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LAST MINUTE NEWS

U.S. JEWISH GROUPS ASK U.S. TO SEND NEUTRAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE IRAQI ATTACKS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Appointment of an investigation commission of neutral observers to go to Iraq to ascertain the facts of Iraqi persecution of Jews was asked of the State Department today by seven national Jewish organizations.

Jewish leaders called on George C. McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, today, following the State Department's assertion earlier that it found no evidence to support charges of widespread anti-Jewish action in Iraq.

A memorandum documenting specific acts of persecution was presented to Mr. McGhee by Frank Goldman, president, B'nai B'rith; Milton King, vice-president, American Jewish Committee; Rabbi Irving Millor, chairman, executive committee, American Jewish Congress; Louis Lipsky, chairman, American Zionist Council; Adolph Held, president, Jewish Labor Committee; Jackson J. Holtz, national commander, Jewish War Veterans; and, Rabbi Bernard J. Bamberger, president, Synagogue Council of America.

Referring to a statement released Tuesday, in which the State Department indicated its belief that current reports of the number of Jews arrested in Iraq were exaggerated, and which added that those arrested "are understood to be under charges of having violated specific Iraqi laws," the delegation told Mr. McGhee:

"The basic allegation is not that the Government of Iraq has been arresting Jews in violation of its own laws, but that the laws themselves are in violation of the United Nations Charter, fundamental human rights and the generally accepted principles of civil liberty. There is illuminating if tragic precedent for the fact that a campaign of persecution and terrorization can be no less successful because it is cloaked in the mantle of legality; the exploits of the SS and of the Gestapo were clothed in the Hitlerian law."

As spokesman for the delegation, Mr. Goldman said that the delegation was "graciously received" by Mr. McGhee and came away satisfied that the matter will receive the appropriate attention of the Department. Mr. McGhee was asked to note the tenor of anti-Jewish stories in the Arab press and radio and reports of arrest and imprisonment of Jews carried in Iraqi newspapers.

The delegation informed Mr. McGhee that, in its opinion, "the situation was deteriorating from hour to hour and immediate action must be taken if the 130,000 Jews of Iraq are not to be crushed irreparably through terror and economic strangulation." In addition to requesting the dispatch of an investigating committee, the Jewish representatives asked that the State Department use its good offices with the Iraq Government to halt the persecution.

ISRAEL URGES U.N. TO ASSURE FREEDOM OF ACCESS BEFORE CALLING INTERNATIONAL PARLEYS

LAKE SUCCESS, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The Israel delegation to the U.N. today called on the world organization to assure itself of full freedom of access before calling international conferences. In a formal amendment to draft rules governing such conferences, the Israel proposal would have the Secretary-General and the Economic and Social Council "fully satisfy themselves" that all delegations and information personnel will have an open door and equal treatment before designating the place and date of the conference. Such procedure would forestall such occurrences as the recent removal of a U.N. parley from Alexandria to Geneva because the Egyptians would not admit the Israel delegates to the parley to the country.

Israel delegate Arthur Lourie last night told the 59-nation special political committee that his government favors an open door on membership but could not support a Soviet omnibus proposal because it includes admission of Transjordan. Mr. Lourie admitted that the situation in Palestine had improved since the cessation of hostilities, but said Israel "still needs some time for further consideration before taking a decisive step in so grave a matter."

Because of this and the Korean issue on which the delegation received no instructions from Tel Aviv, the Israel delegation, he said, would reserve the right to take a final stand on membership. Israel, he added, favors a policy that will admit as many members as possible except those who violate the peace. Mr. Lourie declared that it is "illegitimate" under the Charter to "withhold membership through disagreement with the political outlook or current policies of the applicant."

The executive board of the U.N. Children's Emergency Fund last night appropriated \$250,000 to aid children and nursing mothers in refugee camps in Israel. This allocation, for a period of six months, was one vote short of being unanimous, with Iraq abstaining.

Plan to Name Refugee Commissioner to be Debated in U.N. Today

LAKE SUCCESS, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The General Assembly's Social Committee will begin debate tomorrow on a recommendation of the International Refugee Organization to appoint a U.N. high commissioner to take over the refugee problem after the I.R.O. suspends operations March 31, 1951. Patterned after a similar arrangement by the League of Nations, the commissioner's principal tasks would be safeguarding of the civil rights of resettled refugees who have not yet gained citizenship.

Since the citizenship laws of Israel provide for automatic citizenship on the arrival of new residents in the country, it was noted that such a commissioner would have no duties in regard to the Jewish state. However, the plan does concern many thousands of Jewish DP's who have been resettled in other countries. Most of these lands, including the U.S., require varying periods of residence for obtaining full citizenship, and the U.N. high commissioner would be empowered to intervene in their behalf with governments for the protection of their civil rights.

ISRAEL EXPORTS RISING. MINISTRY OF TRADE REPORTS; ORDERS COMING FROM U.S., ELSEWHERE

TEL AVIV, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- A considerable improvement in the volume of Israel export trade is reported in the current issue of the Economic Bulletin published today by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. A substantial number of additional categories of commodities are listed as already ordered by exporters, their value running into sizeable amounts. The largest of these new orders come from the United States, Poland, Hungary, Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden, Costa Rica, Bulgaria and Australia.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL AIR FORCE MARKED; STUNT FLIERS PERFORM OVER TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Celebration of the second anniversary of the formation of the Israel Air Force began here today with parades and parties taking place at all Air Force bases. Early today veteran fighter pilots displayed their flying skill in breath-taking stunts over Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

Air Force Commander Gol. Aharon Remez, in an order of the day, declared that the Israel Air Force was "founded at zero hour and entered the fighting even before it was weaned to the ways of war." Even in the "first days of battle," he continued, "the I.A.F. encouraged the people in their stand against the enemy and contributed greatly to victory."

SETTLERS OF MISHMAR HAYARDEN RETURN TO BLASTED HOMES; BEGIN NEW CONSTRUCTION

HAIFA, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The settlers of Mishmar Hayarden yesterday returned to their settlements and to the burned out and blasted remains of their homes. The buildings which were not destroyed in the fighting before the settlement fell to the Syrian invaders, on the eve of the first Palestine truce, were systematically fired and dynamited by the Arabs before they returned the settlement, formerly one of the most prosperous in the Jewish state.

Settlements throughout Upper Galilee sent delegates to join the convoy escorting the settlers back to their 60-year-old town. Immediately after the impressive convoy entered the settlement, work was begun by local settlers and delegates from other areas on the erection of new homes, on the foundations of the old. A Syrian officer is expected to cross the Israel lines today to point out the place where the fourteen inhabitants of Mishmar Hayarden who fell in its defense are buried. Thirty-eight Jews were captured when the settlement was overrun.

ISRAEL WILL RECEIVE 20 PERCENT MORE WHEAT NEXT YEAR FROM INTERNATIONAL POOL

LONDON, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Israel will receive 20 percent more wheat from the pool maintained by the International Wheat Council, it was decided here last night at a meeting of the Council.

Israel's allotment this year, which ends next August, was 100,000 tons; next year's allocation is 120,000 tons. The increase was won on the basis of Israel's contention that the extra wheat is needed because of the constantly increasing population of the Jewish state. The Tel Aviv delegates at the parley, which opened earlier this week, are: Ludwig Samuel, agricultural adviser to the Israel Embassy at Washington, Dr. S.E. Shinnar, economic counsellor to the Israel legation here, and M. Palgi, director of the import division of the Israel Ministry of Supply.

ISRAEL COMMUNISTS CHARGE BEN GURION IS IN "ANTI-SOVIET CAMP." SOVIET AGENCY REPORTS

MOSCOW, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Tass, the official Soviet news agency, reported from Tel Aviv today that the Israel Communist Party has adopted a resolution charging that Premier David Ben Gurion has "gone over to the anti-Soviet camp of American warmongers" and demanding the formation of a united front comprising the Mapam and Communist Party in Israel to combat "the fascization of the state of Israel."

The Tass dispatch, which appeared in the Evening Moscow, without comment, contains the first mention in the Soviet capital of the Israel Premier's statement delivered to the Mapai on Oct. 28 and which was described here as directed against the "Israel Communist Party, Mapam, the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies." The Tass report did not appear in Pravda, Izvestia or in any other paper in this city today.

TOP U.S. UNIVERSITIES OPEN PARLEY TODAY ON DISCRIMINATION IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

CHICAGO, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Major American universities are represented among the delegates arriving here today for the two-day Conference on Discrimination in College Admissions sponsored by the American Council on Education in cooperation with the Anti-Defamation League. The conference officially opens tomorrow at the Palmer House.

The conference marks the first attempt by college administrators themselves, meeting as a group, to deal with the problem of racial and religious discrimination in admission practices among institutions of higher learning. Princeton, California, the University of Chicago, Amherst, Columbia, the University of Illinois, Wisconsin, Tulane, Texas, Loyola and Northwestern are included in the roster of schools represented here. Among the more than 100 delegates are university presidents, deans and registrars and representatives of 28 educational organizations and 10 state and city public school systems.

The conference is the outgrowth of a nationwide survey of racial, religious and economic discrimination in college admissions practices made by Elmo Roper researchers last year. The survey was made for the American Council on Education on a grant from the Anti-Defamation League and the B'nai B'rith Vocational Guidance Bureau. Both the Roper study and the Report of the President's Commission on Higher Education have shown that race, religion and economic status are vital factors influencing the admission of college students.

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE OF C.J.F.W.F. ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON COMMUNAL PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- A series of resolutions on national-local communal organizational relationships, unified and stable fund-raising, local budgeting problems, communal representation on the boards of national agencies and the United Jewish Appeal's urgent need for cash was adopted at the annual conference of the Southwestern Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, it was announced here today by the Council.

The resolution on national-local relationships recommended that communities provide "necessary local committees or other channels for considering national problems and bringing them to the attention of local boards for action and decisions." It was urged that individual communities "take no action nor allocate funds on problems affecting support of newly organized national agencies or any other major national-local problems without mutual consultation with other communities and the C.J.F.W.F." In another resolution, the delegates voted to establish a regional committee on national-local relationships to work out cooperative arrangements with national agencies regarding conferences and other activities. National agencies were urged not to schedule regional meetings without prior consultation with the new committee.

Reiterating the "right and responsibility" of the local community to "determine its goals and the allocation of all monies it raises," the delegates passed another resolution requesting national agencies to base their fund raising quotas on the realities of their actual needs and to consider practical factors, in addition to psychological considerations, as to the amounts which can be raised. National agencies were also urged to include "a fair and just representation" of leaders recommended by local communities on their boards. A resolution citing the "need for immediate cash funds for the U.J.A.," was passed by the conference, which requested each community to "make the maximum amount of cash available to the U.J.A." The conference also called for continued cooperation between the national agencies and the C.J.F.W.F.

J.D.C.'S EVACUATION OF 6,000 CYRENAICA JEWS TO ISRAEL REVEALED BY U.J.A. OFFICIAL

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The emergency evacuation to Israel and to way stations en route to the Jewish state of 6,000 Jews from the former Italian North African colony of Cyrenaica was revealed today by Monroe Goldwater, president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, on his return to this country aboard the Queen Elizabeth, after a month-long inspection of needs of distressed Jews overseas.

Approximately half the evacuees have already been sent to Israel by the Joint Distribution Committee, Mr. Goldwater reported. The others are temporarily quartered in Italy and other way stations awaiting the moment when they can go to Israel. The 6,000 Jews constituted virtually the entire Jewish population of Cyrenaica.

He stated that despite the tremendous progress toward recovery made by Jewish communities in Europe since VE Day, no less than 500,000 Jewish men, women and children in Europe, in addition to hundreds of thousands in Moslem lands and in Israel, still urgently require day-to-day help. A sign of progress which he noted, Mr. Goldwater said, was that the Jewish DP population of Germany, Austria and Italy, which numbered some 250,000 two years ago, has now shrunk to 50,000. "Despite the closing of camps, there are still 18 Jewish DP camps in operation in Germany, Austria and Italy which may be open for many months," he added.

MRS. ROOSEVELT TO DONATE LECTURE TOUR PROCEEDS TO U.J.A. IN HONOR OF MRS. MORGENTHAU

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Proceeds from a lecture tour to be conducted by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be contributed to the United Jewish Appeal in memory of the late Mrs. Harry Morgenthau, Jr., it was announced today by the former First Lady. Mrs. Roosevelt indicated that she considered this gift to the U.J.A. as the most appropriate way of honoring Mrs. Morgenthau's memory. The lecture series is sponsored by B'nai B'rith.

DR. ALEXANDER SHAFRAN, FORMER CHIEF RABBI OF RUMANIA, ARRIVES IN NEW YORK FOR VISIT

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Alexander Shafran, former chief rabbi of Rumania who is at present serving in a similar capacity in Geneva, Switzerland, arrived here yesterday for a month's stay. He last visited the United States two years ago at the invitation of the United Jewish Appeal.

FRANCES HARRISON NAMED TO TOP PROFESSIONAL POST IN PHILADELPHIA JEWISH FEDERATION

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Frances N. Harrison, executive director of the Federation of Jewish Charities and nationally-known social work executive, will become the top professional leader of the Federation on Jan. 1, it was announced today. Miss Harrison's elevation to the highest professional position ever attained by a woman in American Jewish communal activity will coincide with Dr. Kurt Feiser's departure from his position as executive vice-president of the Federation to become director of development of the University of Pennsylvania.

SOLOMON GUGGENHEIM, LAST OF FAMOUS BROTHERS, DIES AT AGE OF 88; WAS PATRON OF ARTS

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Solomon R. Guggenheim, 88, last of the famous Guggenheim brothers, died last night at his estate at Sands Point, Long Island. Well-known as an art patron, Mr. Guggenheim was a generous contributor throughout his life to both Jewish and non-sectarian causes.