menorah as the official emblem of the state of Israel. The emblem is a seven-branched candelabrum, with olive branches on either side and the word, Israel, inscribed below.

JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE DECIDES TO HOLD NEXT WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS IN 1950

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The executive of the Jewish Agency, meeting in emergency session here, today decided that the next World Zionist Congress be held in 1950, rather than this year, it was announced by Berl Locker, chairman of the Jerusalem section of the executive, who is presiding at the session.

Mr. Locker also announced that the executive has decided to hold its next emergency session at the end of April in Israel. The next meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee will be held early in May this year, also in Israel, he said.

Participating in the current deliberations of the Agency executive are its two chairmen--Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American section, and Mr. Locker--and the following executive members: Prof. Selig Brodetsky, Leon Gellman, Rabbi Wolf Gold, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Dr. Hayim Greenberg, Mrs. Rose Elprin, Zvi Herman, Eliezer Kaplan, Israeli Minister of Finance, Zvi Lurie, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Joseph Schechtman, A.Z. Shragai, Y. Werfel, Baruch Zucker- man and Y. Zerubavel.

BRITISH OIL REFINERY COMPANY ALERTS EXPERTS TO BE READY TO RETURN TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The British-controlled Consolidated Refineries, Ltd., has alerted some 50 of its officials and experts, who are standing by on Cyprus, to be prepared to return to Israel for the purpose of setting the huge Haifa Refineries in operation again, it was learned here last night.

The return of these British technicians is contingent on signing of a new oil agreement between Britain and Israel, which will supersede the agreement made July 29 last year. That agreement provided that the Israelis would not attempt to operate the refineries on condition that the Consolidated Refineries could supply all the refined oil required by Israel for domestic consumption.

The British are apparently hopeful that they will convince Iran and Transjordan to permit the resumption of the flow of crude oil through the pipeline which runs from Kirkuk through both countries to Haifa. The recent meeting between King Abdullah of Transjordan with the Iraqi regent, Crown Prince Abdul-Ilah, which was held significantly at an oil-pumping station on the Iraq-Transjordan frontier, was reportedly engineered by the British, who are most anxious to resume the oil flow.

If the two countries are reluctant to reopen the pipeline, fearing that some oil may get into Israeli hands, the British now "appear determined" to reopen the Haifa refinery plant regardless, and to bring the crude oil to Haifa in tankers "from all corners of the globe," according to one report from Haifa today.

Meanwhile, the Israeli Interior Ministry announced that it is preparing a plan for arbitration in all labor disputes. Under the proposed plan, disputants in a labor arbitration case would be required to report their dispute to the government and conduct negotiations before they resort to more drastic action.

Although the Histadruth is strongly opposed to a compulsory arbitration law, it will agree to such a law provided it deals only with disputes which occur during the life-time of a collective bargaining contract.

NEWS  
AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT AMENDS BILL FOR CARE TO NAZI VICTIMS TO INCLUDE JEWS IN BENEFITS

VIENNA, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Austrian parliament today unanimously amended legislation for the care of victims of Nazism to give Jews and other religious and racial persecutees the same privileges formally extended to political persecutees only.

Representatives of all parties in the legislature hailed the amendment as "making good the wrong done the Jews by the Nazis." The bill provides that Jews who were in a prison one year or in a concentration camp for six months, or relatives of deceased persecutees who fall into these categories shall receive priority to certain jobs and other privileges, including an income tax reduction.

POLISH GOVT. PERMITS JEWS WHO CHANGED THEIR NAMES TO FOIL NAZIS TO ALTER PARENTS NAMES

WARSAW, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Polish Government has passed a new measure designed to assist Jews who during the Nazi occupation and the postwar period changed their names to disguise the fact that they were Jewish.

Many of the Jews who changed their names were betrayed by the names of their parents as recorded on their birth certificates. The latest Polish regulation, therefore, permits a person to change the names of his parents on all documents.

ROMANIAN JEWS WILL BE POLLED ON DESIRE TO GO TO ISRAEL, JEWISH AGENCY OFFICIAL SAYS

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Arrangements are now being made to poll the 310,000 Jews in Rumania on their desire to migrate to Israel, Dr. Itzhak Werfel, immigration head of the Jewish Agency who is now in this country attending an Agency plenary session, said last night at a press conference.

Dr. Werfel disclosed that although the Rumanian Government had agreed to permit 5,000 Jews to leave for Israel monthly, there have been difficulties in carrying out this agreement. In the past two months, 4,000 Rumanian Jews proceeded to Israel, he said, adding that he believed between 60,000 and 80,000 East European Jews would leave for Israel this year.

Dr. Werfel, a leader of the Hapcel Hamizrachi movement, said that the Agency has set a goal of 250,000 immigrants to Israel in 1950. Housing for the anticipated arrivals in the Jewish state will cost a minimum of \$150,000,000, he added.

MILITARY-AGE JEWS IN BRITISH TERRITORY MAY GO TO ISRAEL IF "LOCAL CONDITIONS" PERMIT

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The decision whether to release Jews of military age for migration to Israel depends on "local conditions" and authorities, despite the fact that Foreign Under-Secretary Christopher Mayhew told Commons that the ban on such migration had been lifted in all areas under British control, it was authoritatively learned here today.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Office today told the Agudas Israel that the Governor of the British Protectorate of Aden has been given the authority to permit Jews of military age to depart for Israel. (Reports from Aden earlier this week said that the local British governor would do nothing to release some 700 Jews in a refugee camp who wished to proceed to the Jewish state.) The Foreign Office statement was contained in a letter to the Agudah which had made representations in behalf of the Aden Jews prior to the announcement of the lifting of the ban.

URUGUAYAN MINISTER RECEIVES JEWISH DELEGATION; IMMIGRATION OF DP'S MAY BE FACILITATED

MONTEVIDEO, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Minister of Interior today received a Jewish delegation which asked him to facilitate the immigration of displaced Jews to Uruguay. It is hoped that as a result of the conference more DP's will be permitted to enter the country.

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HEBREW UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS URGE ISRAELI GOVT. TO RELEASE STUDENTS FROM ARMY SERVICE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- An urgent request to the Israeli Government to release immediately a sufficient number of Hebrew University students to enable the University to reopen was voiced here today at a press conference by officials of the University.

The officials reported that a recently-completed survey disclosed that ten percent of all Israeli soldiers wish either to resume or begin their studies at the Mt. Scopus institution. One-third of these soldiers, the survey disclosed, previously studied at the University.

Dr. Simcha Assaf, University rector, outlined the dangers arising from the disruption of spiritual, cultural and scientific activities at the Hebrew University. The officials emphasized that they strongly resent the government's non-implementation of Premier David Ben Gurion's specific promise to release students for work at the University.

ISRAELI ARMY TO AWARD SEVEN KINDS OF MEDALS FOR BRAVERY AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Israeli Army will award seven different kinds of decorations for service and bravery on the part of officers and enlisted men, it was announced here today by an Army spokesman. A competition for designing the awards will be announced soon.

The highest order to be awarded by the Jewish state will be "Hero of Israel." The top six decorations will all be assigned for bravery, while the lowest will be awarded for "distinguished service." No distinction will be made between officers and enlisted men and no limit will be set on the number of times a soldier may be decorated. Two of the awards will be reserved for airforce personnel.

A list of soldiers who will receive decorations for past performances has already been drawn up. Many of the medals will be presented posthumously. Holders of foreign decorations will also be permitted to wear them.

MRS. ROOSEVELT RECEIVES HADASSAH AWARD FOR AID TO YOUTH MIGRATION TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt received the first Henrietta Szold citation and award for distinguished humanitarian service and aid in rehabilitating 40,000 Jewish children in Israel from Hadassah at a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel today. The occasion was the 15th anniversary of the founding of Youth Aliyah. Mrs. Roosevelt heads the Youth Aliyah advisory committee.

Referring to Mrs. Roosevelt's efforts in Paris to "focus the attention of the international community upon the principles of human solidarity," Aubrey Eban, head of the Israeli mission to the United States, said that when his delegation had to "resist a movement for the mutilation of Israel at its very birth," she was "a source of mature counsel, a ready defense in adversity. The cruelty of depriving us of the Negev which represents our main national opportunity was apparent to her, as it became apparent to the entire delegation of the United States and to the U.N. General Assembly itself."

Mrs. Roosevelt returned the \$1,000 award accompanying the citation to Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, head of the national Youth Aliyah committee of Hadassah, to be used for a music library at the Ramat Hadassah-Szold children's reception center at Alonim, which was officially opened today, during Israel's celebration of the 15th anniversary of the child migration movement.

B'NAI B'RITH NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ADOPTS \$1,070,000 BUDGET FOR 1949

CINCINNATI, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- A \$1,070,000 budget was adopted today by the B'nai B'rith national executive committee for the organization's far-flung 1949 program, including the maintenance of Hillel foundations, youth work and vocational service. The action was taken at the final session of the executive committee's annual meeting.

Membership stands at 319,000 men and women, it was reported to the committee, and 63 new men's lodges have been formed. The body decided to hold the organization's 50th biennial convention in Washington, D.C. It also endorsed the Joint Defense Appeal's current drive for \$6,826,000 for the civic defense activities of the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee.

During the sessions a banquet was held to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the B'nai B'rith lodge in Cincinnati and to honor its honorary president, Alfred M. Cohen. The toastmaster at the banquet was Frank Goldman, national president of B'nai B'rith, and speakers included: Mayor Albert Cash of Cincinnati; Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of Hebrew Union College -- Jewish Institute of Religion; Dr. Maurice Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Sidney G. Kusworm, treasurer of B'nai B'rith; Rabbi Leo Baeck, president of the World Council for Progressive Judaism, and Louis J. Borinstein of Indianapolis.

MEXICAN JEWS WILL NOT HAVE UNITED FUND-RAISING DRIVE IN 1949; SEPARATE CAMPAIGNS BEGIN

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- There will be no unified fund-raising campaign in the Mexican Jewish community this year as a result of differences of opinion among Zionist groups here, it was learned today.

Meanwhile, the drive for local Jewish communal needs, undertaken by the Jewish Central Committee and Congregation Nidchai Israel, has already been proclaimed. The funds raised in this effort will be used to fight anti-Semitism in Mexico, provide for the needs of Jewish education and for philanthropic and welfare purposes. Zionist groups are preparing for their campaigns for the Jewish National Fund and for other Israeli needs.

ARGENTINE J.N.F. DECIDES TO PLANT 500,000 TREES IN ISRAEL IN MEMORY OF FALLEN TROOPS

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The National Committee of the Jewish National Fund in Argentina decided at a meeting today to plant 500,000 trees in Israel in memory of the Israeli troops killed during the fighting last year. Previously, the committee had considered the planting of 400,000 trees, but increased its goal upon receipt of a report from Israel that the J.N.F. will plant 6,000,000 trees in memory of Israel's fallen defenders.

The committee also decided to conduct the tree campaign--with a goal of 2,500,000 pieces (\$625,000)--during February, March and April, with all funds to be in by Passover.

CHAIR OF MODERN HEBREW INSTALLED AT JEWS' COLLEGE IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The importance of disseminating knowledge of modern Hebrew among British Jews was emphasized here today by British Empire Chief Rabbi Dr. Israel Brodie, speaking at ceremonies marking the inauguration of a Chair in Modern Hebrew at Jews' College, named in honor of Rev. J.K. Goldbloom, veteran British Zionist leader.

The proposal to name the chair for Rev. Goldbloom was made by the education committee of the Zionist Federation of Britain, which is contributing to the maintenance of the chair. Dr. J. Epstein, principal of Jews' College, paid tribute to Rev. Goldbloom for his work in behalf of the movement to revive modern Hebrew in Britain.

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