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BUNCHE ANNOUNCES "VERY GOOD PROGRESS" MADE AT ISRAELI-TRANSJORDAN ARMISTICE PARLEY

RHODES, March 24. (JTA) -- "Very good progress" was made at the Israeli-Transjordan armistice negotiations which were resumed here today, following a five-day lull since the last meeting between the two delegations. This estimate of the results of the session was made by acting U.N. mediator Ralph J. Bunche in a communique issued after the meeting.

The communique revealed that the meeting had lasted two hours and had been devoted chiefly to a discussion of the remaining points at issue concerning the armistice lines, such as those in the Latrun and Hebron areas and the sectors south of the Dead Sea. Dr. Bunche also disclosed that the joint military sub-committee will meet tomorrow to clear up "outstanding points in the reduction of forces."

Both delegations were reported as conciliatory at today's session, and succeeded in clearing up a number of minor points. The question of the presence of British troops at Aqaba was apparently not raised. The military sub-committee at its next meeting is expected to deal with the implementation of agreements for the reduction of the respective forces and with the withdrawal of their equipment to a point well behind their lines.

Spokesmen for both delegations today declared that the "gap between the two approaches have been narrowed." They added that many of the divergencies which existed before the lull in negotiations have now been eliminated. However, both of them refused to disclose whether the Latrun problem had been settled and what issues still remain to be cleared up.

The Israeli spokesman also stated that "the lull was very good and useful since the Transjordanians brought back clearer instructions and we know where we stand." He refused to make any statement when asked whether it was expected that an armistice treaty would be signed next week.

LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS EXCHANGE PRISONERS OF WAR; JOINT ARMISTICE BODY BEGINS MEETING

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- The first action implementing the Lebanese-Israeli armistice pact signed yesterday took place on the Lebanon-Israel frontier this morning when 36 Lebanese prisoners of war were exchanged for seven captured Israeli soldiers, it was announced here. Relatives of the prisoners joined them at a Jewish settlement near the border and all attended a reception to celebrate their release.

The joint armistice commission set up to administer the treaty began meeting today in En Naqura, several miles north of Ras el Naqura, on the Lebanese coast. The first session was chaired by Gen. William E. Riley, U.N. mediator Ralph J. Bunche's chief military aide, but it is expected that he will immediately appoint another U.N. officer to replace him as permanent chairman of the commission.

Meanwhile, in the Negev area, plans made by the joint Israeli-Egyptian armistice commission to transfer some 400 Arab civilians who remained in the Faluja area to Hebron, where they elected to go, were disrupted at the last minute by a Transjordan decision not to permit the entrance of the Arab civilians into their area.

SYRIA'S POSSESSION OF ANCIENT HEBREW SCROLLS MAY BECOME ISSUE IN ARMISTICE TALKS

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- Possession of four or five ancient Hebrew scrolls believed to date back to the pre-Christian era may be a point at issue in the Syrian-Israeli armistice talks, it was reported here today.

The scrolls, found by wandering Bedouins in a cave near the Dead Sea in November, 1947, are now held by the Syrian Government. Other scrolls, discovered at the same time, were acquired by the Hebrew University and have been described by Prof. Eleazar Sukenik and other scholars as an archaeological discovery of the greatest importance.

The Syrian Government reportedly has offered the scrolls for sale to Oxford University. The Israeli Government may claim ownership on the grounds that the priceless manuscripts were found on Israeli territory and removed without consent.

ISRAELI KNESSETH TO CONSIDER SITUATION OF JEWS IN ARAB COUNTRIES AT MEETING NEXT WEEK

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- Consideration of the position of Jewish communities in Arab states, particularly in Iraq which has a Jewish population of 100,000, will be given by the Israeli Knesseth on Monday when it resumes its sessions here, it was reported today, when the Knesseth adjourned its meeting to next week.

The Israeli Government is also expected to issue a formal statement on the subject following Monday's Knesseth meeting. Premier David Ben Gurion refused to grant a request of Heruth members in the Knesseth that a discussion of armistice agreements with the Arab countries be initiated, asserting such a discussion was premature.

Earlier, the Knesseth approved a government-sponsored proposal for the setting up of nine parliamentary sub-committees. A motion that the sub-committees be allowed to submit independent recommendations to the Knesseth was also approved.

S.S. Kalamara, Moroccan veteran Zionist leader, emphasized at a meeting of Jewish Agency officials here today the need for increased Jewish emigration from Morocco. Ninety percent of the 250,000 Jews in Morocco, he said, live in extreme poverty and are completely under the Sultan's authority, while Jews in other North African countries enjoy the protection of French authorities. He revealed that a total of 12,000 Moroccan Jews have reached Israel to date.

GOLDIE MYERSON ARRIVES IN MOSCOW TO WIND UP HER DUTIES AS ISRAELI MINISTER

MOSCOW, March 24. (JTA) -- Mrs. Goldie Myerson, recently-appointed Minister of Labor and Social Insurance of Israel, arrived here today by air from Prague.

She is expected to remain for a week or fortnight to wind up her affairs as the Jewish state's first Minister to the Soviet Union. Mrs. Myerson relinquished her ministerial post when she was appointed to head a Cabinet Ministry, a spokesman for the Israeli mission here explained.

BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF TROOP REINFORCEMENTS IN TRANSJORDAN

LONDON, March 24. (JTA) -- A British Foreign Office spokesman declared today that he had no knowledge of alleged British military moves in Transjordan. He was commenting on a report issued yesterday by acting U.N. Palestine mediator Dr. Ralph J. Bunche that British troops--in violation of the Security Council's truce resolutions--had reinforced their forces in Transjordan.

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TRUMAN CANCELS ATTENDANCE AT NEW YORK DINNER FOR WEIZMANN; CITES URGENCY OF WORK

WASHINGTON, March 24. (JTA) -- President Truman announced at a press conference today that he will not attend the dinner scheduled to be held in New York April 23 in honor of Israeli President Chaim Weizmann.

The President explained that the urgency of his work and his crowded schedule with Congress now in session compel him to cancel his plans to attend. He also blamed impending "international decisions" for his action. The Weizmann dinner is being tendered by the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovoth.

Earlier, President Truman asserted that he was "still hopeful that we can get the civil rights program through" during the present Congressional session.

Weizmann and Party of 13 to Leave for U.S. April 4

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- Israeli President and Mrs. Chaim Weizmann will leave here for the United States, by way of Paris, on April 4, it was announced today. The President, who will attend a dinner in his honor in New York on April 23, will be accompanied by a party of 13.

Eddie Jacobson, former business partner of President Truman, arrived in Israel yesterday aboard an Air France plane, and said he would remain for ten days. He was met at Lydda Airport by James G. McDonald, United States Ambassador, who will be his host. Jacobson said he had come on a private mission.

Last night, President Weizmann received a delegation of World Jewish Congress leaders who extended to him the congratulations of the Jews outside of Israel on his election as the first President of Israel. The delegation, composed of Dr. Arish Partakover, Avraham Bialopolsky, Rabbi Mordecai Nurok and Joseph Heftman, presented Dr. Weizmann with a report of the Congress' activities. The President expressed special interest in the W.J.C. activities in behalf of the Jews in the Arab countries.

FIRST SETTLEMENT ESTABLISHED BY HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI OF AMERICA INAUGURATED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- The first settlement established by the Hapoel Hamizrachi of America was formally inaugurated today in the Negev, some 20 miles south of here. The 120 members of the new colony include former settlers of Kfar Darom, which held out for five weeks against continued Egyptian onslaughts during the recent fighting, and a Hapoel Hamizrachi group known as Netivot-Morashi comprising Americans and South Africans.

The Americans in the group, members of both Hapoel Hamizrachi and Hashomer Hadati, trained at the latter group's Hachsharah camps in Cranberry, N.J., and Guelth, Ontario, Canada. Israeli Immigration Minister Moshe Shapira, Yitzhak Raphael, of the Jewish Agency, and Rabbi Zeev Segal, of the American Hapoel Hamizrachi organization, participated in the new colony's opening ceremonies. The colony is the 23rd established by the religious group and the first to be replaced of five Mizrachi colonies destroyed in the war, including the Kfar Etzion bloc.

Meanwhile, near Jerusalem, the settlers of Maaleh Hamishmar celebrated the return of their children to their families. The youngsters were evacuated for their own safety last year when the fighting became generalized in the Jerusalem area.

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NO JEWS IN IRAQ IN DANGER OF THEIR LIVES, STATE DEPT. SAYS; CLOSES INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, March 24. (JTA) -- All sentences of death in absentia by Iraqi courts-martial have been imposed against Iraqi Jews actually serving in the Israeli Army and no Jews in Iraq are in danger of their lives, a spokesman for the State Department said today.

He said that the situation has been "cleared up" and the investigation closed by the American Embassy in Bagdad. The Department was "very relieved" to learn that the reported executions never took place, he added.

HOUSE TO CONSIDER BILL TO PRESERVE CITIZENSHIP OF AMERICANS WHO FOUGHT FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 24. (JTA) -- House consideration is expected soon of a bill to preserve the citizenship of American volunteers who served with Israeli armed forces.

The measure to amend the Nationality Act of 1940, introduced by Rep. Abraham J. Multer, would guarantee citizenship for Americans who served in forces "established to maintain peace in Palestine" and "to carry out the recommendations of the U.N. General Assembly of Nov. 29, 1947."

The American Red Cross today received the thanks of Dr. M. Lavontin, president of Magen David Adom (Red Mogen Dovid), of Israel. Basil O'Connor, Red Cross president, made public a letter from Dr. Lavontin, expressing appreciation for Red Cross medical supplies made available to the Israeli agency.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL HAS PRODUCED NEW TYPE OF ANTI-SEMITISM, A.D.L. DIRECTOR SAYS

WASHINGTON, March 24. (JTA) -- Although the establishment of Israel has given American Jews an "ego boost," it has also resulted in a new type of intellectual anti-Semitism based on charges of divided loyalties of American Zionists, Benjamin Epstein, executive director of the Anti-Defamation League, revealed here.

Epstein said last night that an alarming lack of understanding of Israel and Zionism has been demonstrated by expressions of Protestant Ministers and other intellectuals. He cited articles in the "Christian Century," to support his remarks.

The chief source of criticism levelled at Jews is alleged divided loyalty and support by American Jewry of a foreign state which has now attained full sovereignty, Epstein said. "Professional anti-Semites seem elated at the success of Israel." Their new cry is that now that Jews have a place to go, "send them all back there," he added.

Epstein's statements were made at a forum on the significance of Israel to world democracy held at the Jewish Community Center here. Other participants were Arthur C.A. Liverhant, of the Israeli Embassy staff, and Prof. Richard J. Purcell, of Catholic University.

ISRAELI ARMY DENIES ARAB LEAGUE CHARGES JEWS MISTREATED ARAB CIVILIANS IN FALUJA

TEL AVIV, March 24. (JTA) -- An Israeli Army spokesman today denied allegations made yesterday by the Arab League to the United Nations that the Jews have mistreated Arab civilians who remained in the Faluja area following the withdrawal of Egyptian troops. The spokesman said that if the charges were true, only the U.N. was to blame since U.N. observers have been permanently stationed in that sector to guard against precisely such happenings.

MOSCOW LITERARY GAZETTE HITS CRITIC FOR LINKING SOVIET POET WITH CHAIM NACHMAN BIALIK

MOSCOW, March 24. (JTA) -- A Russian literary critic was sharply attacked today by the Literary Gazette for linking the Soviet revolutionary poet Vladimir Mayakovsky with Chaim Nachman Bialik, poet of the Hebrew renaissance, who was described by the magazine as a "Jewish mystic poet and a reactionary."

The critic, B. Bialik, was castigated by the Soviet journal for asserting that Mayakovsky's "hatred toward hangmen" purportedly was inspired by the works of Chaim Nachman Bialik. "Such an absurd parallel," the Gazette continued, "is explainable only as lordly snobbery toward Russian Soviet art and disrespect to the memory of the great patriot, Vladimir Mayakovsky."

HUNGARIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION DISSOLVES ITSELF; SAYS AIM FULFILLED BY EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL

BUDAPEST, March 24. (JTA) -- The dissolution of the Hungarian Zionist Federation and all its branches was announced today. The report of this action in the publication Uj Elet, organ of the Jewish Community, described it as a voluntary decision by the executive committee of the Federation, adopted unanimously.

"Since the state of Israel has been established," the committee's resolution stated, "the supreme aim of the Federation has been fulfilled and normal diplomatic relations exist between Hungary and Israel."

BRITISH COURT FINES JEWISH STUDENT FOR KICKING POLICEMAN DURING CLASH WITH MOSLEYITES

LONDON, March 24. (JTA) -- Ilse Stiasny, 18-year-old Jewish student, was today fined \$80 by a magistrate's court here for kicking a policeman during last weekend's clash between Mosleyites and anti-fascists. In explaining her action, Miss Stiasny declared: "I was in a fury to see the English law protecting people who killed my parents and ruined my life."

ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES AFFIX SIGNATURES TO MEMBERSHIP ACCORD OF WHEAT CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, March 24. (JTA) -- Israeli representatives Dr. Ludwig Samuel and Arthur C.A. Liverhant yesterday affixed their names in Hebrew to the membership accord of the International Wheat Conference, first world-wide agreement to bear Israel's signature. Signing of the document took place in the presence of representatives of more than 40 participating nations.

ISRAELI-POLISH TRADE AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED IN APRIL; CZECH TALKS TO BEGIN

WARSAW, March 24. (JTA) -- An Israeli-Polish commercial treaty is expected to be signed early next month, it was reported here today. Members of an Israeli delegation which has been in Poland for more than a week initiating the commercial talks left for Czechoslovakia today to open discussions on an Israel-Czechoslovakia trade agreement.

ITALIAN AIRLINE INAUGURATES ROME-ATHENS-LYDDA SERVICE; HANDLES FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS

ROME, March 24. (JTA) -- The Italian airline Iai today inaugurated passenger and freight service between Rome and Lydda, Israel, by way of Athens. Opening of the new service means that traffic between Israel and this country can be carried by other means than chartered flights.

GOV. DEWEY ACCEPTS HONORARY CHAIRMANSHIP OF GROUP SET UP TO MARK ISRAEL'S ANNIVERSARY

ALBANY, N.Y., March 24. (JTA) -- Governor Thomas E. Dewey today accepted the honorary chairmanship of the "Committee for the Celebration of the First Anniversary of the Creation of the State of Israel," to be held in the form of a "gigantic birthday party celebration" at Madison Square Garden in New York City on May 14.

After receiving a delegation of leaders of the Committee in his office here, Dewey paid tribute to the new state for its inspiring ideals and for the progress displayed since its creation. He said he was "very happy to be associated with the appropriate festive birthday plans." Dean Alfange is chairman of the Committee, which is described as a "grouping of four non-political, non-profit, philanthropic societies--the Palestine Pioneers Foundation, the Tel Hai Fund, the American Committee for the National Sick Fund of Palestine and the League for Jewish National Labor in Palestine." Dr. Louis I. Newman and Rabbi Eliezer Silver are honorary co-chairmen of the Committee.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN VARIOUS PARTS OF WORLD THREATENS JEWISH PEOPLE, W.J.C. OFFICIAL SAYS

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA) -- The upsurge of anti-Semitism in the Near East, North Africa, Latin America, South Africa and Germany threatens the actual survival of the Jewish people in these parts of the world, Dr. Robert Marcus, director of the political department of the World Jewish Congress, said yesterday. "The almost 900,000 Jews in the Near East and North Africa today are actual hostages," he added.

"The Arab world is waging a war against the Jews on all fronts; on one of these--the battlefield--they have suffered overwhelming defeat in their war of aggression against Israel, but on the other, the persecution of their own Jewish citizens, they have been more successful," he declared. Dr. Marcus spoke at the annual honor-luncheon of Yeshiva University's Women's Organization.

STATE DEPT. OFFICIAL COMMENDS LESSING ROSENWALD'S APPEAL ON BEHALF OF ARAB REFUGEES

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA) -- The State Department has expressed "special commendation" of Lessing J. Rosenwald, president of the American Council for Judaism, for his recent appeal for an interdenominational statement in behalf of the repatriation, resettlement and rehabilitation of the Palestine Arab refugees. J.C. Satterthwaite, director of Near Eastern and African Affairs of the Department, said in a letter to Rosenwald that the United States has "a direct interest in the speedy formulation and execution of an equitable solution of the refugee problem."

ELLIS RADINSKY APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA) -- Ellis Radinsky, former head of the community contacts department of the United Palestine Appeal, has been named executive director of that organization, Judge Morris Rothenberg, acting national chairman of the U.P.A., announced here. A former field representative for the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Radinsky is a graduate of the New York School of Social Work and has had extensive experience in social service activities, as well as in organizing Jewish community effort in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal.

RABBI LOUIS EPSTEIN, AUTHORITY ON JEWISH LAW, DIES; WAS CITED FOR SCHOLARSHIP

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA) -- Rabbi Louis M. Epstein, authority on Jewish law and author of several works on Jewish marriage customs, died here early yesterday. In 1945 he was awarded the Louis Ginzberg citation of the Jewish Theological Seminary for his contributions to Jewish scholarship. He served as president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America from 1918-1922.