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U.S. INSTRUCTS EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV TO BOYCOTT ISRAEL EXHIBITION

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Acting on instructions from the State Department, the American embassy here will boycott tomorrow the opening of the "Conquest of the Desert" exhibition in Jerusalem which aims to demonstrate how various nations fight the desert and their methods of agricultural production, food processing, soil conservation and irrigation.

The spokesman of the American Embassy said today that no representative of the Embassy will appear at the opening ceremony. (In Washington, State Department sources said that this step was taken as a means of protesting Israel's transfer of its Foreign Ministry from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.)

The British Embassy indicated that it will be represented at tomorrow's ceremony in view of the fact that the exhibition is not officially arranged by the Israel Government. Other legations here were today still awaiting instructions from their governments as to whether their staffs should attend tomorrow's affair.

More than 60 foreign firms, including American corporations, have taken space and set up exhibition booths in the main hall. United Nations agencies, including UNESCO, FAO, WHO and ILO, have erected a joint display section. Among the general exhibits will be films from 42 different lands demonstrating how each of these countries is turning its desert areas into productive regions. The Israel Government will allocate foreign currency to Israeli buyers of goods displayed at the various booths.

Israel Worried Over Possibility of U.S. Munition Grants to Arabs

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The most urgent cause of concern to the Israel Embassy here is currently the possibility of American munitions grants to the Arab League states--an undertaking for which funds were provided in the new Mutual Security Act. This matter, it was learned today from informed sources, has been consistently discussed by Israeli officials with the State Department.

The return of Ambassador Abba Eban from Israel has given rise to speculation that this problem will be pursued personally by Mr. Eban and stressed at his next meeting with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Israel's general position is that arms shipments to Arab states which continue to maintain a belligerent attitude toward Israel would not serve the cause of world peace.

There has been cited here President Eisenhower's warning to the former Iranian Government of Mohammed Mossadegh that American military and economic aid would depend on that country's agreement to alter certain policies which America felt injurious to world stability. Some Israelis feel that if the United States took that stand in the case of Iran, a similar requirement might now be applied in connection with aid to Arab League states which jeopardize international security by waging economic warfare against Israel.

ACTING DEFENSE MINISTER FREES SIX YOUNG ISRAELI TERRORISTS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Pinchas Lavon, Acting Defense Minister in the absence of Premier David Ben Gurion, today freed six of the 13 youths convicted of membership and activity in a terrorist organization and reduced the sentence of a seventh, in a review of the decision of a military tribunal. The 13, members of a group which attempted to burn cars belonging to the Czech and Soviet legations earlier this year, were given sentences ranging from one to three years.

Five of the defendants, all juveniles sentenced to one or two years in jail, were freed. The sixth, Zeev Badian, had been given four years as one of the leaders of the group which the government had charged with engineering the bombing of the Soviet legation in Tel Aviv last February. His fiancée, Miss Yaffa Dromit, onetime underground radio announcer for the Stern Group, had her sentence reduced to three years.

Minister Lavon approved the sentences of Yaacov Heruti, who received a 10-year prison term, Shimon Bachar, 12 years, and Abraham Mandel, three years, because they had all been convicted of stealing military documents in addition to their other activities. Bachar, who was sentenced in absentia, escaped from jail during the trial and still remains at large.

The Minister's decision was handed down after week-long disturbances in the Tel Mond prison by the defendants. A continuous battle had been in progress between the prisoners and the guards, and the prisoners had spent more time in solitary confinement than out of it. The parents of the youths had even demanded that the President of Israel, Itzhak Ben Zvi, intervene to ease the situation in the prison.

Second Trial of Alleged Terrorists Starts in Israel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The second trial at the Sarafand army base of alleged members of an underground terrorist organization resumed today with the two defendants pleading not guilty. The defendants are Zeev Yeivin, 27, and Rubin Peretz, 23.

Before the High Holiday recess, the men were brought before a military tribunal for trial. At that time they demanded transfer of the case to a civilian court, challenging the jurisdiction of the military court. The judges rejected the plea, and the defendants thereupon declared that they "would not participate" in the trial. The court appointed an attorney to defend them.

3,000 WORKERS' FAMILIES TRANSFERRED TO AGRICULTURE BY HISTADRUT

TEL AVIV, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Nearly 3,000 workers' families have been transferred to agriculture under the Histadrut's "Town to Country" drive, which was initiated last year, it was announced here today at a session of the Histadrut executive.

Nearly half the families, 1,200, settled in smallholders settlements. Smaller numbers settled in settlements conducted by the various religious movements or the General Zionist-affiliated settlement movement.

ISRAEL RELEASES LEBANESE SHIP; VESSEL SOUGHT HAVEN FROM STORM

HAIFA, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- A Lebanese ship and its crew, which sought sanctuary from a Mediterranean storm last Wednesday by entering Israeli waters near here, was released by Israeli naval forces today. The release of the ship is in accordance with an Israeli-Lebanese agreement concerning vessels in distress.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST ASK U.N. FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION OF JERUSALEM

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States has made public here a letter to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and members of the American delegation at the United Nations urging the reopening of the question of the internationalization of Jerusalem. The letter declares:

"We have taken note of the declaration of the Secretary of State Dulles (on June 1, 1953) 'Jerusalem is above all the Holy Place of the Christian, Moslem and Jewish faiths.' We concur with the view of Dulles that 'the world religious community has claims in Jerusalem which take precedent over the political claims of any particular nation.'

"In this connection we recall that our government in the past has supported the recommendation of the General Assembly for the internationalization of Jerusalem. We believe the great majority of the people of our churches would like to see the recommendation put into effect.

"We would welcome such steps as might be taken by you and your colleagues looking toward the renewed discussion of this question by the General Assembly."

GERMANY EXEMPTS JEWISH AGENCY PURCHASES FROM SALES TAX

BONN, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The Ministry of Finance has ruled that deliveries of goods for the account of the Jewish Agency are considered as shipments to a foreign purchaser and therefore not subject to a sales tax.

Orders placed by the Jewish Agency are independent of reparations shipments. For the most part, they are paid for with funds accruing to the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization. Because these funds are in the form of blocked marks rather than in foreign currency, it was heretofore questionable whether Jewish Agency purchases should enjoy the tax benefits applicable to exports.

The Israel purchasing mission has announced in the German press that it will not countenance the employment of agents and brokers in the purchase of German goods under the terms of the reparations pact. The announcement became necessary, because of frequent approaches made to German firms by individuals claiming to be representatives of advisers to the mission.

ANTI-SEMITISM CONDEMNED AT SERVICES IN LONDON'S ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL

LONDON, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- A distinguished congregation, including representatives of Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill, attending a service at St. Paul's Cathedral here to commemorate the Battle for Britain, heard Canon John Collins, Chancellor of the Cathedral, lash out at anti-Semitism in Britain.

Canon Collins insisted that intolerance must be rooted out of Britain's national life, and then proceeded to underline the duty of each man and woman in fighting anti-Semitism. "How many of us are free from this sin?" he queried. "Are there not hundreds of people who whether by silent consent or by positive word of action encourage anti-Semitism?" he continued.

"There are people whom we hear saying today that Hitler was right in one thing, namely his attitude to the Jews. Let us, particularly when we are commemorating a victory over Nazism, be honestly ashamed of ourselves for any such utterances on our part," he declared.

JEWS TO GET LEGAL AID FOR FILING GERMAN INDEMNIFICATION CLAIMS

NEW YORK, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany announced today that it is discussing with the United Restitution Office arrangements for legal assistance, in filing claims under the German Federal Indemnification Law, to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution unable to afford private counsel.

The Conference will publish, in the near future, the location of offices throughout the world which will supply information to assist claimants in drawing up their claims. Claims should be filed on official forms, which are not yet available. When these have been released by the German Government, the Conference will announce where they can be obtained.

In order to assure ample time for the filing of these claims, the Law provides a period of two years for their submission to the government. The deadline is October 1, 1955. The Indemnification Law was passed by the German Parliament this summer, in keeping with an agreement between the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and the Federal Republic of Germany.

GREEK JEWS SEEK TO EMIGRATE; J. D. C. OPENS EMIGRATION OFFICE

NEW YORK, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The reopening by the Joint Distribution Committee of its emigration office in Athens was announced here today by Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the JDC. The new office will provide aid to those among Greece's 7,000 Jews who seek new homes abroad.

Resettlement opportunities for Greek Jews look particularly hopeful at this time, Mr. Leavitt declared. He pointed to passage by the U.S. Congress of the 1953 Refugee Relief Act, which authorizes the admission of 209,000 aliens into the United States within the next three years. A special provision in the Act, he noted, permits 17,000 native Greeks to enter the U.S. He added, however, that the regulations which determine how the Act will be administered have not as yet been promulgated.

Mr. Leavitt also announced the appointment of a chief emigration officer to carry out the expanded resettlement program under the supervision of Haim Benrubi of Athens, the JDC's honorary representative in Greece. In charge of the migration program will be Mrs. Lydia Eakenasi, a native of Greece and an expert on migration matters. Last month she participated in a JDC emigration conference in Geneva attended by JDC field workers, U.S. emigration officials and intergovernmental refugee and resettlement specialists.

With funds provided in the U.S. through the United Jewish Appeal, the JDC helps prospective migrants complete the necessary consular formalities, gives advice and counsel and provides other assistance. Approximately 75 percent of all Jews emigrating from Europe are sponsored by the JDC.

TRUMAN TO APPEAR AT CHICAGO CELEBRATION OF JERUSALEM ANNIVERSARY

CHICAGO, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Former President Harry S. Truman will be the guest of honor at a public rally to be held at the Chicago Stadium on Saturday evening, November 28, in celebration of the 3,000th anniversary of the City of Jerusalem. It was announced here today by Judge Henry L. Burman, chairman of the State of Israel Bond Committee of Chicago, which is sponsoring the meeting. The Chicago rally will be Mr. Truman's first appearance at a meeting sponsored by a Jewish group since he became a private citizen.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL ACCEPTS GERMANY'S INVITATION; SENDS PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America today announced that its president, Rabbi Norman Salit, will join a delegation of nine American religious leaders invited by the Bonn Government to visit West Germany. He will be the first rabbi to visit Germany on an official German Government invitation since the pre-Hitler years.

Dr. Salit said he had been assured of complete freedom to visit all parts of West Germany, including West Berlin, and that he hoped it would be possible for him to make a comprehensive survey of the state of religious and communal life of Jews in West Germany. He will be the special guest of the Central Council of German Jews, which will help him plan his itinerary.

U.S. PROFESSOR TO HELP ISRAEL SET UP SEISMOLOGICAL STATIONS

NEW YORK, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Dr. Frank Press, associate professor of geology and seismologist at Columbia University's Lamont Geological Observatory, has been granted a three-month leave of absence to serve as a "one-man technical assistance mission" to Israel. He will leave by plane September 26, it was announced here by the University.

At the request of the Israeli Government and UNESCO, Dr. Press will locate sites, supervise construction, and train personnel for two seismological stations in that country. Each station will have two modern seismographs made available with UNESCO funds. He will work in cooperation with the Research Council of Israel.

MEMORIAL TO JEWISH VICTIMS OF NAZIS DEDICATED IN STOCKHOLM

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- A stone memorial to the victims of Nazi persecution was dedicated today in the Stockholm Jewish cemetery at a ceremony conducted by Chief Rabbi Kurt Wilhelm. The monument was designed by Mrs. R. Hedemann, a sculptress who was herself a refugee.

A monument was this week-end dedicated to the memory of Count Folke Bernadotte, the late Swedish diplomat, to mark his having rescued from death some 15,000 Danish and Norwegian prisoners of the Nazis. The seven-foot tall monument was erected at Kursaa, on the German-Danish border, by an anonymous committee of former concentration camp prisoners.

BELGIAN CITY TO GET OLD PAINTING AS GIFT FOR SAVING JEWS

NEW YORK, Sept. 21. (JTA) -- Harry Torczyner, American Zionist leader, left the U.S. today for Belgium to present to the municipality of Antwerp a 17th century Flemish painting of an Antwerp landscape, discovered in Wilmington, Delaware. The presentation will be made on Oct. 1st at a ceremony at Antwerp City Hall in the presence of the Mayor, members of the City Council and local Jewish community leaders.

Mr. Torczyner will give the painting to the Belgian city in the name of his father, Numa, in appreciation of the aid given by Belgians during World War II to Jews hidden from Nazis during the German occupation of the country.