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U.S. IS ASKED TO HEAR ISRAEL'S SIDE BEFORE FORMULATING POLICY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban today asked Henry A. Byroade, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, to have the United States Government hear Israel's side of the story of Arab-Israel friction before formulating whatever policy America will pursue at the United Nations Security Council. Mr. Eban today made this known after a discussion with Sec. Byroade at the State Department which lasted for one hour and fifteen minutes.

Reporters asked Mr. Eban for comment on reports circulating among official sources here that the United States has temporarily cut off economic aid to Israel as a measure of pressure. Mr. Eban would neither deny nor confirm these reports and said he had "no comment."

Mr. Eban said he discussed with Mr. Byroade security problems in the Near East in the light of the forthcoming discussion at the Security Council. He said he discussed Israel's hope that members of the Security Council would take a "balanced view" of the Arab-Israel situation and understand Israel's "unique position" with exposed frontiers and "tragic loss of life." He noted that 421 persons were killed or wounded by Arab infiltrators in the last few years and that recently there were especially heavy casualty lists. The "tragic and regrettable" frontier developments, said Mr. Eban, resulted from Arab hostility and terrorism affecting every home in Israel.

Israel's Story at U.N. May "Surprise the World"

Mr. Byroade was given notice for the first time that Israel would present through the Security Council the full story of its security position. Mr. Eban said this story would interest and "perhaps surprise the world." He said the story would reveal the "enormous difficulties and tension" of life in Israel since the Palestine war ended. This is the story Mr. Eban wanted the United States Government to consider before formulating its policy at the Security Council.

The Ambassador pointed out that Israel has taken the initiative in advocating interstate cooperation for irrigation and power development involving Israel and the Arab states and that this still was Israel's position. Therefore, said the Ambassador, he regretted press reports alleging his government was opposed to such development projects. He recalled "instance after instance" in which his government urged cooperation with the Arabs and branded as inaccurate a press report which today said Israel refused to give up certain territory in the interest of regional development and progress.

Mr. Eban said Israel's story would be told to the Security Council before the end of the week. He was accompanied by Reuven Shiloah, Israel Minister Plenipotentiary.

U. S. SUSPENDS ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL; NOTIFIES ISRAEL GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- The United States has officially notified Israel that economic assistance for the Jewish State is being suspended, according to government sources. Funds voted Israel by Congress for the fiscal year 1954 were never specifically listed by an exact amount but were estimated to be about \$65,000,000.

The suspension was originally visualized in connection with the canal project near the Israel-Syrian frontier which the State Department viewed as a violation of armistice terms and a threat to peace. Notice of intent in the State Department action was given Israel about two weeks ago, sources here said today.

The question of the canal project was touched upon today by Israel Ambassador Abba Eban in the course of a talk he had in the State Department with Acting Deputy Under Secretary of State Robert Murphy. The Ambassador said he had not discussed the reported American suspension of economic assistance to Israel with Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Eban later told correspondents that Israel would welcome a discussion of the hydroelectric project near the Syrian border and a general discussion of the development of water resources. The project, he said, is not in conflict with any regional plan.

The major part of the talk was devoted to United Nations aspects of the Arab-Israel situation, Mr. Eban revealed. He said he had suggested a "balanced view" which would take into account Israel's views of last week's raid on Jordan as part of a general pattern of events. The "tragic and regrettable event of last week should not be isolated" from other events, the Ambassador declared.

JOHNSTON'S VISIT TO ISRAEL AND ARAB COUNTRIES SUSPENDED

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Eric Johnston, who was sent by President Eisenhower as his personal envoy to the Middle East to attempt to ease Arab-Israel tensions, will visit neither Israel nor the Arab states until the outcome of the current meeting of the U. N. Security Council which today started discussion of the Israel-Arab problem, it was learned here. Mr. Johnston is now in Paris and was due to reach the Middle East tomorrow.

(In Paris, Mr. Johnston today said that he was empowered to conduct "extremely delicate and sensitive negotiations" but that they would not involve the current Israel-Jordan border dispute. He added he saw no reason for him to visit the town of Kibya where the Jordan Government claims 66 persons were killed last week by the Israel Army. "I don't think I should discuss the incident," he said, "it certainly has complicated my problem.")

The Washington correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, leading British newspaper, today cabled to his paper that the State Department was reluctant to get involved in the Arab-Israel dispute before the Security Council but gave way before the insistence of the British Government. The dispatch also reported that some State Department officials are pessimistic about the possibilities of Mr. Johnston's mission to the Arab states and Israel, as President Eisenhower's personal envoy, to bring about regional cooperation in economic and refugee rehabilitation plans.

U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL STARTS SESSION ON ISRAEL-ARAB TENSION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Acting on the joint request of the United States, Britain and France, the United Nations Security Council met this morning in an "urgent session" to consider the increased tension between Israel and the Arab countries.

At the suggestion of Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., head of the American delegation, the Security Council agreed without objection to ask its president, Ambassador William Borberg of Denmark, to request Gen. Vagn Bennike, chief of staff of the UN truce supervision organization in Palestine, to come to New York as soon as possible and appear before the Council. The session then adjourned until tomorrow morning without adopting an agenda.

A lengthy procedural debate took place at today's session following a request by Charles Malik of Lebanon for clarification on exactly what the three Big Powers desired the Security Council to discuss under the heading of "The Palestine Question" as indicated in the proposed agenda.

The Lebanese delegate proposed that the item be worded as follows: "The Palestine question - recent acts of violence committed by Israeli armed forces against Jordan." He said that if this wording were not adopted, he would have to vote against adoption of the agenda and would ask for inscription on the Council's agenda of a new item worded as above. He was supported in this by chief Soviet delegate Andrei Vishinsky.

Western Powers Reject Arab Pressure on Security Council

The lengthy speech by the Lebanese delegate was interpreted as an attempt to either force the Western Powers to include in their letter to the U. N. Security Council a specific complaint against Israel's retaliatory raid on the Jordan village of Kibya, or to filibuster to give Jordan time to bring its own complaint to the Council. At a meeting yesterday the Arab delegations here decided that Jordan should lodge such a complaint.

The Western delegates expressed surprise at Mr. Malik's stand. The French delegate thought that the request of the Lebanese delegate was "exorbitant." He pointed out that the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States had drawn up their letters to the U. N. Security Council in accordance with instructions from their governments and had not sought the advice of the Government of Lebanon or of Dr. Malik. He said that the text before the Council seemed to them clear and appropriate to the issue, and they would refuse to change the text of their letters in any way. If Dr. Malik wished to vote against the agenda, he was free to do so. He could also submit a text of his own, and it would be put to the vote. However, they could not take seriously his suggestions, whether stylistic, philosophical or political, for changes in their text.

Dr. Francisco Urrutia of Colombia proposed adjournment until tomorrow. He said the representative of Lebanon had raised a matter of substance. He would like to think about it and perhaps consult his government. It might be better to limit the agenda item, and not call it "the Palestine question," which could include the question of Jerusalem and result in a wide-ranging debate.

The U. S. representative said it was impossible for the Council to adopt any formulation which would prevent something quite different from being discussed a few weeks from now. What they wanted to do now was to invite Gen. Bennike so that he could be here as soon as possible, added the United States representative. He supported the motion to adjourn until tomorrow.

ISRAEL ENVOY MEETS WITH PRESIDENT OF U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel last night called on Ambassador William Borberg of Denmark, president of the U. N. Security Council, to discuss consideration in the Security Council of the tension between the Arab states and Israel. The head of the Israel delegation has also consulted other delegates to the Security Council.

The Israel delegate pointed out that the incidents of last week are a regrettable culmination of a long series of events marked by a tragic and intolerable loss of Jewish life under armed Jordanian attacks. He pointed out the following facts:

1. Since the declaration in 1950 by Britain, France and the United States guaranteeing order and security in the area, Israel has suffered at the hands of Jordan the following losses and damages: 421 killed and wounded; 128 cases of sabotage; 866 cases of armed attacks and 3,263 cases of robbery. The intensity and violence of these aggressions have been increasing steadily since January, 1953.
2. The results of this brutal guerrilla warfare organized by Jordan against Israel homes and villages have taken a tragic toll on both sides of the frontier, and Israel's efforts in July, 1953, to secure effective intervention of the powers were unfortunately without avail.

"In the light of recent statements, the question whether the powers which have submitted the item to the Security Council feel compunction or sympathy for these Jewish dead, as well as for Arab victims of this frontier tension, is understandably causing concern to the people of Israel," Mr. Eban said, adding that he has received instructions from his government to present the full account of these aggressive measures to the United Nations. "

ISRAEL SENDS NOTE TO UNITED NATIONS ON JORDAN CANAL ISSUE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Simcha Blass, Israel's chief water planning engineer, left last night for New York to confer with Israel Ambassador Abba Eban on the Bnot Yaakov canal project along the Israel-Syrian border about which Syria has complained to the United Nations Security Council, it was announced last night by an official spokesman.

The spokesman added that Israel was dispatching a note to the Security Council, outlining its position in the matter. He revealed that work had not been halted on the canal project, despite the demand of Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike, head of the truce supervision machinery in Palestine, that the Israelis halt the project until they could come to agreement on it with Syria. The decision to continue work on the project was taken at a meeting yesterday of the Israel Cabinet.

The spokesman said that Israel would be happy to participate in a Security Council discussion of the matter. It is expected that the Security Council discussion of the Syrian complaint will take place Thursday. The formal demand for the meeting was made late last week.

NEGEV SETTLEMENT STARTS BUILDING HOME FOR PREMIER BEN GURION

TEL AVIV, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Construction of a home for Premier David Ben Gurion and his family within the settlement of Sdeh Boker in the Negev was begun today.

The four-room house will be constructed of prefabricated wood panels produced in Sweden. His famous library will be housed in a nearby archaeological laboratory. The Sdeh Boker kibbutz met today and officially accepted the Premier as a member so that he could live in the settlement.

U.S. COURT IN GERMANY TO HEAR CLAIM OF JEWISH SLAVE LABORER

HEIDELBERG, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- The United States High Court in Mannheim today accepted jurisdiction in a \$200,000 suit for damages and back pay filed against the IG Farben chemical trust by Private First Class Rudolf Wachsmann, onetime slave laborer at the IG Farben synthetic rubber plant at Monowitz which employed inmates of the Oswiecim concentration camp.

Judge Paul Madden ruled that the court was competent because one party in the action is a member of the Allied forces - Pfc. Wachsmann is a member of the U.S. occupation force in Germany. The judge ordered IG Farben lawyers to submit their reply to Pfc. Wachsmann's original brief within ten days.

The ruling came while the judge was listening to a deposition by Pfc. Wachsmann, whose return to the U.S. has been delayed by his appearance in court. Pfc. Wachsmann testified that, because he was Jewish, he had been arrested in the town of Oppeln, in Upper Silesia, when he was not yet 14 years old. In 1943 he was transferred to the camp at Oswiecim and assigned to the Monowitz plant. He remained there until 1945, was then shipped to Buchenwald and liberated by American troops. He immigrated to the United States under the DP Immigration Act and was drafted into the Army last year.

His mother, father and brother were killed by the Nazis. He himself suffered beatings and tortures, including hanging by the wrists in mid-air, as well as two skull fractures, two broken ribs, a broken arm, and a broken leg. His American attorneys are asking the court to award him \$180,000 in damages, interest, costs and attorneys' fees for permanent impairment of body and mind, and a further \$18,000 in back pay.

ANTI-SEMITISM STILL EFFECTIVE AMONG SOVIET PEOPLE, MESTA REPORTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism "which Stalin had stirred up" in the USSR is still noticeable among the population, according to Perle Mesta, former United States Minister to Luxemburg, who has just returned from an extended visit to the Soviet Union.

Reporting her impressions, Mrs. Mesta says in an article in the New York Herald-Tribune today that during her visit to Kiev, in the Ukraine, she learned that Lavrenti Beria, the number two man in the Soviet Government, had been arrested by Malenkov as a spy. She attempted to interview some people on the street as to what they thought of the development.

Most were too frightened to say anything. Mrs. Mesta writes that this was "far too dangerous a subject to discuss," especially with someone they did not know. But one woman volunteered this defense of Malenkov's action in arresting the number two man of the Kremlin:

"My husband says Beria was nothing but a dirty Jew and they have found him out. Stalin could keep him in line, but after Stalin died they could not keep him in line and they had to do that. They did the right thing."

Mrs. Mesta adds that as far as any responsible people knew, Beria was not a Jew. "But it seems that anti-Semitism which Stalin had stirred up just before he died was now helping to justify the liquidation of Beria," she concluded. She also was told in Kharkov, another large city in the Ukraine, that about one-third of the city's 1,000,000 residents are Jews.

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF MIZRACHI WOMEN OPENS IN ATLANTIC CITY

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- The 28th annual national convention of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America opened here last night, with more than 1,000 delegates from all parts of the country attending.

Eliashev Ben-Horin, attache of the Israel Embassy, told the delegates that the current Arab-Israel crisis stems from the lack of peace in the Middle East and the Arab refusal to discuss any sort of settlement with Israel. "It is my deep conviction," Mr. Ben-Horin said, "that if those among our Western friends who today denounce us with such alacrity had shown a similar concern over the prolonged series of Arab aggressive actions which produced the last regrettable incident, they would have served the cause of Middle East peace far better."

MID-WESTERN JEWISH LEADERS CONFER ON AID TO BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY

DETROIT, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- A decision to authorize immediate construction of five buildings at the American Mizrahi-sponsored Bar-Ilan University in Israel, in addition to the first five which are scheduled to be ready for use next year, was adopted here this week-end at a special conference of Mid-west Jewish leaders called by the Mizrahi Organization of Detroit.

The conference also authorized Dr. Pinkhos Churgin, president of Bar-Ilan, to coordinate the activities of American academicians for Bar-Ilan with the newly-formed British Advisory Committee for Bar-Ilan University and, if possible, to organize them into a single academic advisory committee. The decisions were made after the conferees heard a number of reports, including one by Dr. Churgin.

MEMORY OF VICTIMS KILLED BY NAZIS HONORED IN HAMBURG

HAMBURG, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- A stone shaft honoring the memory of victims of the Nazis was dedicated at the site of the former Neuen Gamme concentration camp, near here, at a ceremony attended by representatives of the Jewish community, Britain, France, Denmark and Norway. Although all German democratic parties were invited to send representatives to the ceremony only the Social Democratic and the Christian Democratic parties accepted the invitation.

The shaft, 23 feet high, is reminiscent in shape of a crematorium chimney. Some 30,000 to 40,000 persons, mostly Jews, were killed and cremated at the camp by the Nazis. The shaft stands on the site where the Nazis dumped the ashes of their victims.

PROF. SIMCHA ASSAF, MEMBER OF ISRAEL'S SUPREME COURT, DIES

JERUSALEM, Oct. 19. (JTA) -- Prof. Simcha Assaf, member of the Israel Supreme Court and a noted rabbinic scholar, died here yesterday at the age of 64. At his bedside yesterday were the members of the court, who interrupted a court session when he took a turn for the worse.

Born in Minsk, Russia, Dr. Assaf was, from 1914 until he settled in Jerusalem in 1922, head of the famous Odessa Yeshiva. When the Hebrew University of Jerusalem opened in 1925 he was appointed a lecturer and later Professor of Talmudic Literature. In 1948 he was one of the original five members appointed to constitute the Israel Supreme Court. He was also a visiting Professor of Jewish History at Yeshiva University in New York.