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LAST MINUTE NEWS

ISRAEL ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES ON HAIFA REFINERIES

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- An official announcement today revealed that arrangements have been concluded in the United States with American oil companies to supply Israel with crude oil necessary for the resumption of refining operations at the Haifa refineries. (See a Washington report on page 1 of today's Bulletin.)

The arrangements were concluded by David Horowitz, director-general of the Israel Ministry of Finance, who is now visiting the United States, the announcement said. They provide that the American companies are to supply their quota of crude oil to the Haifa refineries on the same conditions in an agreement reached recently by Israel with British oil companies.

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U.S. PARTICIPATION IN HAIFA OIL REFINERIES SOUGHT; TALKS PROGRESSING SUCCESSFULLY

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- Good progress is being made on plans for the participation of American oil interests in the operation of the Haifa refineries, informed sources said here today.

Following negotiations with petroleum interests in New York, David Horowitz, Director-General of the Israel Ministry of Finance, today conferred with State Department officials here to report on the general economic picture in Israel. In two separate visits to the State Department he called on George C. McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, and Williard Thorp, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

SHAROTT EXPLAINS ISRAEL'S STAND ON KOREA; SAYS ISRAEL DOES NOT FAVOR COMMUNIST REGIME

JERUSALEM, July 12. (JTA) -- Israel prefers to be a second Denmark and not a second Albania, Foreign Minister Moshe Sharott declared here today explaining the stand of the Israel Government on the Korean conflict.

Speaking at a gathering of students, Mr. Sharott emphasized that the Israel Government favors a democratic, not a Communist, regime. At the same time, he pointed out that in the Korean case the government identified itself with the United Nations. It is "only incidental" that in this case the United Nations stand is identical with that of the Western Bloc, he stated.

Taking the international situation into account, the Israel Government today started to replenish its foodstocks with a view to creating a food reserve sufficient to last several months. However, officials of the Supply Ministry stated that there is no cause for alarm as far as Israel food supply is concerned.

It was learned here today that a high official of the Israel Supply Ministry is presently in France negotiating for the purchase of foodstuffs with a \$15,000,000 credit recently obtained there. It was also learned here that a group of French bakers have extended \$3,600,000 in credit to the Israel rural and suburban settlement corporation known as Rassco. The credit was approved by the French Government, which has also undertaken to guarantee the loan.

U.S. Firm Offers \$5,000,000 Credit to Israel for Foodstuffs and Raw Materials

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- The World Commerce Corporation of New York has agreed to extend \$5,000,000 worth of credit to the Israel Government, it was announced here today. The credit, which will be granted for a period up to five years, will be used for the purchase of foodstuffs, fodder and raw materials. The total may later be raised to \$7,500,000.

Imports into Israel amounted to about \$21,000,000 during April of this year and exports totalled \$3,000,000, it was revealed today. For the first four months of this year the imports total about \$87,000,000 and the exports amounted to less than \$20,000,000. The Israel diamond industry has received an allocation of about \$500,000 for the purchase of crude diamonds in July. This will keep the level of employment in the industry at approximately the same point as in recent months.

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U.N. OFFICIAL SEES NO DANGER OF RENEWED WARFARE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ARAB COUNTRIES

LAKE SUCCESS, July 12. (JTA) -- Recent events have not brought any increase in tension that would lead to a new eruption in the Middle East, Major General William E. Riley, United Nations truce chief in Palestine, told a press conference here today.

Gen. Riley, who is now on a visit to U.N. headquarters, declared that he saw no danger at all of increased tension between Israel and the Arab states as a consequence of Arab refusal to join in the Korean war because of the rankling over U.N. handling of the Palestine situation. "Both sides are looking for a way to a peace settlement," he said. "The mixed armistice commissions are operating in a friendly atmosphere and solving many civilian problems."

He added that the most serious recent fracas had been amicably settled. This happened when a small Israeli force crossed the Gaza-Rafah demarcation line and an exchange of shots with Egyptian forces took place. Gen. Riley said the Israelis had mistakenly crossed the line, withdrew when they discovered the error and later apologized to the Egyptian Government. As a result, the truce commander related, a joint patrol group is digging a furrow in the sand to mark the lines.

ISRAEL PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN LONDON AS GUESTS OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliamentary delegation which was invited by the British Parliament to come to London for the purpose of cementing Israel-British relations, arrived here today.

The delegation was met at the airport by members of the British Parliament and high officials of the Israel Legation here. After an exchange of greetings, the members of the delegation were taken to Dorchester Hotel where they will stay as guests of the British Government.

FORMER OFFICIAL OF ISRAEL'S LEGATION IN MOSCOW BECOMES CHIEF OF EAST EUROPEAN DEPT.

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- Arish Levavi, formerly counsellor of the Israel Legation in Moscow, has been named chief of the Foreign Ministry's Eastern European Division, it was announced here today.

Charles Lutz, one-time Swiss consul in Palestine, has arrived in Israel to discuss with the government the turning over of Protestant Church property to the World Lutheran Federation at Geneva. Lutz is credited with having rescued as many as 60,000 Jews from the Nazis.

Sir Alexander Knox Holm, British Minister to Tel Aviv, yesterday presented to six Israelis honors awarded them by British King George during the Mandatory regime.

ISRAEL MINISTER TO BUDAPEST PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT

BUDAPEST, July 12. (JTA) -- Shmuel Elyashov, new Israel Minister to Hungary, today presented his credentials to the Hungarian President at a ceremony in the Parliament building. Yesterday, the Minister called on the Foreign Minister.

ONE ISRAELI SLAIN, ONE WOUNDED BY SYRIAN TROOPS ON SHORES OF LAKE TIBERIAS

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- One of the most serious incidents involving Israelis and Syrians in recent months occurred here today when one Israeli settler was killed and another wounded by Syrian gunfire.

The affair began this morning when an Israel police launch on a normal tour of duty on Lake Tiberias became entangled with Syrian-laid fishing nets north of the settlement of Eingov. The nets were illegally laid because Syrians have no right to fish in the lake. Nevertheless, the Syrians hauled in their nets and captured the three policemen aboard the launch.

Summoned by radio, a second Israel police launch carrying a number of settlers appeared on the scene and disentangled the first boat. During this action the Syrians opened fire with deadly results. The Israelis did not reply, but returned to Eingov with both launches.

The Israel Government, taking a grave view of the incident, has protested to U.N. truce chief Maj. Gen. William E. Riley, who is presently at Lake Success. At a mixed Israel-Syrian armistice commission meeting this morning, the Jews insisted upon an immediate investigation of the incident. The commission agreed and its members set out for the scene of the incident. As a result of the Commission's intervention the three Israeli policemen were released late today.

ORTHODOX CONFERENCE IN PARIS DISCUSSES ISRAEL PROBLEMS; SECURITY AMONG MAJOR DEEDS

PARIS, July 12. (JTA) -- The major problems facing Israel at this time are those of security, the economy and religious education, Rabbi M. Rosenberg, vice-president of the World Mizrahi Organization, declared here today at the opening session of a national conference of the French Mizrahi Organization.

The parley also heard Rabbi Zeev Gold, Mizrahi leader and member of the Jewish Agency executive, who has just completed a tour of North and South America. Rabbi Gold said that the fact that the religious leaders of Jewry were non-Zionist in the past is responsible for the present "left-wing majority" in Israel. He called for the religious forces outside Israel to undertake an "active policy" so that the second million immigrants to Israel will bring with it a religious majority.

RUMANIA RELEASES ORTHODOX DELEGATE FROM ISRAEL; WAS ARRESTED LAST YEAR IN BUCHAREST

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- Alfred Kirsh, Israeli delegate of the Agudas Israel labor organization, who was arrested in Bucharest last year returned to Israel today. He was suddenly released in Rumania and permitted to leave the country.

HIGHEST DUTCH COURT CONDEMNNS NAZIS FOR DEPORTATION AND DEATH OF 70,000 JEWS

THE HAGUE, July 12. (JTA) -- The Special Appeals Court here today confirmed death sentences imposed on three Germans found guilty of deporting thousands of Dutch Jews during the war. The three were:

Franz Fischer, official of the German security police at The Hague, who assisted in the deportation of more than 13,000 Jews from The Hague area; F.H. Aus Dor Fuonten organized anti-Jewish campaigns in the Dutch capital during the occupation, as chief of a section of the German security service; the former Gestapo chief in Amsterdam, Willy Franz Paul Laqos, sentenced on charges of arresting 70,000 Dutch Jews for deportation to Poland, and deporting Dutchmen to Germany for slave labor.

WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS LAW INDEMNIFYING PUBLIC OFFICIALS CUSTED BY NAZIS

BONN, July 12. (JTA) -- The West German Federal Government today accepted an indemnification law which will cover public officials and other government employees who lost their jobs and property during the Nazi regime through racial, religious or political persecution.

FIRST JEW NOMINATED FOR GERMAN FOREIGN SERVICE IN POST-WAR ERA; WILL GO TO LONDON

BONN, July 12. (JTA) -- Max Bachmann, a member of the board of the Munich Jewish community, has become the first Jew to be nominated for the German Foreign Service since the end of the Hitler regime.

Bachmann will serve as assistant to Dr. Hans Schlango-Schoening, German consul in London. Since 1945 he has served in the Bavarian Ministry of the Interior as liaison officer with the American authorities.

GERMAN JURY CONVICTS ONE-TIME HEAD OF ARYANIZATION DEPARTMENT FOR BLACKMAILING JEWS

MUNICH, July 12. (JTA) -- A German jury today sentenced Hans Wegner, one-time head of the Nazis Aryanization Department, to five years' imprisonment for blackmailing Jews during the Hitler regime. Two co-defendants, Franz Muglor and Ludwig Schrott, received 16 and eight-month sentences, respectively.

All three were convicted of having enriched themselves by forcing Jews to give them all their property and assets under threat of deportation to death camps. The "aryanizers" were found to have kept lists of wealthy Jews for blackmailing purposes. The three are already serving prison terms for being major Nazi offenders.

ISRAEL-BOUND CARGO SEIZED BY AMERICANS AT BREMEN LAST SUMMER RELEASED BY BRITISH

HAMBURG, July 12. (JTA) -- A cargo valued at 1,500,000 marks which was impounded at Bremen by American customs and army officials last August today sailed for Haifa aboard the cargo vessel St. George

The cargo which was seized amid charges of smuggling and the export without license of machinery from Germany was quietly released after nearly a year. The Israel vessel Dromit, which was impounded with the cargo, was released months ago. No charges have ever been pressed and the release of the cargo was ordered by British officials last February after a plea by the World Jewish Congress. The cargo includes the personal belongings of 155 DP families who are now in Israel and some machinotools.

JEWISH LEADERS IN BRITISH DOMINIONS ARRIVE IN LONDON FOR TEN-DAY CONFERENCE

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- Delegates from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Rhodesia, India and Aden arrived here today to participate in a ten-day conference of representatives of Jewish organizations in the British Commonwealth.

The conference, which is convened by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, will open on Sunday to consider proposals on closer liaison between the Jewish communities in Britain and the Dominions. It will discuss unified action against anti-Semitism, post-war rehabilitation, care of Jewish war orphans, questions arising out of the U.N. Covenant on Human Rights and other problems concerning Jewish life.

