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MOSCOW HINTS AT POSSIBILITY OF OFFERING ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Reports received here today from Moscow indicate that the Soviet Government is considering offering economic aid to Israel and other countries in the Middle East. The reports said that the Soviet press is stressing the need of the Middle Eastern countries for Russian economic assistance.

(In Israel, the authorities yesterday banned the showing of the Hebrew version of a Soviet play called "The Voice of America." The play, by Boris Lavrenev, is critical of the United States. It has been the practice of Israel's censorship board to bar plays which criticize friendly powers.)

Meanwhile, it was learned here today that the Governments of the United States, Britain, France and Turkey have agreed to tell Moscow that the record of the Soviet Union makes necessary the organization of a Middle Eastern defense organization. A four-power communication to this effect is now being drafted. It will constitute an answer to the Soviet notes of last month which protested the projected formation of a Middle East command.

The Soviet press, according to information received here, is giving its readers the impression that "the masses" in the Middle East welcomed the Soviet notes and are opposed to the participation of their governments in a Western-sponsored Middle East defense arrangement. The four powers will emphasize in their communication to Moscow that the projected arrangement for the Middle East is to be built on a voluntary, co-operative basis and that participating countries will not be permitted to move troops across borders of other member states without specific permission.

3,000 DEMONSTRATE IN TEL AVIV STREETS; SUPPORT STRIKING SEAMEN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 persons participated in a demonstration here last night protesting the action of the Israeli police against the striking seamen in Haifa during the last few days. The demonstrators were addressed by seamen last few days, who was one of Israel's military chiefs during the war of liberation. The demonstration dispersed quietly.

The Histadrut, Israel's Federation of Labor, today issued a statement hailing the action of the police and condemning the strikers who last Friday rejected police orders to leave two freighters, and precipitated clashes during the week-end in which 55 policemen and scores of strikers were injured. The Histadrut statement termed the seamens action "provocative."

The striking seamen sent a cable last night to Dr. Rabbi Hillel Silver, American Zionist leader, declaring that government intervention would end the conflict, but

that the Histadrut--which the cable describes as "a snadow government"--prevents conciliation.

Second Striking Israeli Crew Held on Ellis Island

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Thirty-four striking members of the crew of the fraeli vessel S. S. Haifa were brought today to Ellis Island to join 26 members of the crew of the Yafo pending deportation hearings on charges of entering the United States illegally. The Haifa is tied up at Baltimore.

The Israel consulate is providing the seamen with legal counsel at the hearings, while consular officials visited the detainees on Ellis Island today and yesterday to confer with them on the situation. The strikers from Baltimore were brought here in specially chartered buses so that they would not have to travel in police vans. The Haifa's crew was discharged yesterday after they refused to return to work. At the consulate's request the company which operates the Haifa agreed to pay wages due the seamen to their families in Israel, without delay.

At Baltimore, representatives of the Seafarers International Union, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, told the Israeli strikers that the American union did not approve of their strike. They told the Israelis that the I.S.U. has a rule forbidding its own members to strike in foreign ports.

A new crew has been signed aboard the Haifa which is scheduled to be loaded today and sail for Philadelphia and New York for additional cargo. The Yafo, whose unloading is being completed today, will be moved to a Brooklyn pier tomorrow to take on machinery. foodstuffs and other supplies for Israel.

SYRIAN TROOPS KILL TWO ISRAELI FISHERMEN ON LAKE TIBERIAS

TEL AVIV. Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Two Israeli fishermen on Lake Tiberias were shot dead today by Syrian troops on the shores of the Lake north of Ein Geb who opened fire without warning. A third fisherman escaped the ambush and returned to the Israeli settlement to tell his story.

Israeli representatives on the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission have communicated with Col. Samuel Taxis, United Nations chairman of the commission, asking for an immediate meeting of the mixed group. The Israeli message to Col. Taxis, an American, described the shootings as "a flagrant violation of the armistice agreement and unjustified murder."

An official communique issued here today says that the fishing boat was more than 600 feet from shore when automatic rifle fire was directed at it. The two men were killed immediately, while the third saved himself by dropping to the bottom of the boat. None of the three Israelis was armed.

WEIZMANN SUFFERS "VERY SLIGHT" HEART ATTACK; RECOVERS DURING DAY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- President Weizmann suffered a "very slight" heart attack last night and spent a disturbed night, it was announced here today. The announcement added that Dr. Weizmann recovered from the effects of the attack during the day.

AMERICAN TECHNICAL AID DIRECTOR FOR ISRAEL ARRIVES IN JEWISH STATE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Bruce McDaniel, director of American technical aid for Israel, arrived here today from Lebanon. Mr. McDaniel, who was scheduled to arrive yesterday, was delayed a day when Lebanese border geards refused yesterday to permit him to cross into Israel territory at Ras el Nakur.

MAPAM-MAPAI FEUD LEADS TO PARTITIONING OF COLLECTIVE SETTLEMENTS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The collective settlement of Ein Harod, one of the oldest in Israel, will be split into two self-contained settlements as a result of the fights which have been taking place there recently between followers of the left-wing Mapai proup.

A decision to this effect was taken today by the settlement department of the Agricultural Workers Union. The Union appointed a special committee to advise on the problems involved in the partitioning of the socialist settlement. Similar solutions will be imposed in a number of other collective colonies, known as Kibbutzim, because of the antagonistic feelings that developed between the Mapai and Mapam members of these colonies.

ZIONIST LEADERS TO DISCUSS EXPANSION OF JEWISH AGENCY

LONDON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The forthcoming meeting of the Zinnist Actions Committee will examine the question of expanding the Jewish Agency to include non-Zionists in its executive organs, S. Levenberg, Jewish Agency representative here, declared addressing a Zionist conference last night.

The Actions Committee, Mr. Levenberg said, will also consider a proposal to erect a national memorial in Jerusalem to honor the millions of Jews murdered by the Nazis.

AMBASSADOR EBAN LEAVES FOR ISRAEL TODAY; DEPUTY ASSUMES DUTIES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban will leave by air tomorrow for Paris where the United Nations is in session. He will remain there for only one day, however, and then proceed to Israel. While at Paris he will confer with Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett.

David Goitein has assumed duties as a Minister Plenipotentiary who will serve as deputy to Ambassador Eban. Mr. Goitein served previously as Israel Minister to the Union of South Africa. A native of England, the new Minister formerly practised law. He settled in Palestine in 1929.

Cecil Hyman, who has served as economic expert with the rank of counsellor at the Embassy of Israel since 1950, will leave in the near future for the Union of South Africa where he will serve as Minister.

NEW BRITISH MINISTER TO ISRAEL PRESENTS HIS CREDENTIALS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Sir Francis Evans, British Minister to Iszael, presented his credentials to Joseph Sprinzak, acting President of Israel, in a brief ceremony at the Ha'Kirya.

Sir Francis, former Britisn Consul General in New York, expressed the hope that relations between Israel and Britain would be expanded and voiced wishes for the speedy recovery of Dr. Chaim Weizmann. Officials of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and of the British Legation were present at the ceremony.

Constantin Stanescu, newly-appointed Rumanian Minister to Israel, has arrived here to assume his duties.

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BRAELI MASS MEETING ASKS GOVERNMENT TO SPURN GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Government of Israel, the srael Parliament and Jewish institutions not to "stain your hands with German money" was issued by a mass meeting held here to protest against direct negotiations with Germany for reparations for crimes against the Jews committed under the lazi regime.

The meeting, which was addressed by David Shimoni, the poet; David Pinsky, the playwright; and Rabbi Mordecai Nurock, a member of Parliament, denounced negotiations with Germany as "national treason."

GERMAN MINISTER ADDRESSES JEWISH LAWYERS; AROUSES RESENTMENT

DUSSELDORF, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Considerable resentment was caused here yesterday by a statement made by the West German Minister of Justice, Dr. T. Dehler, criticizing the Israel Government for refusing to establish diplomatic relations with Germany.

The Minister spoke at a conference of Jewish lawyers here. He blamed the Western Powers for Germany's failure to make restitution payments to political and racial victims of the Nazis, and accused representatives of the Western Powers in Germany of "deliberately and unfairly fomenting distrust of the German people." He singled out for criticism Benjamin Buttenweiser, former American Assistant High Commissioner for Germany, who recently stated that Nazi sentiment is still strong in Germany.

Numerous delegates at the conference criticized the speech of the German Minister. Some expressed disappointments over the fact that he did not use the opportunity to promise full co-operation on the part of the West German Government to make reparation to Nazi victims. The conference decided to establish a permanent organization of Jewish lawyers in Western Germany.

GERMANS DO NOT CO-OPERATE IN CHECKING DESECRATION OF CEMETERIES

DISSELDORF, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- While the German people condemn the desecration of Jewish cemeteries, they do not co-operate with the authorities in handing over the perpetrators who, in most cases, are children, according to the North Rhine-Westbhalia criminal police department.

In a statement denying foreign criticism that police investigations of acts of desecration had not been thorough, the police admitted that their investigation of 20 cases in the past two years had not been successful but blamed this attitude of the public for their failure.

ISRAEL OUTLINES STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT U. N. COMMITTEE

PARIS, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Israel will introduce a draft resolution in the General Assembly's Social Committee on the question of whether the proposed Covenant of Human Rights now under consideration by the committee should be prepared in one all-embracing document or in two separate documents.

Emile Najar, Israeli representative in the committee, pointed out that political rights could be enacted by legislation but implementation of economic and social rights often required as a prerequisite the carrying out of major economic measures. He said that while reports should be made on the degree of implementation of all rights, complaints of violations should only be considered in cases involving political rights.

EWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES IN BRITAIN THREATENED WITH NEW SPLIT

LONDON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A warning that representatives of the Spanish and Portuguese synagogues on the Board of Deputies of British Jews, who recently represent after walking off the Board for two and one-half years, would leave "not to return" if the Board affiliates with the World Jewish Congress, was sounded here last night by Neville Laski, British Jewish leader.

Dr. Abraham Cohen, president of the Board, denied that the Board had accepted "in principle" affiliation with the W.J.C. Other deputies also voiced their concern over the reports of imminent affiliation.

CONFERENCE OF EDUCATORS HEARS VIEWS ON STATE AID TO RELIGION

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Two decisions issued by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Federal or State aid to religious schools is unconstitutional are too vague and need more clarification, Dr. Ernest Johnson, chairman of the Religion and Education Committee of the American Council on Education, told a conference here of 100 educators from state colleges throughout the country.

In one decision, handed down in 1947, the court upheld the New Jersey law providing free bus transportation for parochial school pupils as well as those attending the public schools. Dr. Johnson emphasized, however, that the court stated explicitly that neither a state nor the Federal Government could pass laws that "aid one religion, and all religions, or prefer one religion over another."

Dr. Johnson said the court re-affirmed its position a year later when it declared unconstitutional the "released time" program of the Champaign, Ill., public schools. Under that program, pupils had received religious instruction on public school property. Citing the employment of chaplains of all denominations in penal institutions, he stated: "the court will have to make it clear that when state teachers colleges make it possible for students to participate in religious services they are not doing anything contrary to the Constitution."

Dr. Johnson predicted that the Supreme Court would have to recognize that some provisions for religious services would be made legally under state or Federal auspices if "such benefits are incidental and not direct." In an earlier address, Dr. Clarence P. Shedd, Professor of Christian Methods at Yale, said: "There seems to be an unwillingness on the part of the American people to permit as complete a separation of religion and education in publicly controlled colleges and universities as they have thought to be good and necessary in the public schools."

Justice Frankfurter Singled Out on "Released Time" Ruling

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A recent attack on the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Champaign, Ill., school case was characterized today by executive director Glenn L. Archer of "Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State" as "strange in its singling out of Justice Frankfurter from among eight Justices who voted to invalidate the 'released time' system at Champaign."

Mr. Archer was replying to remarks made against Justice Frankfurter on Dec. 9 by Dr. James A. Pike, of New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine in an address at the Washington Cathedral. "Although the opinion of the court was delivered by Justice Black," Mr. Archer said, "Dr. Pike, for reasons of his own, has prefered to deal with the decision as if it came from one man, Felix Frankfurter."

CONTINUED IMMIGRATION OF JEWISH DP'S TO UNITED STATES IS ASSURED

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The American Jewish community now can be assured that those Jewish survivors of the Nazi regime who wish to come to the United States will be provided with inter-governmental services necessary to their arrival, Arthur Greenleigh, executive director of the United Service for New Americans, said in a statement issued here today.

Lauding the establishment last week of the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe, which will succeed the I.R.O., Mr. Greenleigh said that the creation of the new body makes possible the continued immigration to the United States of Jewish DP's and refugees who will still be in Europe when the I.R.O. is dissolved. He announced that the U.S.N.A., which is a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal, will take an active part in the operations of the new body.

AMERICAN FUND FOR ISRAEL INSTITUTIONS CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Edward A. Norman, president of the American Fund for Israel Institutions, was honored here tonight at the Fund's 10th anniversary celebration at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel by more than 1,500 prominent leaders in all walks of Jewish life. Each of the guests paid \$100 to attend the dinner.

The anniversary celebration will continue tomorrow with an all-day conference including an administrative session in the morning; a panel discussion-"Growth of a Civilization"-on theatre, music, archaeology, museums, art, civil aviation, radio, dance, maritime training, traditional institutions and intercultural relations, in the afternoon; and conclude with a celebration dinner in the evening.

The Fund was founded in 1941 by Mr. Norman as a federated agency for securing support for many of the leading cultural, educational, traditional and social welfare institutions in Israel. In addition to its fund-raising, the Fund has been responsible for an intercultural program including the nationwide tour of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra at the beginning of this year, the Broadway appearance of the Habimah Theatre in 1948, the exchange of art exhibits between the United States and Israel and other projects of this nature.

LOS ANGELES JEWISH COMMUNITY BUILDING WILL HOUSE 25 ORGANIZATIONS

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish community building, housing over 25 Jewish communal and welfare organizations, was dedicated at ceremonies here. Important documents, including newspapers, were placed in a time capsule. It is hoped that the capsule will be opened on Dec. 9, 2001.

2,000 IN NEW YORK CELEBRATE BEN GURION'S 65TH BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The 65th birthday of David Ben Gurion, Israel's Premier, was celebrated here last night at a rally attended by 2,000 persons. Admission to the rally was by purchase of an Israeli bond. James G. McDonald, former U.S. Ambasaador to Israel, acted as proxy for the Israel Premier and cut a big birthday cake bearing the inscription "Happy Birthday, B.G."