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ISRAEL AND U. S. SIGN LAST AGREEMENTS ON AMERICAN GRANT-IN-AID

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Israel and the United States Governments today signed the last two agreements for the release of \$73,000,000 from the American grant-in-aid for the current year. The agreements provide for the spending of \$70,000,000 for relief and resettlement of Jewish immigrants, and \$3,000,000 for technical assistance.

A government spokesman here said that Israel and the United States will consult on the ways of using the funds. Intensive negotiations, he stated, are now going on between both governments on the preparation of plans for the expenditures during the next few months.

ISRAEL CABINET DECIDES TO RE-INTRODUCE BILL ON JEWISH AGENCY STATUS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today decided to re-introduce in the Knesset the bill on the status of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency which was withdrawn last week by Premier David Ben Gurion after it was amended at a poorly attended session to grant to the Agency the status of "representative of all the Jewish people" instead of "authorized Agency" as originally suggested by the Government.

A Cabinet spokesman today said: "The Government withdrew the bill after the Knesset introduced an amendment which the Government is unable to accept. It will now re-submit the bill to secure its adoption in the form decided upon by the Cabinet after prolonged negotiations with the Jewish Agency. It must be clear that the Government cannot allow any amendment which creates the impression that the Knesset can allow itself to pass legislation on matters which are outside of Israel's sovereignty."

ISRAEL ANSWERS SYRIAN THREATS; SAYS ARMY WILL REPULSE AGGRESSION

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Israel Government today made it clear that its armed forces "are always on the alert to repulse any aggression." A statement to this effect was made by a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry at a press conference.

The statement was made in connection with a threat voiced recently by the Syrian military dictator, Gen. Shishakly that "the Jews will be thrown into the sea." A Damascus broadcast also reported that the Syrian Government has renewed its protests against financial support of Israel "either directly from Washington or through Germany with the reparations."

Zionism rather than Communism threatens Middle Eastern security, the broadcast claimed. The "powder keg" in the Middle East, the broadcast said, is "the State of Israel whose expansionist plans create a feeling of insecurity in the Middle East and have international repercussions." It added that the feeling of insecurity was "heightened" by the "encouragement and support" given Israel by America.

JERUSALEM MAYOR RESIGNS POST; NEW ELECTIONS DUE WITHIN 30 DAYS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Mayor S.Z. Shragai of Jerusalem today presented officially his resignation from his post giving failing health as the reason. He will remain a member of the Municipal Council.

Mr. Shragai intends to leave next week for Switzerland for a month's rest. The problem of electing a new mayor has not yet been discussed. It is considered doubtful whether Acting Mayor A. Eliashar can get enough votes to be elected to the office vacated by Mr. Shragai. Under the existing regulations, a new mayor must be elected by the Municipal Council at its next session. However, the Acting Mayor has the right not to convene the Council for 30 days.

ISRAEL MINISTER IN PRAGUE BARRED FROM VISITING ARRESTED ISRAELI

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Israel Government takes a "serious view" of the refusal of the Czechoslovak authorities to permit the Israel Minister in Prague to visit Mordecai Oren, an Israel citizen who has been held under arrest in Prague for several months, the Foreign Ministry disclosed today.

The spokesman said he had no confirmation of a report published tonight by the Labor daily Hador, that Oren, a prominent member of the left-wing Mapam Party, had "collapsed" and confessed his guilt on all charges pending against him.

Oren had been charged with activities endangering Czechoslovak security and with remaining in Czechoslovakia without a valid visa. His arrest was linked to that of Josef Slansky, former secretary-general of the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia.

HIGH PROPORTION OF ISRAEL'S POPULATION EMPLOYED IN SERVICES

NEW YORK, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Figures on the occupational structure of Israel's population, published in the Statistical Bulletin of the Israel Bureau of Statistics and Economic Research, showed that the percentage of the population engaged in public and other services, including the liberal professions, and in trade and finance was higher in Israel than in any other country in the world, the New York Times reported today from Tel Aviv.

The report said that in Israel in 1951, 29.3 percent of all gainfully employed persons were in public and other services compared with 25.6 percent in Britain, (the next highest), 23 percent in the United States, 9.5 percent in Egypt and 20.4 percent in Switzerland. Trade and finance occupied 16.8 percent of all Israel's gainfully employed, while the United States, with the next highest percentage in this category, showed 16.1 percent, Britain 12 percent, Egypt 7.5 percent and Switzerland 10 percent.

"There were 505,000 gainfully employed persons in Israel's population of 1,346,000," the report stated. "By deducting from the population 70,000 persons still in immigrants' camps, the percentage of gainfully employed is 39.6. By January, 1952, the statisticians calculated, the number of gainfully employed had risen to 530,000.

"In most countries so high a proportion of persons engaged in services and in trade and finance would indicate a highly developed economy. In Israel, however, the high proportion is a reflection of occupational maldistribution--a maldistribution that Jewish organizations have for decades been struggling to rectify by fostering vocational training leading to employment in agriculture, industry and crafts in Israel," the Times report commented.

PHILIP AUERBACH COMMITS SUICIDE; ACT DUE TO VERDICT OF GERMAN COURT

MUNICH, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Philip Auerbach, former Restitution Commissioner of Bavaria, who was convicted by a German court, dominated by ex-Nazi judges, of embezzlement in connection with funds allotted to Jewish victims of Nazis, committed suicide in a hospital here yesterday by taking an overdose of sleeping pills.

The former Jewish official, who was the target of anti-Semitic propaganda in post-war Germany, was sentenced last Thursday to 30 months' imprisonment by a court composed of five judges, three of whom were former members of the Nazi Party. After the verdict was issued, he announced that he would appeal against it and termed it "a second Dreyfus affair."

Yesterday his wife received a letter from him from the hospital--where he had been treated for a kidney ailment under police custody--stating that he would never get over having his "honor dragged in the dirt." During the night he took his life. Police refused to give any details about his death.

At his trial, which started in April, he was accused of illegally paying out 3,000,000 marks in false claims to Jews during the five years when he was head of the Bavarian State Restitution Office which was set up by the Allies. An appeal to John J. McCloy, American High Commissioner at that time, to transfer the case from a German court to an Allied court brought no results.

Three of Auerbach's former associates in the restitution office were also sentenced last Thursday by the same court. One of them, Rabbi Aaron Orenstein, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and fined 10,000 marks. The other, Dr. Klaus Koenig-Ohnsorg, was sentenced to a year in prison and 200 marks fine. The third, Dr. Berthold Kornisch, received a four-month jail term and was fined 500 marks.

Herr Auerbach visited the United States in October, 1949 to help expedite claims of damages for 10,000 to 12,000 former inmates of Nazi concentration camps who now live in the United States and Canada. Himself a war-time inmate of the Auschwitz concentration camp, he was an active opponent of reviving Nazism and led protests against such incidents as the bombing of a branch office of his commission in Nuernberg in March, 1947; repeated desecrations of Jewish cemeteries in Bavaria and the acquittal in March, 1950, of two former Gestapo officials charged with war crimes.

Trial Should Never Have Been Held, Manchester Guardian Says

LONDON, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- The Auerbach trial in Munich "lit up as with a searchlight, the sad hatreds which have been seething there during the seven post-war years," the Manchester Guardian said yesterday in an editorial on the trial. It declared that while the technical charges against Auerbach might have been juridically proved and legal justice done, there was question as to "the moral and political advisability and even justification of this trial."

Auerbach, the editorial noted, had been charged with "embezzlement, blackmail, accepting bribes and attempted submission of false statements." The paper said that "few of those who lived through 'the *saive qui peut*' anarchy of postwar Germany - whether Allied troops, Germans or victims of the Germans - were entirely guiltless of one or other of these offenses in either a good or bad cause."

The paper declared that "the tone and setting of the Auerbach trial seem to have been even more questionable than the fact of its being held. A Free Democratic member of the Bavarian Parliament declared that it was 'disgraceful' that former Nazis should try a Jew and compared the presiding judge's conduct to that of Freisler, a notorious judge of Hitler's People's Court. In spite of Jewish protests, the proceedings were started during Passover," the paper pointed out.

"HARD CORE" DP'S LEAVE GERMANY FOR NORWAY; J.D.C. FINANCES TRANSFER

NEW YORK, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- A transport of post-tuberculous patients and their families, all but two of them survivors of Nazi concentration camps, will leave Munich tomorrow for permanent resettlement in Norway, under an agreement between the Norwegian Government and the Joint Distribution Committee, it was announced by the J. D. C. here today.

The group about to embark for Norway consists of 44 DP's--18 family members and 26 former TB patients who have been pronounced medically fit and capable of eventual self-support. These post-TB sufferers and their families form part of the several thousand residual "hard core" cases whose ultimate resettlement in hospitable countries will bring to an end the Jewish DP problem in Europe. The total cost for this long-range program is estimated at a minimum of \$3,000,000. The J. D. C. is meeting all costs in connection with the transfer of the post-TB group to Norway.

The action of the Norwegian Government in offering permanent haven to the post-TB cases and their families was hailed today by Moses W. Beckelman, director-general of J. D. C. overseas operations, as a "humanitarian gesture of the first order." Mr. Beckelman revealed that negotiations now nearing completion may lead shortly to the removal of other "hard core" displaced persons to permanent havens in another country. All the members of the transport have been examined and interviewed by a mission sent to Germany and Italy by the Norwegian Government.

90 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ATTEND FOUR-WEEK LECTURES ON JEWISH AFFAIRS

HANCOCK, N. Y., Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Philip Bernstein, associate director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, emphasized here that the American Jewish community is an integral part of the American democratic process. At the same time, he stressed that the structure of the "American Jewish communal life is uniquely American."

Speaking before 90 scholarship winners, who are attending the Brandeis Camp Institute, and who represent virtually every section of the country, Mr. Bernstein imparted a comprehensive review of the fund-raising machinery on behalf of local and overseas needs of the Jewish people. In noting that the American Jewish community organization is distinctly American, Mr. Bernstein also declared that the community organization "is voluntary because it stems from an actual need, not merely a theory."

The students, many of whom are college and university undergraduates, are participating in an intensive four-week institute devoted to various phases of Jewish history, as well as music, art, dance and group work. The principal objective of the Brandeis Camp Institute, sponsored by the Brandeis Youth Foundation, is to prepare Jewish youth for leadership in the American Jewish community. Dr. Shlomo Bardin, national director of the Brandeis Youth Foundation, is scheduled to deliver a series of lectures toward the end of the month on the "History of Jewish Colonization in Israel."

ALL-EUROPEAN B'NAI B'RITH CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN COPENHAGEN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Representatives of Europe's nearly 50 B'nai B'rith lodges and women's chapters will gather here Aug. 29 to Sept. 1 for the annual conference of the Order's European Committee, it was announced today by the B'nai B'rith headquarters here. The purpose of the committee is to aid in the reconstruction of Jewish life throughout free Europe by means of a many-sided program, similar in some respects to the B'nai B'rith program in the United States.

THOUSANDS ATTEND FUNERAL OF ISRAEL MINISTER PINKAS IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Thousands paid their last tribute to David Zvi Pinkas, Minister of Communications, as his body lay in state here in the former Parliament building and then in the procession to the Old Cemetery where he was laid to rest near the tombs of his parents.

Acting President Josef Sprinzak, Premier David Ben Gurion and other members of the government, the Parliament and the Tel Aviv Municipal Council, marched in the funeral procession. An honor guard of the Israeli defense forces was mounted around the bier all night and provided an escort for the coffin to the cemetery. Chief Rabbi Unterman of Tel Aviv eulogized the Mizrachi member of the Cabinet when the funeral procession halted near the Great Synagogue.

Meanwhile, Premier Ben Gurion today temporarily assumed the Communications portfolio until a successor to Mr. Pinkas is named. Under a recently enacted law, a successor can be appointed without the government having to go to the Knesset for a new vote of confidence.

The most likely candidate for the post was said to be Dr. Aaron Barth, a banker and leader of the Mizrachi, but his health is believed to rule him out of consideration. The vacancy will be discussed at a meeting of the government coalition. Rabbi Y. S. Rosenberg, a recent arrival from the United States, is expected to be named to succeed Mr. Pinkas as a member of the Mizrachi group in Parliament.

MORDECAI DANZIS, YIDDISH EDITOR, DEAD; BURIED NEAR JABOTINSKY

NEW YORK, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Mordecai Danzis, former editor of The Day, New York Yiddish daily newspaper, who died at his home this week-end, following a long illness at the age of 65. He was buried near the grave of Vladimir Jabotinsky, late founder of the World Zionist-Revisionist movement.

A native of the Ukraine, Danzis came to the United States in 1907 and soon made a name for himself as a writer. He was managing editor of the Jewish Daily News until its merger with the Jewish Morning Journal in 1928 at which time he joined the staff of The Day. He became editor-in-chief of The Day in 1948 and served in that capacity for about two years. He travelled widely in Europe, Asia and Latin America and was a frequent visitor in Israel.

A close friend of the late Vladimir Jabotinsky, Danzis aided him in establishing a Zionist-Revisionist movement in this country and later served as president of the American group. He was an active supporter of the Irgun Zvai Leumi which fought the British in mandated Palestine. He had also served as vice-president of the Peretz Verein, the Jewish Writers Union. He was well known as a lecturer and for his radio news commentaries in Yiddish.

FRENCH EXPEDITION TO MT. ARARAT FAILS TO FIND TRACES OF NOAH'S ARK

ISTANBUL, Aug. 17. (JTA) -- Not a single trace of Noah's Ark was discovered by a French expedition which battled its way to the top of Mount Ararat, it was reported here yesterday. The expedition was led by Jean de Riquer, Polar explorer who raised the French flag atop the Old Testament peak after climbing through snow, rain and heavy winds. An American expedition led by Dr. Aaron Smith, a retired missionary from Greensboro, N. C., tried fruitlessly to find Noah's boat in 1949.