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ISRAEL REJECTS U.S. PLEA FOR ADMISSION OF LARGE NUMBER OF ARAB REFUGEES TO JEWISH STATE

LAUSANNE, June 9. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government's decision to reject a United States plea that Israel accept a large number of Arab refugees was conveyed last night to Mark Ethridge, American representative on the U.N. Conciliation Commission, by Dr. Walter Eytan, head of the Israeli delegation.

Dr. Eytan took the decision to Mr. Ethridge in a private meeting after returning from his five-day trip to Tel Aviv, where he had gone for consultations. Mr. Ethridge is leaving tomorrow, and Raymond Hare, deputy director of the State Department's Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, will take over.

WHITE HOUSE DENIES PRESIDENT TRUMAN IS PRESSING ISRAEL TO ADMIT ARAB REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, June 9. (JTA) -- The White House denied today to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reports emanating from Lausanne that President Truman had written a letter to the Israeli Government asking for the admission of a substantial number of Arab refugees to the Jewish state. A White House spokesman emphasized that the problem was being handled through regular diplomatic channels.

It became clear here today that the new U.S. policy of insisting that Israel absorb large numbers of Arab refugees has so far been formulated without the participation of President Truman. At the same time it was not clear to what extent the President had been advised of the shift in State Department tactics, or whether he approved of this shift.

Details of requests presented by U.S. diplomatic representatives to the Government of Israel for the readmission of Arab refugees were learned here today. It was indicated that the State Department agrees that all the Arab refugees cannot be admitted into Israel. However, a tentative American conclusion is that perhaps 200,000 of them might eventually be returned to the Jewish state and the rest absorbed in neighboring countries.

The requests presented by the U.S. diplomats to Israel, it was reported here today, were made "in firm language" by U.S. Ambassador James G. McDonald in Tel Aviv, as well as by Mark Ethridge, the American representative on the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission who is leaving his post within a few days. They are reported to have emphasized:

1. That Israel has not lived up to the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly calling for the repatriation of the refugees as soon as practicable.
2. That sympathetic action by Israel is needed now to break the stalemate in the U.N.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace talks at Lausanne.
3. That Israel's refusal to admit a reasonable number of Arab refugees constitutes a stumbling block to a general settlement in the Middle East and is also hampering the Israeli-Syrian armistice talks.

It is understood that the U.S. Government has suggested that the best start for Israel to make in the direction of repatriation of Arab refugees would be to reunite Arabs who fled Palestine with their families who remained behind. Israeli officials, it is learned, reiterated that the refugee question cannot be discussed except as a part of the final peace settlement.

ISRAELI AND AMERICAN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON LAUSANNE PEACE PARLEY REVEALED IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, June 9. (JTA) -- An exchange of views has taken place between the American and Israeli Governments on the Lausanne peace conference, an official Israeli Government spokesman announced here today. The spokesman refused to comment on the question of alleged American pressure on Israel to accept a large number of Palestine Arab refugees.

American Ambassador James G. McDonald called on Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett on the situation. It is understood that heavy American pressure was applied in Washington, Lausanne and Tel Aviv in an attempt to make the Israelis withdraw from their positions on the refugees and on territorial concessions.

It is understood that the Israeli reply has been that Israel sees these problems only in relation to a final peace settlement and that the making of such concessions before a peace settlement would be the equivalent of "rewarding the Arabs for aggression." It was also reported that Israeli representatives declared that they could not make such a demarche because the parliament and the voters would reject it.

ETYAN OUTLINES ISRAELI POSITION AT SESSION WITH U.N. COMMISSION AT LAUSANNE PARLEY

LAUSANNE, June 9. (JTA) -- In a two-hour appearance before the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission at the Arab-Jewish peace parley here, Dr. Walter Eytan, Israeli delegation head who has just returned from conferences in Tel Aviv, outlined the Israeli attitude toward the Commission and the conference. He listed a number of proposals which the Israeli delegation had put forward and which apparently had gone either unattended or unanswered by the Commission or by the Arab delegations.

He said the time had come for the Commission to reorient its work. There was, he insisted, an obvious flaw in the work of the Commission since it had not even been able to start to conciliate between the Israelis and the Arabs. He then made a number of technical proposals which members of the Commission took to mean that he wanted to work towards early, direct meetings with the Arabs instead of the present system of communications through the intermediary of the Commission.

Reaction here to Dr. Eytan's statement has been cautious. But members of the body were manifestly deeply impressed. A Commission spokesman indicated after its delivery that possible changes, of the kind proposed by the chief Israeli delegate, might occur.

ISRAELI SPOKESMAN AT U.N. OUTLINES ATTITUDE ON SOLUTION OF ARAB REFUGEE PROBLEM

LAKE SUCCESS, June 9. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government is prepared to contribute to a solution of the Arab refugee question "in the context of a peaceful settlement," a spokesman for the Israeli mission at the U.N. stated today. He revealed that Israel has made a number of proposals on the refugee question at the Lausanne peace conference which have not been dealt with.

The statement points out that there have been reports of an attempt to revive territorial plans and principles rejected by the U.N. General Assembly at its Paris session last fall. "The existing territorial position under the armistice agreements can be altered only by negotiations with the Arab states leading to peace agreements," the spokesman pointed out. He added that "it would be against the basic principle of the December 11 resolution and inimical to the prospects of an early agreement for any outside influence or pressure to be exerted in favor of any preconceived view of what the final boundaries should be."

U.N. TRUCE CHIEF ARRIVES IN JERUSALEM; TO CONFER WITH JEWS ON OCCUPATION OF NEUTRAL AREA

JERUSALEM, June 9. (JTA) -- Brig. Gen. William E. Riley, United Nations chief of truce staff, arrived here tonight to hold discussions with Lt. Col. Moshe Dayan, Israeli commander, over the situation that has arisen following the Israeli occupation Monday of part of the neutralized area around Government House.

A U.N. communique stated that Gen. Riley would proceed tomorrow to Amman, capital of Transjordan, to discuss the move with Transjordan military authorities. The communique added that "in the course of those conversations it is expected that an arrangement satisfactory to all parties will be worked out."

LORD SAMUEL URGES ISRAEL TO PERMIT TRANSJORDAN AND SYRIA TO USE HAIFA PORT FACILITIES

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Lord Samuel, who has just returned from a two-month visit to Israel, declared in a broadcast today that Israel should permit Transjordan and Syria to use the Haifa port facilities since those countries require an outlet to the sea. He also voiced the hope for an improvement in Anglo-Israeli relations.

The first British High Commissioner for Palestine asserted that Jewish hostility to Britain was the result of the White Paper of 1939 on Palestine and events which occurred subsequent to the document's issuance. Lord Samuel described his impressions of the arrival of refugee vessels in Israel and the transfer of immigrants to special reception centers.

PALMACH VETERANS ESTABLISH SETTLEMENT ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI BORDER; HONOR FALLEN COMRADES

TEL AVIV, June 9. (JTA) -- Veterans of the Palmach, the Jewish striking force which distinguished itself during the warfare in Palestine, established a new settlement today in North Central Galilee, on the Lebanese frontier, near the site of a village abandoned during the fighting.

The new settlement will be known as Shefer. A grove was planted in memory of 16 comrades of the settlers who were killed in the battle of Nebi Yusha.

CHIEF RABBI OF TRIBE OF CAVE-DWELLING JEWS IN TRIPOLITANIA ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

HAIFA, June 9. (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbi of a tribe of Jewish cave-dwellers in Tripolitania arrived here today aboard the S.S. Eilat which brought 455 immigrants to Israel. Two hundred of the new arrivals were children brought here by the Youth Aliyah.

The cave dwelling rabbi, Hamos Sophir, said that members of his entire village would soon immigrate to Israel. Cave dwelling Jews in Tripolitania are concentrated in the Jebel Nefusa mountain range and are believed to be descendants of Jews who fled from Moorish pogroms in North Africa.

ISRAELI TRADE OFFICIAL COMPLETES TALKS WITH EIRE; ISRAEL MAY GET VITAL FOODSTUFFS

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph Fisch, Israeli trade commissioner, returned here today from Dublin where he had been invited to conduct trade talks with Eire's Department of Foreign Affairs. The Israeli official indicated that supplies of essential foodstuffs may be made available by Eire as a result of the negotiations.

ROMANIA NAMES ENVOY TO ISRAEL; APPOINTEE IS PRESENTLY SERVING AS MINISTER TO ITALY

BUCAREST, June 9. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government today appointed Nicolai Ciocin, now Minister to Italy, its new Minister Plenipotentiary to Israel.

TURKISH PARLIAMENT PASSES LAW GIVING JEWISH COMMUNITY AUTONOMY OVER ITS OWN AFFAIRS

ISTANBUL, June 9. (JTA) -- The Turkish Parliament has passed a bill giving religious minority communities in the country autonomy over their own religious, cultural and charitable institutions. The bill was introduced a number of months ago by Solomon Adatto, a Jewish deputy.

Under the former system of administering the minority communities, a central government agency was responsible for them and the minorities were not permitted freedom of administration of communal property. During the debate in Parliament on the measure, Mr. Adatto charged that the old system of administration "paralyzed" the communal institutions.

After the measure was approved in Parliament, the Jewish and Greek deputies rose to thank their colleagues in behalf of their respective communities.

JEWISH RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES IN HUNGARY ARE NOT HAMPERED BY GOVERNMENT, LEADERS SAY

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- The United Hungarian Jews of America today released the text of a statement received from the Central Board of Jews in Hungary denying that religious education is being abolished in Jewish schools in Hungary and that the leaders of Jewish religious communities there are chosen by the Communist high command.

The statement was signed by the presidents of the Union of Autonomous Orthodox Jewish Congregations of Hungary, the Hungarian branch of the World Jewish Congress, the National Rabbinical Assembly of Hungary and the Central Board of Jews in Hungary. It emphasized that "religious instruction is obligatory in all schools in Hungary, religious endeavors are pursued with maximum intensity and Hungarian Jewry practices its religion with complete freedom."

The statement declared that "no one is being persecuted for maintaining spiritual and other links" with Jews abroad. "As for the charge that Jewish religious leadership is chosen by the Communist high command, we assert that each and every congregation throughout the land enjoys complete de jure and de facto autonomy and that their leaders are elected by universal and secret ballot," the statement added.

ONLY 40,000 JEWISH DP'S WILL REMAIN IN U.S. ZONE OF GERMANY BY NEXT MONTH

PARIS, June 9. (JTA) -- Only 12 camps for Jewish DP's will be left in the United States zone of Germany by July 1, Harry Greenstein, adviser on Jewish affairs to the American high command in Europe, said here today.

Six Jewish camps in the U.S. zone will be closed in the course of this month, he stated, as part of the program under which the Army, the International Refugee Organization and the Joint Distribution Committee are consolidating their DP work. The 40,000 remaining Jewish DP's will be quartered in 12 large centers and in the various communities.

If the present rate of emigration continues, Mr. Greenstein said, the main part of the Jewish DP problem in Germany should be solved well before the end of the year. Some camps would have to remain, however, he pointed out, to accommodate medical cases and refugees awaiting emigration to the United States and other countries.

Mr. Greenstein is conferring in Paris with J.D.C. officials. He will proceed to Hungary to survey the condition of the Jewish population there.

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AMERICAN BANK GRANTS \$15,000,000 LOAN TO JEWISH NATIONAL FUND FOR FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- A \$15,000,000 loan to the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem has been granted by the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association of California, it was announced here today by Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the J.N.F. in the United States. The loan is for a four-year period, Judge Rothenberg said, adding that the funds would be applied immediately "toward the purchase and improvement of land in Israel and to help the mass settlement of Jews there."

Dr. Abraham Granovsky, world president of the Jewish National Fund, in a cable from Jerusalem, declared that granting of the loan would enable the Fund to "pursue and amplify" its present large-scale activities, including acquisition of large tracts of land, afforestation, development of water resources and expansion of agricultural settlements.

Judge Rothenberg asserted that the loan was an "evidence of the confidence which American banking institutions place in the agencies supporting the work of Jewish settlement in Israel." It was made possible, he said, "because of the contributions of American Jewry to the United Jewish Appeal--from which the J.N.F. receives its chief income--and to the traditional fund-raising program of the Jewish National Fund."

Russell G. Smith, executive vice-president of the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, speaking on behalf of the bank, stated that the loan was made on a sound basis to provide for constructive accomplishment. "The Jewish National Fund has established itself as a credit-worthy institution and this loan represents the fulfillment of banking policy that deserving borrowers are entitled to credit for proper business purposes," he said.

\$500,000 OFFICE BUILDING TO BE ERECTED IN TEL AVIV BY U.S. MANUFACTURER AND P.E.C.

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- Joseph Levy, philanthropist and one of the leading clothing manufacturers in the United States, and the Palestine Economic Corporation, have formed a partnership to construct and manage the first U.S.-sponsored office building in Tel Aviv, it was announced here today.

A member of the board of directors of the P.E.C., and long active in the United Jewish Appeal and other Jewish philanthropies, Mr. Levy will retain a 75 percent interest in the building, which will cost approximately \$500,000 to construct. The P.E.C. will invest the remaining 25 percent in the project. Mr. Levy is scheduled to fly to Israel on Tuesday.

F.D. ROOSEVELT, JR., LEAVES ISRAEL; WILL EMBARK ON SPEAKING TOUR FOR U.J.A.

TEL AVIV, June 9. (JTA) -- Congressman-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., today left here on the return trip to the United States, after spending a week touring Israel.

At a press conference prior to his departure, Mr. Roosevelt declared that he will assist the United Jewish Appeal's current campaign for \$250,000,000 by embarking on a speaking tour in its behalf. However, he pointed out that contributing to the U.J.A. drive was but one of several ways of supplying dollars to Israel. He listed the underwriting of construction mortgages, shipping and tourist trade and international loans as the other ways by which Israel could obtain American currency.

O.I.A. LEADER ARRIVES IN NEW YORK; SAYS ARGENTINE JEWS SUPPORT PERON

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- Sucher Matrajt, president of the pro-Peron Organizacion Israelita Argentina, who is visiting the U.S. en route home to Buenos Aires following a three-week stay in Israel where he presented President Chaim Weizmann with a personal letter from President Juan Peron, declared in an interview today that 90 percent of the Jews of Argentina who opposed Peron prior to his election to the presidency now support him.

Mr. Matrajt said that the Peron regime has brought an end to anti-Semitism in Argentina which, he pointed out, was fostered to a large extent by the sizeable Arab population in the country. The O.I.A. president noted that 30,000 Jews were living in Argentina as "tourists" at the time of Peron's rise to power. He emphasized that the government made it possible for all of these Jews, most of whom had drifted into the country from Central America, to legalize their status.

The Argentine leader said that the heroic battle put up last year by the Israelis against the invading Arab armies had raised the prestige of the Jewish community in Argentina. Although he expressed doubt that any large numbers of Argentine Jews would seek to settle permanently in the Jewish state, Mr. Matrajt emphasized that the new state's cultural influence was already beginning to be felt in the Argentine. He noted the growing interest in the study of Hebrew in Argentina as compared with the diminishing interest in Yiddish.

Describing his stay in Israel as "exhilarating," Mr. Matrajt--who conferred with President Weizmann, Premier David Ben Gurion and other Israeli officials--voiced the belief that tourism would become a major industry in the new state and stressed the need for large-scale construction of modern hotels. He was received by the Pope during his stay in Rome and was also a guest at a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews in London where he visited prior to coming to New York.

I.L.G.W.U. TO PURCHASE \$1,000,000 IN HISTADRUT BONDS TO SPUR ISRAELI HOUSING PROGRAM

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- The International Ladies Garment Workers Union will purchase \$1,000,000 of Israeli bonds to help finance housing programs in the Jewish state under the direction of the Histadrut, it was announced here last night. In addition, the union expects to raise another \$2,000,000 for the purchase of bonds from its 400,000 members.

The total bond goal sought by the Histadrut among trade unionists in the U.S. is \$10,000,000. The Israeli Government will furnish an equal amount to relieve the critical housing shortage in the new state which has arisen as a result of the unprecedented flow of immigrants.

The bonds, which will bear three percent interest, will have a 15-year life and will be redeemable at a rate of one-fifteenth of the entire issue annually. Bondholders will be protected as first mortgage holders on the property of the two projects in Israel. The issue in the U.S. has the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER COURSES AT BRANDEIS CAMP INSTITUTES

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- A number of tuition scholarships will be available to qualified candidates between 18 and 25 years of age for each of three Brandeis Camp Institutes, it was announced here today by Herman L. Weisman, president of the Brandeis Youth Foundation. The courses--of two, four and seven weeks duration--train young Jewish men and women for active participation, leadership and service in Jewish communal life.

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