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BRITAIN INSISTS ON SELLING JET PLANES TO ARAB COUNTRIES

LONDON, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Britain will continue to sell jet aircraft to both Israel and the Arab countries, a Foreign Office spokesman indicated here today in commenting on the warning issued by Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett to the Western Powers against the continued shipment of arms to the Arab states.

The British spokesman revealed that Egypt has been most active in seeking jet aircraft in England. He emphasized that Israel and the Arab states have been told that delivery dates and the number of planes available for sale are matters for private negotiation between the aircraft manufacturers and the countries involved. The type or make of jets to be sold were not disclosed.

It was reported here that Lebanon, Syria and Iraq have already received 14 British Jets. Egypt is understood to have received a larger number. Both Syria and Egypt are negotiating for more and newer types of jet planes. Deliveries up to now have been of British Meteors, the report said.

Full Text of Israel's Warning on Sale of Arms to Arabs

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Embassy here today released the full text of the declaration made in Tel Aviv yesterday by Foreign Minister Sharett warning the Western Powers to discontinue sending arms to the Arab countries. The text reads:

"The Government of Israel must express serious disquiet at reports concerning deliveries of arms by leading Western Powers to certain Arab states, primarily Egypt.

"The Arab states in question insist that they are at war with Israel. Only a few weeks ago they strenuously resisted the attempt made by a group of disinterested powers to secure the passage of a resolution in the General Assembly of the United Nations aiming at the establishment of peace in the Middle East. They maintain by boycott and blockade an active system of economic warfare against Israel.

"In so acting they openly flout fundamental provisions of the United Nations Charter enjoining upon all member states the pursuit of peace and the resort to peaceful methods of resolving international conflicts. Egypt particularly has been guilty of wanton interference with the legitimate traffic of goods to Israel through the Suez Canal, in flagrant disregard of a clear injunction of the Security Council.

"At the same time, the Government of Israel is not aware of an expression of readiness by any of the Arab Governments concerned to undertake obligations in defence of democracy either in each particular country or in the region as a whole. The regimes prevailing in most of these countries and the upheavals by which they

have been recently convulsed leave much room for doubt whether the maintenance of democratic institutions is a vital concern of their rulers.

"In all these circumstances, the placing at this juncture of additional and important arms in the hands of Arab governments, far from being conducive to the advent of peace and stability to the region, constitutes a menace to Israel's security, whilst offering no assured prospect of strengthening the area's defensive capacity against the dangers of outside aggression.

"The present departure is at variance with the declaration jointly issued by the Governments of the United States, United Kingdom and France on May 25, 1950 which set its face against the development of an arms race between Israel and her Arab neighbors and which implied the maintenance of a fair defense equilibrium between them. The reported sales or grants of arms to the Arab states are liable seriously to upset this balance to Israel's detriment, to lead to an arms race, and thus to nullify the moral and practical effect of the assurances contained in the tripartite declaration.

"The Government of Israel must utter a serious warning against this policy, so clearly damaging to Israel's security and to the interests of regional and world peace."

NEW ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES INTERNAL AND FOREIGN SITUATION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The new Israel Cabinet held its first meeting here last night to consider various aspects of Israel's internal and foreign situation and to take preliminary steps to reorganize the government along the lines agreed to by the Mapai and General Zionist Parties, the major supports of the new coalition.

Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett reported on political developments in the Middle East. He raised a number of problems connected with the continuous supply of arms flowing from the Western Powers to the Arab states.

Finance Minister Levi Eshkol outlined the government's financial position, while Premier David Ben-Gurion reported on the agreement he had reached with the leaders of the Israel bond drive in the United States. The Cabinet officially approved the new agreement, as a result of which the bond drive leaders withdrew resignations which they had proffered several weeks ago.

A special economic ministerial committee, which will in all practical purposes carry out the government's basic program, was set up at last night's meeting. The "inner Cabinet" will consist of the Ministers of Defense, Labor, Finance, Agriculture, Trade and Industry, Interior and Welfare. The Welfare Minister, Moshe Shapiro, was named to the "inner Cabinet" in order to give the religious parties representation.

In addition, Mr. Shapiro, Pinchas Lavon, Mapai Minister without portfolio, and Joseph Serfati, General Zionist Minister of Health, were named a sub-committee to set up all other permanent Cabinet committees. Their choices will have to be approved by the full Cabinet when it next meets. Chaim Cohen, Minister of Justice in the last Cabinet, was appointed Attorney General, a non-Cabinet post. Mr. Serfati, who was originally named Minister of Communications, has switched portfolios with Joseph Spitzer, General Zionist leader who originally held the Health portfolio.

ISRAEL WILL NOT CONSCRIPT U.S. CITIZENS INTO ARMY

TEL AVIV, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The Israel Government will not conscript American citizens into its armed forces in the future, because of the provisions of the McCarran Investigation Law, but will require them to perform some other form of national service, it was learned here today.

ISRAEL LABOR MINISTER OFFERS BILL TO PROTECT WOMEN WORKERS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 29. (JTA) — Mrs. Golda Myerson, Minister of Labor, today introduced in Parliament the first Israeli law specifically aimed at protecting women workers. She revealed that the percentage of working women in Israel has increased by 22 percent since World War II.

The law, which is intended to give women specific protections not included in the general labor code, includes such provisions as special protection for pregnant working women and the payment of wages during the period preceding and following the birth of a child. The Knesset has set aside six hours for a debate on the measure.

The number of unemployed in Israel stood at 16,500 as of the beginning of the week, it was officially announced here today.

HISTADRUTH DECIDES NOT TO SUPPORT WAGE INCREASE DEMANDS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 29. (JTA) — After a stormy session here last night, the executive committee of the Histadrut, Israel's general federation of labor, decided not to support any demands for wage increases, except where such raises are tied to increased production.

At the same time, the Histadrut executive decided to continue the cost of living allowance system, which fluctuates with the index of prices. Industrial circles here have expressed approval of this wage policy for 1953. The Histadrut also called on the government to change the income tax law in favor of the workers, and to limit profits and stabilize prices.

The Herut Party today issued a statement characterizing the General Zionist entrance into a coalition government with the Mapai as a "betrayal" and pledging to fight the newly constituted government as well as the Communists. It also decided to initiate a special membership recruiting drive next year.

STATE DEPT. RULES VISA APPLICANTS NEED NOT STATE RELIGION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. (JTA) — As a result of nation-wide protests which focused attention on the identification of Jews as such on visa applications in anticipation of the McCarran-Walter Act, the State Department Visa Division has ruled that requirements of the Act do not pertain to religion.

It was learned today that Section 42.30 of the Act, drawn to implement the McCarran-Walter law, states that "the requirement of the Act that an immigrant should state in his application his race and ethnic classification does not pertain to his religion."

However, the issue is seen here as still not finally resolved. This is because the terms "Jewish" or "Hebrew" may be construed by consular authorities as an ethnic label rather than as descriptive of a religion. Section 222-A of the Act requires that each visa applicant state his race and ethnic classification. The race of a Jew would be "white" but how would his "ethnic classification" be labelled?

The question of the ethnic background of Jews must be answered although the Visa Division has now ruled that this does not pertain to religion. No one in Washington who will speak officially for the government will say what should be the ethnic classification of Jews and how they will be described ethnically if not by religion.

GERMANY WILL NOT YIELD TO PRESSURE AGAINST PACT WITH ISRAEL

DUSSELDORF, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The West German Government is determined to carry out the reparations pact with Israel even at the cost of increased German-Arab tension, it was indicated here today. The pressure against ratification of the German-Israel agreement now being applied upon the Bonn Government by certain German industrialists interested in trading with the Arab countries will also have no effect, informed circles here said.

The German press reports that when the German Ambassador, G. Pawalle, recently submitted to Premier Mohammed Naguib of Egypt a Bonn note replying to Egypt's protest against the German-Israel reparations agreement, he made it clear that his government is working for the earliest possible ratification of the pact and will put it into effect immediately after Parliament approves it.

These reports emphasize that the Bonn Government is offering the Arab states the same goods that will be delivered to Israel at advantageous trade terms. Also, that the Bonn Government will permit United Nations officials to inspect the Israel-bound shipments in order to satisfy the Arabs or any other parties that no war material is shipped to the Jewish State.

The reports add that the question of the German-Israel reparations was discussed last week in Cairo at a conference of representatives of the Arab League nations, as well as of Pakistan and Iran. The conference also discussed other questions pertaining to the Arab boycott against Israel, the press here says.

BONN PARLIAMENT TO RECONSIDER FEDERAL INDEMNIFICATION BILL

BONN, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The West German Parliament has voted to reconsider a bill extending Federal indemnification benefits on the same basis as the indemnification law now in effect in the United States zone. The Parliament has already placed on record its unanimous desire to speed up settlement of the indemnification problem.

In Munich, a local organization of relatives of Nazi victims has urged the Bavarian Ministry of Finance to increase pensions awarded to invalids and to advance payments up to 20 percent of approved indemnification claims, payment of a special end-of-year grant of 100 marks per capita, and immediate and full payment of indemnification claims to all Nazi victims 50 years of age or over. The group also demanded that settlement of pension claims be accelerated.

COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS TO PURGE JEWS FROM DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

LONDON, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Several of the East European Communist governments have been instructed to purge their foreign services of Jewish diplomats, the Daily Telegraph reports here today in a dispatch from Rome. The dispatch says this information came through diplomatic channels and that it agrees substantially with reports from Vatican quarters.

The Telegraph report declares that Jewish diplomats from the satellite states who are now assigned to posts in the Western states and who have their families with them are likely to be the first recalled. The presence of their families outside their homelands, the Telegraph report says, places these diplomats--in the Communist view--in a "favorable position for evasion."

ISRAEL BOND LEADERS REPORT ON THEIR TALKS WITH BEN GURION

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The "unreserved" continuation of the leadership of the principal officers of the State of Israel bond organization in the United States was announced today by Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee of the organization, upon his return from Israel to the United States with a delegation, which included Henry Montor, vice-president of the American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel, which sponsors the sale of State of Israel bonds; Samuel Rothberg, national chairman for special sales, and Sidney S. Green, financial adviser.

In a statement upon his return, Mr. Venezky said:

"As a result of almost continuous discussions for a period of three days in Jerusalem with the Prime Minister of Israel, the Finance Minister of Israel and associated members of the Cabinet, we have agreed to continue with renewed vigor our leadership in the effort to sell State of Israel bonds in the United States.

"All outstanding issues were resolved to our greatest satisfaction and we feel that, as a result of the meetings in which we engaged in Jerusalem, we shall be able to pursue our work with greater effectiveness than ever before. The Government of Israel, from the Prime Minister down, made it clear in unmistakable terms that it places the highest significance upon the effort to distribute Israel bonds in the United States as a keystone of its economic development. Moreover, the Government of Israel assured us of the broadest possible cooperation in order to insure the acceleration of our work.

"Even though the Prime Minister was in the midst of a series of other important matters, including the formation of a new and broader coalition government, he indicated the high place he attaches to the Israel bond program by devoting himself continuously for almost three days to the negotiations with us. At the close of our discussions, the Government of Israel issued a brief formal statement which summarized our common views." (A summary of the statement was reported in the J.T.A. Bulletin yesterday in a cable from Tel Aviv.)

CANADIAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT MAY OFFER FAIR PRACTICES LAW

WINNIPEG, Man., Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The Manitoba Provincial Government is expected to seek adoption by the Legislature during its coming session of a Provincial Fair Employment Practices law, it was disclosed here this week.

A 20-man delegation, representing 17 Manitoba civic organizations, was received by Premier Douglas L. Campbell and four of his Cabinet ministers to discuss the question. The delegation submitted a brief recommending an F.E.P. law modelled on that adopted by Ontario but with some strengthening of its provisions. Mr. Campbell promised the delegation that he would take its brief under "very serious advisement."

The delegation was headed by Prof. W. L. Morton of the Manitoba Civil Liberties Association. The other organizations included civic, political and labor groups, the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Central Canadian Council of B'nai B'rith, Jewish Labor Committee, and the National Council of Jewish Women.

ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH COOPERATIVE BANK PLANNED IN ROME

ROME, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Plans are being prepared for the establishment of a cooperative bank in the Jewish community of Rome within the immediate future, it was learned today. It would be a branch of the Jewish Cooperative Bank of Milan, which has been operating there for the past two years.

Top officials of the Italian Zionist Federation have met in a two-day conference devoted to the political situation in Israel and various developments in the Zionist movement. Representatives of the Jewish Agency and Marc Jarblum, president of the French Zionist Federation, attended.

ISRAEL EXPOSITION OPENS IN MIAMI; WILL TOUR OTHER CITIES

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 29. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 persons attended the opening ceremony here of Israel's first exposition to be taken on a tour of the United States. The exposition features more than 1,100 products of the industry and agriculture of the Jewish State. It will remain here for two months before moving on to Boston, Chicago, Washington and other cities. The exposition is sponsored by the Israel bond drive in the U. S.

A complete block in the center of Miami Beach was closed to traffic by order of the Mayor to permit an outdoor opening ceremony which was addressed by Deputy Mayor Burnett Roth and Abraham Dor, chief engineer of Israel Mining Industries. The Governor of Florida, in a message to the ceremony, said: "The emergence of Israel as an economically sound democracy represents a great asset to American progress for strengthening democratic defense throughout the world."

AMERICAN GROUP REPORTS ON OSE HEALTH ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The American Committee of OSE, Jewish health organization, today announced that the organization is constructing a solarium at its convalescent home in Jerusalem and that two other OSE convalescent homes are now functioning in Ramleh. Two new convalescent homes for children are planned for Gan Yavneh and Askhalon.

OSE headquarters here also announced that a radiological center had been opened by the OSE in Tunisia to aid in the prevention, discovery and care of local Jews, and to assist in anti-favus treatments.

HILLEL ROGOFF, EDITOR OF "FORWARD," HONORED ON 70TH BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency, were among the dignitaries who sent messages of congratulations to Hillel Rogoff, editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

A resolution congratulating Mr. Rogoff was adopted last night at a meeting of the board of directors of the Workmen's Circle, largest Jewish fraternal order in the United States. Messages of congratulations were also received by Mr. Rogoff from other Jewish organizations.

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