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SECURITY COUNCIL HEARS ISRAEL'S VIEW ON BIG THREE RESOLUTION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 17. (JTA)—The United Nations Security Council today heard the views of Israel and Syria with regard to the resolution proposed jointly by the United States, Britain and France placing full authority for settlement of the Israel-Syrian dispute over the Jordan River hydroelectric project in the hands of Gen. Vagn Bennike, UN Chief of Staff in Palestine.

Israel Ambassador Abba Eban declared that continuation of work on the project would have a beneficial effect on the entire region. He emphasized that Syria's complaint against this project aims at strangling Israel's vital economic interests.

To deny Syria's complaint would do no harm to any individual in Syria or to Syria's economic development, he said. On the other hand, to uphold the Syrian complaint would mean "deadly prejudice" to Israel's capacity for development and for improvement of its living standards, and would transform the armistice agreement into something never intended, the representative of Israel argued.

Israel had undertaken to keep its armed forces out of the demilitarized zone, and would respect that undertaking, Mr. Eban continued. Israel had not, however, signed any undertaking to renounce the legitimate development projects on which its future depends. He said he was in a position to state that, if it had ever been "hinted or suggested" in 1949 that agreement to demilitarize the area meant renunciation of power and irrigation schemes dependent on that area, Israel would never have signed the agreement.

Jordan River Does Not Flow in Syria, Eban Stresses

Mr. Eban pointed out that the Jordan River was "completely non-Syrian." There was no precedent in the history of international litigation for a "veto," such as Syria sought, over a river that did not touch its borders. He stressed that Syria was asking the United Nations to "reinforce the blockade practices of the Arab League." Having denied Israel power and fuel by boycott, in violation of two Security Council resolutions, the Arab states now wanted the Council to "close the gap in their siege" by denying Israel the use of the waters of the Upper Jordan, which were in Israel's own territory, he said.

The Israel diplomat called the Huleh case a parallel to this one, and said that if Syria's claims had been upheld, the Huleh marshes could not now be undergoing

drainage. He argued that the principles involved in the Huleh case applied to other development schemes as well.

Reviewing the three-power draft resolution, introduced yesterday, Mr. Eban referred to the 1951 resolution relating to the Huleh drainage project, which he said had been interpreted to mean; that development projects should be facilitated, once it was proved that existing rights would not be prejudiced; that Syria's consent was "not indispensable" and that agreement should be sought with the chief of staff and not with the Government of Syria; and that "the doctrine of military advantage is contrary to the armistice agreement" and that it was not essential to maintain "the original condition of topography" of the demilitarized zone.

Mr. Eban denied an allegation yesterday by British delegate Sir Gladwyn Jebb that Israel had "ignored" Gen. Bennaïke's order to suspend work on the Jordan River project. The Israeli diplomat quoted from a letter by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett to the UN truce chief offering temporary suspension of the work. At no stage, Mr. Eban underlined, had there been any difficulty from Israel over a temporary cessation of work.

Eban Hopes for Speedy Resumption of Work on the Project

The chief of the Israel delegation said his government was convinced that the hydroelectric project, so important to Israel, was reconcilable with every legitimate private interest. These interests could be provided for, and he was prepared to give assurance that they would not be adversely affected by the project.

Work on the project had already been delayed for a considerable time, Mr. Eban pointed out, and Israel hoped that the work could speedily be resumed. Ninety days, as the resolution provides, seemed an unduly long time for achievement of a solution, he suggested, but he said that this did not, of course, mean that a solution could not be achieved earlier. What seemed to be "imperfections" in the text of the resolution could be overcome by carrying out the resolution in a spirit of harmony and good will.

The Syrian delegate, Farid Zeineddine, took great pains to draw a distinction between the resolution as presented by the U.S., Britain and France yesterday and the three speeches of the sponsors. He complained of "marked variations" in the stand taken in the speeches of the three sponsors. He sharply attacked the United States, but not by name, for permitting tax-exempt contributions to Zionist funds. The Syrian delegate was called to order by the Council chairman and told to speak on the point in question.

NEED FOR ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE STRESSED IN REPORT TO U.S. CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Gov. Edwin L. Mechem of New Mexico reported to Congress today on behalf of the Foreign Operations Administration that a special committee which studied the Arab refugee problem feels that a substantial start toward its solution can be made now.

"The principles of the united plan for development of the Jordan River appear to be the best forward step in this direction," he said in his report. He was referring to a \$121,000,000 Jordan River TVA scheme which would require the cooperation of Israel, Syria and Jordan. Presidential envoy Eric Johnston was coolly received by the Arabs when he asked them to consider the plan on a recent trip to the Near East. He expects to return in February.

Gov. Mechem, who headed the special three-man FOA commission to study the Arab refugee question, made plain in the report that he feels an economic plan insufficient in itself to solve the problem. "The commission sees no permanent solution to the refugee problem," he said, "until there is a more favorable political atmosphere leading to a workable peace established between the Arab states and Israel."

ARRESTED ARABS ESCAPE FROM OFFICE OF ISRAEL MILITARY GOVERNOR

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Two Arab residents of Nazareth who were arrested in connection with a campaign which the Communist Party is now conducting against continuation of military administration in Israel's Arab-inhabited border districts, escaped from the office of the military governor, it was revealed here today.

The Communists are inciting the Arabs to carry on strikes and demonstrations and to send delegations to the Israel military and police authorities in the district.

Two Israeli soldiers on a routine border patrol near Beit Jibrin were murdered yesterday and their arms stolen, it was announced here today. Israel has demanded an emergency meeting of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission to act on the incident.

U.N. MARKING TIME ON ISRAEL-ARAB ISSUES, SECRETARY GENERAL SAYS

LONDON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Israel's call for a direct meeting between its representatives and those of Jordan, according to the terms of the armistice agreement between the two states, "will undoubtedly be of significance for coming developments," Dag Hammarskjold, UN Secretary General, told a mass rally here today.

Speaking at the meeting sponsored by the United Nations Association of Britain, Mr. Hammarskjold declared that in respect to the Israel-Arab situation, the UN had "marked time" for the past 12 weeks. He said that the Security Council resolution on the Kibya incident had reaffirmed the Council's concern for the general situation in the Near East.

EMPLOYEE OF ISRAEL LEGATION IN BUDAPEST SENTENCED IN HUNGARY

VIENNA, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Judith Steiner, a Hungarian national employed at the Israel legation in Budapest, has been sentenced to four years in prison by a Hungarian court, it was reported here today. Miss Steiner had been employed at the legation for several years before her arrest.

Her arrest was one of ten or twelve to be made among Israel legation employees in Rumania, Poland and Hungary who were nationals of the countries in which the legations were located. At that time one Jewish employee of the Budapest legation attempted to flee the country with his wife. He was shot and killed and she was wounded, subsequently being sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment for attempting to flee the country.

A. Kurnitzer, an Agudas Israel leader in Hungary, went on trial yesterday before a Hungarian military court, the report said, on charges of having "incited Jews to emigrate" from Hungary to Israel.

Jewish Congress Scores Imprisonment of Jews in Hungary

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Hungarian Government's latest secret trial which resulted in long prison terms for Jewish leaders was scored by Dr. David Pategorsky, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, today as part of the "continuing campaign to extirpate the last vestiges of Jewish life and free communal and cultural activity" in Hungary.

38,000 JEWS LEFT ISRAEL SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Approximately 38,000 of the 750,000 Jews who entered Israel since the state was established in 1948 have subsequently left the country, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry announced last night. He said this amounted to a re-emigration rate of about five percent, as compared with a "normal" re-emigration rate of ten to 12 percent for other countries.

The spokesman asserted that the bulk of the people who left Israel came there only to obtain an Israeli passport which would enable them to go to another country. He charged that it was such emigrants who "besmirched" Israel's name and described conditions in the Jewish State in the "blackest colors" in order to justify their leaving and their having "abused the Israel passport hospitality."

U.S. AND ISRAEL INVESTORS OPEN \$4,000,000 PAPER MILL IN HADERA

HADERA, Israel, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The first modern paper mill erected in the Middle East was officially opened today by Acting Prime Minister Moshe Sharett. Constructed at a cost of \$4,000,000, the American-Israeli Paper Mills, Ltd., plant is located on a 22-acre site midway between Tel Aviv and Haifa and can meet all of Israel's paper requirements.

The mill was put up by Joseph M. Mazer, treasurer of the Hudson Pulp and Paper Corporation of New York; the Palestine Economic Corporation of New York, and other American, foreign and Israeli investors.

The mill will produce approximately 15,000 tons of newsprint annually, writing and kraft papers. A number of expert papermakers from the United States, Scotland and Switzerland are working in the mill, training Israelis who will carry on their duties. The mill is expected to save Israel \$1,000,000 annually in foreign currency.

BEN GURION TO DO FIELD WORK FOUR HOURS DAILY AT SDEH BOKER

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Former Israel Premier David Ben Gurion will perform four hours of field work daily, including plowing with the aid of a team of mules, as his share of the work at the settlement of Sdeh Boker to which he has retired, the newspaper Hadar reported here last night.

The rest of the day the former head of the Israel Government will devote to reading and writing, the newspaper said. It reported that Mrs. Ben Gurion, who was a nurse in New York when she met and married Mr. Ben Gurion, has been appointed camp nurse.

NEW ITALIAN MINISTER PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO ISRAEL PRESIDENT

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Count Cappelomaz, the new Italian Minister to Israel, presented his credentials to President Ben Zvi yesterday at the Hotel Galei Kineret in Tiberias where the President is staying during his vacation. There was no official ceremony and the President and the diplomat chatted informally.

ISRAEL-DUTCH TRADE PACT CONCLUDED; HOLLAND TO SHIP HERRING

THE HAGUE, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A cargo of 500 tons of Dutch frozen herrings will shortly be shipped to Israel under the terms of the just-concluded Israel-Netherlands trade pact. The shipment will leave from the Dutch port of Schveningen.

EISENHOWER WILL NOT ASK CONGRESS FOR REVISION OF IMMIGRATION LAW

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower will avoid asking for revision of the McCarran-Walter Act when he presents his State of the Union message to Congress early in January, according to chairman Arthur V. Watkins of a joint Congressional committee studying operation of the Act and others concerned with immigration and naturalization matters.

Sen. Watkins made known that he recommended to the White House that no action should be taken to meet requests for revision of the Act which have come from outstanding groups concerned with human rights and civil liberties.

President Eisenhower met today with Congressional leaders but an announcement from the White House failed to indicate any firm intention to revise the McCarran-Walter measure, revision of which the President asked in his State of the Union message last January. Today's announcement merely promised a "forward-looking, progressive program" of general legislation in all fields. It said "this will be in furtherance of the program we started last year." This program among other things enacted emergency legislation permitting additional immigration in urgent situations.

JEWISH PROFESSOR HONORED BY FRANKFURT UNIVERSITY; IS U.S. CITIZEN

FRANKFURT, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- For outstanding achievements in the cultural sphere, the City of Frankfurt awarded the Goethe Plaque, highest honor it can bestow, to Prof. Max Horkheimer at the conclusion of his two-year term as president of the local university.

A native of Stuttgart and an American citizen, Dr. Horkheimer holds a Chair of Philosophy and at the same time directs the internationally-known Institute for Social Research. He re-established it in 1949, 16 years after he closed its doors upon the advent of Nazism.

He is concerned with Jewish issues, served as senior scientific consultant to the American Jewish Committee during the war and was the principal editor of the famed five-volume series probing into the nature of anti-Semitism, "Studies in Prejudice."

JEW BECOMES PRESIDENT OF BERLIN'S "FREE UNIVERSITY"

BERLIN, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Professor Ernst E. Hirsch was installed here as president of the "Free University" on the fifth anniversary of its founding by students and professors who revolted against the Communist perversion of teaching and research at Berlin University, which is located in the Soviet sector. The Free University is considered one of Germany's best institutions of higher learning.

Prof. Hirsch was born the son of a Jewish storekeeper in the ancient community of Friedberg, near Frankfurt, 51 years ago. He was appointed a lecturer at Frankfurt University in 1929. After Hitler's advent to power he fled to Holland and then to Turkey, where he taught law and the philosophy of law at the universities of Istanbul and Ankara until his return to Berlin in 1949, where he has since occupied the chair for Civil and Commercial Law.

IRE RECOGNIZES STUDY OF HEBREW IN JEWISH SECONDARY SCHOOL

DUBLIN, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Irish Minister for Education has informed the only Jewish secondary school in Eire, Stratford College, that Hebrew has been recognized as one of the language subjects which students may include in their studies. The decision will permit students to carry on their study of Hebrew for two or three more years with official credit.

100 ORGANIZED AMERICAN TOURS TO ISRAEL ANNOUNCED FOR 1954

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- A wide variety of organized tours and "package trips" to and through Israel is proving attractive to American travellers, visiting the country in large or small groups, the Jewish Agency office here reported today.

More than 150 organized tourist groups visited Israel during the first nine months of 1953 and 100 organized American tours to Israel have already been announced for 1954, the report said. These tours, planned by travel agents, tour operators and various organizations, range from half-day independent excursions to elaborate conducted tours lasting several weeks.

"Israel is one of the least expensive countries to visit," the report emphasized. The new rate of exchange brings the finest hotel accommodations and tour facilities within range of the most modest budget. "Israel's desire to attract tourists has led to the construction of many new air-conditioned hotels offering every modern comfort and convenience to visitors from abroad, the report stated.

ISRAEL AIRLINES MAKES FINAL PAYMENT ON LOAN TO AMERICAN BANK

NEW YORK, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The El Al Israel National Airlines today announced payment of the final installment on a \$1,500,000 loan made by the Chase National Bank of New York.

In 1950, El Al arranged with the bank for a loan of \$800,000 in order to modernize its fleet. By the end of the following year half of this amount was paid off and the loan then was increased to \$1,500,000 to complete the modernization program of the airline.

In making the final payment Mr. Dror Galezer, manager of finance for El Al in the United States, paid tribute to the vision and helpful support of the Chase National Bank in making this program possible. He expressed the hope that future expansion programs of his company might continue to benefit from the financial skills and know-how of American banking institutions.

J.N.F. BEGINS PLANTING 4,500,000 SAPLINGS FOR 1954

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund's nurseries in Israel are ready to begin the planting of some 4,500,000 saplings in the 1954 afforestation program, the JNF announced today. The JNF will concentrate on five types of plantings, the announcement said. They are:

1. Afforestation of the hill slopes; 2. Planting of trees in avenues lining the country's highways; 3. Planting of a "green belt" to protect newly developed agricultural areas in the Negev; 4. Planting of trees along river beds in an effort to improve the soil's water-holding ability; and, 5. Planting of sisal trees to provide raw material for cordage manufacture.

ISRAEL MINISTER FLIES TO CHILE TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Arich Kubovy, Israel Minister to Argentina, flew today to Santiago de Chile to present his credentials as Israel Minister to Chile to Chilean President Gen. Ibanez del Campo. During his two-week stay in the capital, Dr. Kubovy will confer with Chilean Jewish leaders.