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ISRAEL PARLIAMENT APPROVES \$190,000,000 BUDGET FOR JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The Israel parliament today approved the budget of the Joint Development Authority -- set up by the government and the Jewish Agency -- in the amount of 65,000,000 pounds, or about \$190,000,000.

The budget includes allocations of \$65,000,000 for the construction of housing for new immigrants, and the erection of schools and hospitals; \$31,640,000 for the development of agriculture; \$8,400,000 for public works, including road-building; \$3,500,000 for the construction of hotels and the encouragement of tourism; \$24,360,000 for loans to industry; and \$16,800,000 for the development of communications.

The government is currently negotiating "several schemes for the erection of basic chemical industries plants," Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan told the parliament. He declined, however, to elaborate on the negotiations because of the "delicacy of the issue."

Minister Kaplan denied charges made by Dr. Moshe Shoh, leader of the left-wing Mapai opposition group, that American and British oil companies exerted pressure on the government to discourage the establishment of an Israel oil marketing company. Mr. Kaplan said that if Israel were to import crude oil for refining here, she would be compelled to pay in hard currency. This, he added, plus the fact that freight costs are extremely high would result in prices which would be within "the bare economic limit of local industries."

The draft of a bill offered by Labor Minister Golda Myerson on the subject of working hours was brought to the floor of the parliament today for discussion. Mrs. Myerson's measure would limit the work week to 47 hours.

Speaking for the Religious Bloc, Minister of Religion Rabbi I.M. Lowin expressed opposition to certain clauses in the bill which he claimed are a "potential threat to the Sabbath day of rest." Observers here are doubtful that the present session of the Knesset will be able to approve the bill before the deputies' recess.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT CHARGED AT MERCHANTS CONFERENCE WITH UNDERMINING PRIVATE TRADE

TEL AVIV, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- Charges that private enterprise is being discriminated against in Israel were voiced here today at a conference called by the General Merchants Association, attended by 200 delegates representing about 20,000 merchants throughout the Jewish state.

Speakers at the conference strongly criticized the present rationing system. The president of the Association charged the Ministry of Supply with giving preference to commercial establishments maintained by the Histadrut, Israel's Federation of Labor. He also said that the government is "disregarding the principle of fair distribution of commodities for private trade and industry."

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IRAQ DISCONTINUES AIR EVACUATION OF JEWS TO ISRAEL FOR MONTH; NEEDS AIRFIELD

TEL AVIV, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The air evacuation of Jews from Iraq to Israel has been postponed for one month by order of the Iraqi Government, it was reported today in Haaretz, Hebrew daily newspaper. The report said Iraq claims that the Baghdad airfield is presently overcrowded with pilgrims traveling to and from Mecca.

A group of 1,700 Jewish immigrants from Rumania arrived in Haifa today aboard the Rumanian transport Transylvania. A total of 440 Jewish immigrants from Tripoli arrived yesterday in Haifa aboard the S.S. Komeniuth.

EGYPT ADVOCATES PROHIBITION OF JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM ALL ARAB COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The British-controlled Near East Arabic Radio Station on Cyprus today broadcast an announcement, which was monitored here, that it is understood that Egypt seeks the prohibition on emigration of Jews from all Arab states to Israel.

The same radio station also announced that Mohamed Habib, leader of the Iraqi Democratic Party, urged the Arabs to unite for the liberation of Palestine, "as a just solution of the Palestine problem would never be found through the United Nations." Abdul Mahdi Qubbah, leader of the Iraqi Independent Party, suggested that the Arabs "make one more appeal to the U.N. for justice" and failing that prepare immediately for a "second round" against Israel.

Reviewing Saudi Arabian military strength in the Near East, the same broadcast said that the Saudi Arabian Army was sufficiently strong to maintain internal security only. Britain was recently asked by the Saudi Arabian Government to train and enlarge its military forces, and a British military mission is now there establishing a strong mechanized military column, the broadcast revealed.

Reporting that Yemen's armed forces now numbered 20,000 men, the broadcast said that the Yemenite Army consists mainly of members of noble families and large Bedouin tribes which are armed with old Turkish weapons, are barefoot and have no mechanical weapons. "The Yemenite, however, is a natural, good fighter, as could be seen in mandatory Palestine, when the Yemenite Jews operated with utmost courage against Britain," the broadcast declared.

A Jordan Arab Legion officer, Lt. A. Khaddor, who had deserted to Israel during the Palestine war, and who was repatriated yesterday, volunteered a statement to an Israel public relations officer in which he voiced his appreciation of the good treatment he and other Arab prisoners received at the hands of the Israel Army.

NETHERLANDS DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ISRAEL TO NEGOTIATE NEW COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT

JERUSALEM, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- A three-member Dutch delegation arrived here to conduct trade talks with Israel authorities. The previously-negotiated Israel-Netherlands payments agreement expired at the end of July.

ISRAEL BUYS 5,000 TONS OF KOSHER MEAT IN ARGENTINA; SELLS DENTURES AND STOVES

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The Argentine-Israel Economic Corporation announced today that 5,000 tons of kosher meat have been purchased here for shipment to Israel. The Corporation also announced that a large number of orders have been placed by Argentine firms for dentures and kerosene stoves manufactured in Israel.

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INCREASE OF JEWISH DP'S SEEKING ENTRY TO UNITED STATES IS ANTICIPATED IN AUSTRIA

VIENNA, Aug. 10. (JTA)--An increase in the number of Jewish refugees intending to migrate from Austria to the United States, because they have relatives there, is foreseen here by officials of the International Refugee Organization.

The department of the Allied Commission dealing with displaced persons today estimated that 21,000 DP's will be able to migrate from here to the United States under the liberalized DP law. Of them, about 10,000 will be of German ethnic origin. The remaining 11,000 will include Jews who reached Austria from Iron Curtain countries.

U.N. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL ADOPTS DECISIONS ON CHECKING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

GENEVA, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The U.N. Economic and Social Council completed action today on the report of the Commission on Human Rights by adopting nine resolutions recommended by the Council's Social Committee.

In those series of votes, the Council requested the U.N. Secretary-General to ask governments to provide information on legislation and other action found useful in preventing discrimination and protecting minorities; recommended adoption of educational measures designed to eliminate discrimination and to combat fallacious race theories; and approved the decision of the Commission to consider at its seventh session additional covenants and measures dealing with economic, social, cultural and political human rights not covered in the present draft International Covenant on Human Rights.

The Council also adopted a resolution transmitting the draft covenant to the General Assembly for certain policy decisions, with the request that the Commission on Human Rights reconsider and prepare a revised draft in the light of those decisions. It also asked the Secretary-General to continue publication of the yearbook on human rights, and took note of the report of the Human Rights Commission.

United Nations Committee Approves Definition of "Refugee"

GENEVA, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The social committee of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, by a seven-one vote with abstentions, today approved the definition of the term refugee, for use in the proposed convention relating to the status of refugees. According to the definition, a refugee is one who:

1. Between Aug. 1, 1914, and Dec. 15, 1946, was considered a refugee;
2. Had been accepted by the International Refugee Organization as falling under its mandate;
3. Has a well-founded fear of being the victim of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality or political opinion as the result of events in Europe prior to January, 1951, and owing to such fear is unable or unwilling to avail himself of the protection of the government of his country or his nationality.

The committee decided that the convention shall not apply to refugees who voluntarily re-acquired their former nationality or acquired a new nationality or returned to their former country or are former members of a German minority who established themselves in Germany.

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J.D.C. FAR EAST PROGRAM COMPLETED; LAST GROUP OF JEWISH REFUGEES TO SAIL FROM TIENTSIN

HONG KONG, Aug. 10. (JTA)--A specially-chartered hospital ship will depart within a few days from Tientsin carrying the last group of Israel-bound Jewish immigrants from Harbin, Shanghai and Tientsin. The group will consist of about 700 old, sick and disabled Jews.

With the departure of this ship, the program of emigration of Jewish refugees in the Far East, carried on by the Joint Distribution Committee jointly with the International Refugee Organization, will come to an end. Jewish groups in Harbin, Shanghai and Tientsin have been actively engaged in preparing the "hard-core" refugees from shelters and homes for the aged in their journey to Israel.

The Shanghai "Shelter House" has been in existence since the beginning of the century and the House for the Aged in Harbin is of even older origin.

The J.D.C. ship will proceed to Israel via the Suez Canal. Hong Kong will be omitted as a port of call. A number of Jewish families from Hong Kong, who intend to leave for Israel, have been authorized to board the vessel in Tientsin upon payment of full fares.

Under these circumstances, a direct airline route between Hong Kong and Lyda Airport is considered preferable. Jewish residents of Hong Kong, regardless of their nationality, are not considered eligible for transportation facilities offered to displaced persons under the J.D.C.-I.R.O. program.

JACOB BLAUSTEIN LEAVES FOR ISRAEL TODAY; INVITED BY PREMIER BEN GURION FOR TALKS

NEW YORK, Aug. 10. (JTA)--Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, will leave for Israel tomorrow at the personal invitation of Premier David Ben Gurion to confer on a number of problems concerning relationships between American Jews and the Jewish state. He will be accompanied by Dr. Simon Segal, director of the Foreign Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, an announcement released today said.

The announcement emphasized that while in Israel, Mr. Blaustein will also resume discussions on subjects which had been taken up with him by Ambassador Eliahu Elath prior to the latter's transfer from his post in Washington to Great Britain. In addition, Mr. Blaustein will continue the survey of Israel's physical, economic and social conditions which he and a group of leaders of the American Jewish Committee made last year at the invitation of the Israel Government.

AMBASSADOR EBAN LEAVES ISRAEL FOR SWITZERLAND TO CONFER WITH PRESIDENT WEIZMANN

TEL AVIV, Aug. 10. (JTA)--Aubrey S. Eban, Israel Ambassador to the United States and chief delegate of the Jewish state to the United Nations, left Israel today for Switzerland to confer with President Chaim Weizmann, who is now convalescing in Switzerland.

It was announced that Ambassador Eban will see Dr. Weizmann to report on the recent conference here of Israel diplomats stationed in over a dozen principal countries, if President Weizmann's physicians permit it.

Ambassador Eban is expected to arrive in Washington next Thursday and will present his credentials to President Truman shortly thereafter.

## JEWISH WELFARE BOARD REPORTS ON FIVE-YEAR ACTIVITIES AMONG U.S. ARMED FORCES

NEW YORK, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- In the five years since the close of hostilities in the Far East, the National Jewish Welfare Board has distributed to Jews in the American armed forces throughout the world and to hospitalized Jewish veterans in this country 314,000 pounds of kosher foodstuffs, 97,890 Bibles and prayer books, 138,211 religious articles and over 1,250,000 holiday greeting cards, leaflets, calendars and pamphlets on Jewish history, it was announced here today.

These figures were made public by Milton Weill, chairman of the J.W.B. Armed Services Division, and Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, chairman of the J.W.B. Division of Religious Activities, in reporting to the J.W.B. executive committee on plans for world-wide arrangements for bringing High Holy Day services to Jewish servicemen and hospitalized veterans in the remotest installations of North America, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean area.

In the six months ending July 1, 1950, Mr. Weill said, J.W.B. shipped to Jewish armed forces personnel in the Far East alone, including Korea, 6,282 pounds of kosher foods, 9,897 Bibles and prayer books, 3,179 religious articles and 8,251 pieces of printed matter.

## COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICAN AND ISRAEL LABOR LAUDED AT CORNERSTONE-LAYING CEREMONY

HAIFA, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- The close relationship between the American and Israel labor movements was lauded today by Israel Morominsky, leader of the Histadrut, at the laying of a cornerstone for a building in which a school for auto-mechanics will be housed. The building will be a part of the International Training Center in Israel which is being sponsored by the Histadrut with the aid of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union of America. The Center is located at Kiriyat Haim, near Haifa. 8

Dr. B. Hoffman-Tzyvion, editor of Gorechkeit, official organ of the I.L.G.W.U. and member of the editorial staff of the New York Jewish Daily Forward, who is now visiting Israel, was given the honor to spread the first layer of cement at the cornerstone-laying ceremony.

## THOUSANDS ATTEND LAUNCHING OF UNITED JEWISH APPEAL IN SAO PAULO; OTHER DRIVES HALTED

SAO PAULO, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jews here today attended a mass meeting marking the official launching of the United Jewish Appeal for 1950 in Brazil. It was announced at the meeting that the Brazilian Foreign Minister promised to open a Brazilian consulate in Israel and to conclude a commercial pact with the Jewish state.

Speakers at the meeting included Moshe Kol, head of the Youth Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency executive in Jerusalem, and other guests from Israel. Dr. A. Markman, president of the local Jewish Federation, announced at the meeting that all other Jewish fund-raising drives in the city are being discontinued in order to give priority to the Appeal.

## LOUIS COHEN APPOINTED ACTING DEPUTY MAYOR OF NEW YORK; LONG IN CITY SERVICE

NEW YORK, Aug. 10. (JTA) -- Louis Cohen, assistant to Mayor William O'Dwyer since 1946 and a veteran of 42 years' city service, was appointed yesterday to the post of Acting Deputy Mayor. Mr. Cohen will assume the duties of Deputy Mayor William Reid, who will retire Oct. 1.