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ISRAEL GOVERNMENT ADMITS CONTACT WITH TRANSJORDAN; DENIES TALKS ON NON-AGGRESSION PACT

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA) -- Asked about the reliability of reports that Israel and Transjordan are negotiating a five-year non-aggression pact, a spokesman for the Israel Government today said:

"There is contact between both countries. However, the public must be warned against reports which appeared in the press and are based on imagination, false rumors and information from unauthorized sources."

The spokesman denied that the extraordinary meeting of the Israel Cabinet was summoned because of the imminent signing of a treaty between Israel and Transjordan. "It is incorrect that the urgent Cabinet session yesterday was called specifically to discuss the question of relations with Transjordan," he stated. "This session had its own agenda and the urgency arose from the fact that the Premier is going on leave."

Despite the government's denial, however, the Hebrew press today continued to publish reports of the progress of Israel-Transjordan negotiations. The reports stated that at yesterday's Cabinet meeting the signing of a non-aggression pact was approved in principle, and that Transjordan's King Abdullah was so informed.

Premier David Ben Gurion left today on a three weeks' leave. During this period, Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan will replace him as Acting Premier, while Deputy Defense Minister I. Avigdor will act as Defense Minister. Mr. Ben Gurion was due to leave two weeks ago, but postponed his rest because of urgent matters of state.

U.N. Circles Claim to Have Received Details of Israel-Transjordan Pact

GENEVA, March 1. (JTA) -- Neither the Israel nor the Transjordan delegations here has received any official confirmation of press reports stating that the signing of a non-aggression pact between the two countries is imminent. However, United Nations sources claimed that details of the negotiations for such a pact have definitely been received here.

The information received in U.N. circles today indicates that the draft of the agreement between Israel and Transjordan is far-reaching in its provisions and includes Israeli recognition of Transjordan sovereignty in the Arab parts of Palestine and Jerusalem. Among other provisions, the agreement calls for the establishment of an Israel-Transjordan commission to delineate the boundaries between the two states.

In the face of strong opposition from several of the delegations favoring internationalization of Jerusalem, Trusteeship Council president Roger Carreau succeeded today in postponing a vote on adoption of a part of the proposed international statute which would establish a Jerusalem enclave according to the boundaries set forth in the U.N. partition decision of 1947. Surprisingly, Ambassador Carreau received support from the delegations of the Catholic states on the Council.

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HOUSE HEARS CONGRESSMAN'S FLEA TO GIVE ISRAEL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO BUY U.S. ARMS

WASHINGTON, March 1. (JTA) -- Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers, of Mass., today asked Secretary of State Dean Acheson to extend to Israel an equal opportunity to buy arms here. In a letter to Mr. Acheson which she read in the House, Rep. Rogers said:

"In view of the policy of our government, as I see it, to sanction Great Britain's selling of arms, planes, submarines, etc., in unlimited quantities--indirectly with American dollars paid by American taxpayers--to the Arab nations, it seems to me that American citizens in general, and those of the Jewish faith in particular, must be greatly concerned and vexed that our government is not fully aware of the danger of another outbreak of war in the Middle East region, thereby jeopardizing peace in the world."

She asked Mr. Acheson that this government "take a firm stand, without delay, in stating its views to Great Britain," pointing out that it is unwise to permit the Arab Governments to arm beyond their domestic needs for internal security. "We should extend equal opportunity to Israel so that she may obtain arms and weapons necessary for the security of her people," she appealed.

House Majority Leader John W. McCormack, of Mass., today asked Secretary of State Acheson to pay heed to the "justifiable fear" of Israel of the threat to peace caused by the heavy British arms shipments to Arab states. In a letter to Mr. Acheson, Mr. McCormack said:

"I know that there is a tremendous amount of concern about the arms that are being furnished to the Arabs by the British Government. In view of the extreme tension in that section of the world and threat that the giving of such arms to the Arab nations might be to the security of Israel, it seems to me a justifiable fear."

"Certainly, the U.S. would not directly or indirectly be a party to any situation that would result in an armament race being started now by Israel and the Arab nations. I am sure that you are aware that there is a tremendous interest in this situation in the U.S. and it is not confined to Americans of Jewish blood," Rep. McCormack pointed out.

House Minority Leader Joseph Martin, of Mass., also demanded that Secretary of State Dean Acheson review this government's approach to the Near Eastern arms situation. He said:

"Both the amount of arms as well as the kind of arms that are being shipped to the Arab states cannot be said to be limited to the maintenance of law and order internally. If the policy of your department with reference to the rearmament of the area is to be dictated by the security of the Middle East area which might be attacked by a third power, then Israel is entitled to be the beneficiary of that policy and receive similar arms."

ISRAEL ARMY OBSERVES FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF NEGEV PORT OF EILAT

TEL AVIV, March 1. (JTA) -- Brig. Yigal Yadin, Israel Army Chief of Staff, today issued an order of the day commemorating the 30th anniversary of the defense of the Tel Hai colony against thousands of Arab attackers and the first anniversary of the liberation of Eilat by the Israel army.

The two anniversaries occur on the same day this year. "The heroic defenders of Tel Hai passed on courage and loyalty to the liberators of Eilat. What was sown at Tel Hai was reaped at Eilat," Gen. Yadin said.

ISRAEL'S FOREIGN MINISTRY MAY ALSO BE TRANSFERRED FROM TEL AVIV TO JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA) -- A hint that the Israel Foreign Ministry may be transferred to Jerusalem together with all other offices of the government was contained in a communique issued here today.

When the original decision to transfer the seat of the government was announced it was indicated that the Foreign Ministry would remain in Tel Aviv. Foreign legations and embassies are located in the same city as the Foreign Ministry and if the Ministry moves, the various governments with which Israel has diplomatic dealings will be faced with the important problem of extending de facto recognition to Israel's establishment of Jerusalem as its capital. So far no foreign government has recognized the action.

Today's communique announced special moving allowances for government workers transferred to Jerusalem. It set a May 31, 1950 deadline on the allowances, noting that by that date the transfer of all personnel should be accomplished. The Immigration Ministry began moving yesterday, while the Interior Ministry is scheduled to move this month.

Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett was today empowered by the Cabinet to contact foreign governments to arrive at agreements covering the extradition of criminals. The food situation in this austerity-conscious country was also discussed at the Cabinet's regular weekly meeting. The distribution of special food stocks for the Pass-over holidays was considered.

HIGH ISRAEL OFFICIAL ADDRESSES LEADING AMERICAN BANKERS ON NEEDS OF JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- David Horowitz, director-general of the Israel Ministry of Finance, today told a group of leading American bankers that the "essential feature of Israel's dynamic economy is the continued flow of capital goods which makes possible a steadily increasing production." He spoke at a luncheon at the Lawyers Club given for him and the banker guests by the American section of the Jewish Agency.

"The total of investments in Israel reached the very high level of \$241,000,000 in 1949," Mr. Horowitz declared. "During the year, 250 new industrial enterprises were established and 204 additional enterprises are today in the process of establishment. At the same time, it is evident that in the development of a pioneer country, a considerable portion of the financial burden must be borne by public and semi-public funds. In this connection the United Jewish Appeal, the central agency for fund-raising for Israel in the U.S., shoulders the great responsibility for providing the pioneer capital necessary to pave the way for normal commercial and financial investments."

Reviewing the economic history of the country since its founding in May, 1948, Mr. Horowitz stated that Israel's war of independence against the Arab states was financed "up to 70 percent by the efforts of the young state itself." He declared that a successful monetary reform was undertaken "under actual battle conditions" and that the normal functions of the state's economy continued to be discharged despite the fact that an exceptionally large proportion of both manpower and womanpower was under arms.

"Today," he stated, "the ordinary budget of the state is balanced by normal revenue. But the fact that the country admitted 360,000 immigrants--increasing its population by 50 percent--in a short period of time" has created special problems, he said. He added that the process of expansion and increased production will, in the long run, rectify the country's balance of payments by enabling it to increase its exports. One of the reasons for the present adverse trade balance is the continued and expanding import of capital goods into the country, he said. Gottlieb Hammer, executive director of the American section of the Agency, presided at the luncheon.

BRITONS GO ON TRIAL FOR EXPLODING SMOKE BOMB AT SHOWING OF "SWORD IN THE DESERT"

LONDON, March 1. (JTA) -- Two young Britons charged with setting off a smoke bomb and creating a disturbance during the showing of "Sword In The Desert," an American-made film about the Jewish-British conflict in Palestine, today went on trial in a magistrate's court here. After part of the testimony was heard the trial was postponed until March 15.

During the trial the attorney for the defendants, John Cook and Bertram Duke Pile, asked police superintendent James Cole whether it was not true that "a good many of the Jewish fraternity" in the audience viewing "Sword in the Desert" had cheered when the film showed a British convoy being blasted by fighters of the Jewish underground. The police official denied the allegation. Pile is a notorious fascist troublemaker who has been arrested before on similar charges.

The film was withdrawn from public showing several weeks ago following two days of demonstration and hooliganism by Mosleyite fascists and after the police said they would not be responsible for public order unless the film were withdrawn. During the performances the fascists released stench bombs and live rats in the theatre.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSE SENATE'S MINORITY GROUP VIEWS ON ADMISSION OF DP'S

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- Major Jewish organizations today endorsed the bill for amendment of the Displaced Persons Act proposed by a minority of the Senate Judiciary Committee, but only with the proviso that the term "German ethnic origin," the allocation of United States funds to finance the transportation to this country of the so-called Volksdeutsche and the charging of visas issued to displaced persons against the future immigration quotas of their countries of origin be eliminated.

Identical letters to all members of the Senate embodying these views were signed by Irving Kane, chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council and Rabbi Bernard J. Bamberger, president of the Synagogue Council of America. The Jewish organizations in their letter held that "displaced persons legislation should be limited to persons defined as Displaced Persons by the constitution of the International Refugee Organization."

The proposal to allocate \$2,500,000 of American funds to finance the overseas transportation to the United States of the Volksdeutsche, to whom the minority Senate bill would assign one-half the total German quota of immigration visas, is termed "a move unprecedented in our immigration history."

WOLFGANG HEDLER, NAZI DEPUTY IN BONN PARLIAMENT, IS EXPELLED FROM LABOR UNION

FRANKFURT, March 1. (JTA) -- Wolfgang Hedler, former Nazi and suspended member of the Bonn parliament whose acquittal of charges of making an anti-Semitic speech led to a series of protest strikes, was expelled today from the German Employees Trade Union. The union acted under a provision of its constitution providing for the expulsion of all Nazi elements.

AUTHOR OF CONVENTION OUTLAWING CRIME OF GENOCIDE IS NOMINATED FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

CSLO, March 1. (JTA) -- Dr. Raphael Lemkin, who authored the U.N. convention outlawing the crime of genocide--which is now before the U.S. Senate for ratification--is among the outstanding world figures nominated for the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize, it was reported here.

Prof. Lemkin, of Yale University, was active in securing the signing of the United Nations Convention Outlawing the Crime of Genocide by more than 40 U.N. member states. He is a native of Poland and was wounded in the battle of Warsaw. He escaped to Sweden in 1940 and arrived in the U.S. the next year. He worked for various U.S. government agencies during the war.

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1,000 FORMER JEWISH DP'S IN CANADA FILE CLAIMS FOR PERSECUTION SUFFERED UNDER NAZIS

MONTREAL, March 1. (JTA) -- More than 300 former Jewish DP's have already filed indemnification claims with West German state governments for imprisonment in concentration camps and other forms of Nazi oppression from which they suffered, it was reported here today. Another 400 have filed similar claims in Toronto and the total figure for Canada is expected to be well over 1,000.

To help the ex-DP's file their claims, the Canadian Jewish Congress has retained Joseph S. Riwoch, a 36-year-old Lithuanian-born lawyer who is himself a recent immigrant to Canada. Mr. Riwoch, who was a Nazi prisoner in Poland during the war, is an expert on German law. After the war he became head of the War Criminals Section of the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in Munich. Working with U.S. Military Government authorities, he helped locate war criminals and compile evidence against them. He estimates that he has participated in about 1,000 war crimes trials in Hamburg, Nuremberg, Dachau and in the Soviet zone.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH EDUCATION CALLS NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- Plans for a nationwide conference on Jewish education, to be held in New York in the fall of this year, were set at a meeting of the board of governors of the American Association for Jewish Education, held at the Biltmore Hotel here, it was announced today by Michael A. Stavitsky, president of the Association. Representatives from 29 major Jewish communities attended the session of the national coordinating body, which stimulates and correlates Jewish religious educational activities throughout the United States.

The projected conference, at which delegates from central Jewish community agencies and major national organizations will meet to discuss problems and act on specific proposals for raising the level of Jewish education, is the culminating effort in the observance of Jewish Education Year, being celebrated in 1950. Delegates at the conference will analyze the record of theoretical and practical work in Jewish education throughout the country, and will consider ways and means of encouraging closer cooperation between national and local agencies in the field.

In preparation for the conference, the board of the Association authorized the publication of the first Jewish Education Yearbook, which will summarize the achievements of a half-century of Jewish educational endeavor in America, and which will contain, in addition to surveys and articles, the only complete directory of Jewish educational institutions in the land, detailing their history and activities.

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS WORKERS FORMED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- Eighty professional workers on the staffs of national and local Jewish community relations agencies today formed a professional organization to be known as the Association of Jewish Community Relations Workers. Maurice B. Fagan, executive director of the Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Council, was elected its first chairman.

The Association will seek to establish and maintain high standards for those engaged professionally in the Jewish community relations field. It will provide opportunities for the exchange of views and experiences on problems, programs and trends in community relations work. It will also encourage among Jewish community relations workers the fullest possible understanding of Jewish life and values and the application of Jewish ideals of social justice and human dignity.

JEWISH CONCILIATION BOARD SETTLED 4,200 CASES IN 20 YEARS; DR. GOLDSTEIN HONORED

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel Goldstein was honored here today by the Jewish Conciliation Board of America, in recognition of his 20th anniversary as president of the arbitration body, which is now in its 30th year of existence. Speakers at the annual meeting of the organization pointed out that during the past 20 years, the Board has settled 4,200 cases and thus saved the city and state hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In his presidential report, Dr. Goldstein stressed the voluntary aspects of the organization which settles all cases without financial costs to the litigants. "Aside from the services to the community as a whole, there are special Jewish values in the work of the organization," he said. "Some disputes which arise in Jewish social and benevolent organizations and homes are of a uniquely Jewish nature, involving religious aspects which a non-Jewish tribunal would have difficulty in properly assessing, or which as a matter of Jewish dignity should not be brought before a non-Jewish tribunal."

Dr. Goldstein revealed that some judges in the state courts have referred cases to the Jewish Conciliation Board where they felt the cases could be better dealt with. Six hundred leading rabbis, lawyers, jurists and businessmen have served on the organization's panels during the last 20 years, he stated. At today's meeting, Dr. Leo Jung was elected vice-president. New members named to the Board were: Dr. Julius Mark, rabbi of Temple Emanu-El; and former Judge Louis B. Brodsky.

RABBI WEILER, PRESIDENT OF JEWISH REFORM MOVEMENT IN SO. AFRICA, ARRIVES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- Rabbi Moses C. Weiler, president of the Jewish Reform movement of South Africa and Chief Minister of the United Jewish Reform Congregation of Johannesburg, arrived here today for an extended tour of American religious, cultural and educational institutions. He will address the annual meeting of HIAS which will be held on Sunday at the Hotel Astor.

Rabbi Weiler will make the tour under the auspices of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central body of Liberal Judaism representing and serving more than 400 Reform congregations throughout the United States and Canada. He will also speak on behalf of the combined campaign of the U.A.H.C. and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. The combined campaign has a national goal of \$1,875,000.

A graduate of Hebrew Union College, Rabbi Weiler went to South Africa in 1933 at the request of the World Union for Progressive Judaism to organize the first Reform temple. He subsequently assisted in the organization of five additional Reform congregations, a second in Johannesburg and one each in Capetown, Durban, Springs and Pretoria. He has been in active leadership of many communal, civic and welfare causes in South Africa.

NEW YORK U.J.A. WOMEN'S DIVISION OPENS 1950 DRIVE; MRS. ROOSEVELT, MORGENTHAU SPEAK

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- The 1950 campaign of the women's division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York was launched today at a Waldorf-Astoria luncheon addressed by Henry Morgenthau Jr., general chairman of the U.J.A., Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and Harry Greenstein, former adviser on Jewish Affairs to the U.S. command in Europe. It was revealed that Mrs. Roosevelt contributed \$3,500 to the U.J.A. last year.

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