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BEN GURION CLARIFIES RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AMERICAN JEWRY

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- The stand of the Israel Government in its relations with American Jewry was clarified in a lengthy statement by Premier David Ben Gurion issued here yesterday by Ambassador Abba S. Eban. The Premier emphasizes that Israel "in no way presumes to represent or speak" in the name of the Jews who are not citizens of Israel. He makes it clear that the decision as to whether American Jews wish to come permanently or temporarily rests with the free discretion of each American Jew himself. He also explains the exact import of the term "ingathering of exiles."

The full text of the statement reads as follows:

"In view of the cables sent to me during the last few weeks it seems to me there exists a misunderstanding concerning my stand and that of the Israel Government regarding the relations between Israel and American Jewry. This misunderstanding is due in part to inaccurate reports in the press and in part to the free discussion which took place in the last Zionist Congress regarding Zionism, its tasks and status.

"I, therefore, wish to clarify matters and ask you to transmit it to all interested. The greater part of the following views has already been expressed by me to my American friends during their visit to Israel as well as during my last visit to the United States.

"In the first statement which the representative of Israel made before the United Nations after her admission to that International Organization he clearly stated without any reservation that the State of Israel represents and speaks only on behalf of its own citizens and in no way presumes to represent or speak in the name of the Jews who are citizens of any other country. We the people of Israel have no desire and no intention to interfere in any way with the internal affairs of communities abroad.

Says Israel Depends on Strength of U.S. Jewish Community

"The government and the people of Israel fully respect the right and integrity of the Jewish communities in other countries to develop their own mode of life and their indigenous social, economic and cultural institutions in accordance with their own needs and aspirations. Any weakening of American Jewry, any disruption of its communal life, any lowering of its sense of security, any diminution of its status is a definite loss to Jews everywhere and to Israel in particular.

"The very freedom and security of American Jews is to us a guarantee that those of them who may feel morally impelled to participate personally and directly in the building up of Israel will be able to do so. Our success or failure depends in a large measure on our co-operation with and on the strength of the great Jewish community

of the United States and we, therefore, are anxious that nothing should be said or done which could in the slightest degree undermine the sense of security and stability of American Jewry.

"We should like to see American Jews come and take part in our effort. We need their technical knowledge, their unrivalled experience, their spirit of enterprise, their bold vision, their know how. We need engineers, chemists, builders, work managers and technicians. The tasks which face us in this country are eminently such as would appeal to the American genius for technical development and social progress. But the decision as to whether they wish to come permanently or temporarily rests with the free discretion of each American Jew himself. It is entirely a matter of his own volition.

Emphasizes Need for Halutzim from Democratic Countries

"We need Halutzim too. Halutzim have come to us and we believe more will come not only from those countries where the Jews are oppressed but also from countries where the Jews live a life of freedom and are equal in status to all other citizens in their country. But the essence of Halutzit is free choice. They will come from among those who believe that their aspirations as human beings and as Jews can best be fulfilled by life and work in Israel.

"In connection with the proceedings of the recent Zionist Congress I wish to make the following points clear. For 50 years the Zionist movement embodied and led a world-wide effort for the establishment of the State of Israel, sometimes alone, sometimes supported by other Jewish movements and individuals. Israel institutions of government grew organically out of this movement. Therefore, it was natural for the government and the people of Israel to give every encouragement to the World Zionist Congress meeting in Jerusalem and to urge its redoubled efforts to support Israel's cause.

"This does not at all mean that there is any change in Israel's established policy which is to seek and welcome the support, assistance and counsel of all Jewish groups and individuals, whether or not they work within the framework of Zionist Organization. In Israel the Jewish Agency and its related bodies carry out specific functions in the reception of immigrants, in the immediate provision for their needs in land settlement, and in certain types of development work. These functions were discharged by the Jewish Agency and its organs long before the State of Israel was established and upon its establishment they were not taken over by the State but left in charge of the Jewish Agency. Under the new set up they can only be effectively discharged through the closest possible co-operation of the Jewish Agency with the Government of Israel.

Israel Will Deal Directly with U.S. Jewish Groups

"The Knesset may therefore be asked to confer a special status on the Jewish Agency inside Israel to express this situation. However, the Knesset cannot and does not wish to affect by its legislation any activity outside Israel's borders. With reference to American Jewry the position will thus remain as before, namely, that Israel will co-operate directly on matters affecting itself with all Jewish organizations desirous of such co-operation. Such direct relations of the Government of Israel with Jewish bodies and organizations will naturally be co-ordinated with the Jewish Agency.

"Some friends have enquired from me the exact import of the term "Ingathering of Exiles." This historic phrase from our literature accurately describes the current phenomenon of Israel's life which is the spontaneous and wondrous convergence

upon Israel of Jews in need of home and freedom. The phrase cannot be regarded as implying that American Jews should regard themselves as deficient in stability or security or as being under notice to change their abode. Our only wish for American Jewry is to see it stable, free and secure.

"It is our earnest hope as indicated before that men and women will come to us from American Jewry to assist in the creative epoch of our state building, just as men and women from many lands immigrated to America and built a new civilization on its shores. This, however, can only be a voluntary process inspired by a positive idealism similar to that which animated America's founders.

"In conclusion I want to reiterate my hope that Israel will continue to be able to co-operate with a free and secure American Jewry in a cause which has won the admiration and approval and has enhanced the dignity and prestige of every Jew wherever he lives."

IMMIGRANT VILLAGES IN ISRAEL HIT HARD IN FIRST WINTER RAIN

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Considerable damage was caused in the immigrant work villages of northern Israel early this week when the first heavy pre-winter rain swept the whole country, sparing the Tel Aviv area alone.

The Jewish Agency immediately mobilized its forces to assist the newcomers, giving special priority to some 1,500 families living in canvas structures. When the two-day rain hit, many of the huts lost their roofs because the canvas, weakened and decomposed by the strong summer sun, fell apart.

Tiberias and the adjoining area suffered minor floods which damaged several buildings. The situation of five maabarot in the Tiberias vicinity became critical overnight. One hundred immigrant families, who had been living in the open for the last two months since their arrival, fled to the adjoining administration units for protection from the rain.

Several tents collapsed and many of the tin huts were flooded as their roofs began to leak and the water seeped in under the floor boards. In other immigrant villages the sewage pits overflowed when the inadequate drainage canals became overloaded.

Jewish Agency circles last week said that immigrants who had spent last winter in the tents would be spared the experience this year. The Army has already been asked to take over the administration of several of the camps. It is hoped to keep the number of families who must spend the winter under canvas to 600-800.

Large quantities of canvas are en route to Israel or have already arrived at the ports, but a shortage of trucking keeps much of the canvas from reaching the immigrant villages. Windows for tin and wood huts are in even shorter supply and glass is rationed. The two-inch thick cement floors in the huts is inadequate but neither money nor cement is available for thicker floors.

REP. ROOSEVELT LEAVES ISRAEL FOR BEIRUT CONFERENCE

TEL AVIV, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Progress in Israel has been "enormous" in the 18 months between the last and current visit of Rep. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to the Jewish state, he told a Histadrut dinner in his honor here prior to his leaving for Beirut yesterday to confer with U.N. truce supervisor Lt. Gen. William E. Riley on the Arab refugee problem. Rep. Roosevelt singled out the leadership of the Histadrut for special praise in his tribute to the Jewish state and its institutions.

U.N. COMMISSION URGES TREATIES AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Oct. 10. (JTA) -- The United Nations Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities decided this morning to make the following suggestions to its parent body, the Economic and Social Council:

1. That the Economic and Social Council recommend to all members of the U.N. that they co-operate in any treaty to which they become parties to safeguard against discrimination. 2. That the Council recommends that in treaties establishing new states or new boundaries between states special attention should be paid to the protection of any minority which may be created thereby. 3. That the Council arrange for the preparation of an international convention for the protection of minorities.

Speaking for the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations, Moses Moskowitz re-affirmed his organization's belief in the "symbolic and practical importance" of the Subcommittee. He then declared that its terms of reference imposed upon the Subcommittee a task which was nothing short of blueprinting international machinery for the supervision of the carrying out of the promises of non discrimination in the U.N. Charter, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in the envisaged Covenant on Human Rights.

The Subcommittee, he said, had a continuing responsibility of ensuring that the charter provisions against discrimination would find their way into all relevant international instruments drawn up by, or under the auspices of, the United Nations.

In considering the future program, Mr. Moskowitz went on, priority should be given to the immediate task of assisting the Commission on Human Rights in the revision of the draft Covenant on Human Rights so that the rights which were of vital concern to minorities could be adequately formulated. Secondly, it was especially important that the United Nations devise a method and procedure to enable aggrieved minority groups to seek redress by the United Nations "through agencies of their own choosing."

Jewish Groups Ask General Assembly Action on Human Rights

Bernard Bernstein, of the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, said it seemed now that much more time would elapse before the Covenant on Human Rights would operate, and he therefore underscored the urgent necessity for immediate action by the General Assembly to create conditions in which human rights could flourish. Accordingly, his organization proposed that the Assembly adopt certain resolutions.

The first of these, he said, should cover the following: Each member state should establish its own permanent national commission on human rights. Each such commission would gather information and appraise practices affecting fundamental freedoms and protection of minorities within the country and each member state would keep the U.N. Commission on Human Rights informed of the activities and findings of its national commission.

The second resolution would urge each U.N. member nation to adopt all practicable measures to "narrow the gap" between present practices and the standards established by the Declaration on Human Rights. Thirdly, Mr. Bernstein proposed that the Assembly should--without waiting for the adoption of the covenant--establish a Human Rights committee with jurisdiction to act with respect to all member nations and not limited to the future parties to the covenant. Such a Human Rights committee, he said, could appropriately protect those human rights recognized in the U.N. Charter and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY REORGANIZED; NEW POSTS ANNOUNCED

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (J.T.A.) -- A reorganization of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America to enable the institution more effectively to carry forward its many activities was announced tonight by Alan M. Stroock, chairman of the board of directors of the seminary. The reorganization, effective immediately, creates a number of new officers of the Seminary administration.

Under the new plan, Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the seminary, assumes the posts of chancellor and president of the faculties. Dr. Finkelstein became the fourth president of the seminary in 1940, succeeding Dr. Cyrus Adler. Appointed as vice-chancellor and vice-president of faculties is Dr. Simon Greenberg, leading Jewish educator, who has served as provost since 1946.

Also appointed to the position of vice-chancellor is Dr. Max Arzt, who has been director of field service and activities since 1939. Dr. Moshe Davis, lecturer in American Jewish History on the faculty of the Rabbinical School, will become provost under the reorganization. Named to the post of Dean of Students is Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum, secretary of the faculty and registrar of the Rabbinical School since his ordination at the seminary in 1946. Dr. Max J. Routtenberg and Dr. Bernard Segal have been named executive vice-presidents in the new reorganization.

The current reorganization of the seminary administration is the second major change in the history of the institution, according to Mr. Stroock. The seminary was founded in 1887 and Prof. Sabato Morais became the institution's first president, serving from 1887 to 1897. It was reorganized in 1902, when Prof. Solomon Schechter assumed the presidency. He served until his death in 1915, when he was succeeded by Dr. Cyrus Adler. The reorganization, said Mr. Stroock, has become inevitable because of the vast increase in the responsibilities of the institution.

COMMUNITY LEADERS IN 12 STATES PRESENT \$1,558,519 TO U.J.A.

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (J.T.A.) -- Jewish leaders representing communities in 12 states remitted a total of \$1,558,519 to the United Jewish Appeal at five regional conferences held last week-end in widely separated parts of the country as part of the U.J.A.'s short-term drive for \$35,000,000 in cash. William Rosenwald, chairman of the Appeal's nationwide cash campaign and a national chairman of the U.J.A., announced tonight.

He stressed that, while the U.J.A. has received \$58,000,000 in cash since opening its campaign at the beginning of 1951, the need for \$35,000,000 between now and the end of the year is especially urgent as the people of Israel prepare for another winter without adequate food supplies, housing, hospital facilities and the most elementary medicines.

The chairman of the U.J.A.'s cash drive pointed out that he had called upon campaign chairmen and executives throughout the country to consider the solicitation of added pledges and cash from every contributor in a position to give over and above his 1951 commitment, and that these leaders had been asked also to consider loans from banks as a means of giving the U.J.A. cash resources without its having to wait on the outcome of late-starting local drives.

Mr. Rosenwald warned that failure by campaign communities to develop substantial cash resources on outstanding pledges would serve to radically worsen the plight of at least 200,000 newcomers in Israel now living on reduced rations and in sub-standard shelter. "Israel can go forward to new achievements in virtually every sphere of its national life if American Jews help her now to surmount her present difficulties," he declared.