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CONGRESS MAY OPPOSE PLAN TO SEND U.S. ARMS TO ARAB COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 18. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles may face strong opposition in Congress to his reported plans to send American arms to Iraq and Saudi Arabia over protests on the part of Israel, it was indicated in well-informed circles today.

Israel's concern over these plans was conveyed to Secretary Dulles by Israel Ambassador Abba Eban this week-end in the course of a 45-minute conversation in the State Department. Mr. Eban emphasized that Iraq and Saudi Arabia are technically still at war with the Jewish State and--unlike the other Arab states--have not even concluded an armistice agreement with Israel.

"It would be a most inopportune moment for any action designed to strengthen the military equipment of any member of the Arab League," Mr. Eban was reported to have told Mr. Dulles. He drew the attention of the Secretary of State to the recent statement by the new King of Saudi Arabia suggesting that the Arab nations should sacrifice 10,000,000 of their people "to wipe out Israel."

The Israel Ambassador indicated that Israel is alarmed over American plans to supply arms to the two Arab countries, because arms given to one of the members of the Arab League may be shared among all members under a security pact signed by all Arab countries. He also pointed out to Secretary Dulles that a grant of arms to the Arab states would be at variance with the tripartite declaration of the United States, Britain and France on May 25, 1950 according to which the Big Powers would seek to prevent an arms race among Israel and the Arab states.

(The New York Times today reported from Washington that American officials dealing with the requests for grants of military aid from Iraq and Saudi Arabia expect top level decisions this month. However, they admit that objections raised by other nations and the ensuing political complications make the future uncertain.)

A warning against giving American arms to Arab states was voiced this week-end by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver addressing 600 Zionist leaders in Boston at a dinner tendered in his honor. He stated that United States arms sent to the Arab nations would be used against Israel instead of defending democracy and fighting Communist aggression. "The Arab rulers would not fight the Soviet any more than they fought the Nazis," he said.

STRIKE OF MUNICIPAL WORKERS IN JERUSALEM ENTERS 25TH DAY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- As the strike of the municipal workers in Jerusalem continues through its fourth week, the Jerusalem municipality decided this week-end to ask the Israel Government to hold elections for a new municipal council within the shortest time possible.

The strike, in its 25th day today, broke out over the city's failure to meet its payroll. The city treasury is empty and besides owing its workers wages, it is faced with a threat by the utilities companies to cut off water and electricity because of failure to meet their bills. The sanitation problem is becoming intense since garbage collectors are among the strikers.

EGYPT "EXPLAINS" HER INTENSIFIED BLOCKADE AGAINST ISRAEL

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The Egyptian Official Gazette, which has published a decree proclaiming Israel food shipments contraband and subject to seizure in Egyptian waters, published an "Explanatory Memorandum" alongside the decree, it was reported here today in a dispatch from Cairo.

The "explanation" reveals that the Arab states boycott committee has asked the Egyptian Government to pass legislation designed to tighten the anti-Israel blockade in Egyptian waters by confiscating food shipments and the vessels in which they are being transported to Israel, just as is done by other Arab states. At the same time, the "Explanatory Memorandum" points out, the director of the Coastal Guard Department has informed the government that Israel economic activity in relation to South and East Africa is increasing.

The memorandum also notes that modern wars are characterized by total economic mobilization so that it has become difficult to distinguish between fighting forces and civilian populations and between supplies for one or the other. Therefore, it continues, it has become customary to regard all imports of a "belligerent state as war contraband" and consequently "Egypt has to take sterner measures to attain the desired end."

AMERICAN-ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO EXPAND ACTIVITIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The setting up of an office of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Israel and plans for the opening of branches of the Chamber throughout the United States were announced here this week-end by Nathan Strauss III, president of the Chamber, at the first of a series of regular and informal luncheon meetings of members of the organization.

Jacques Torcsyner, a member of the Chamber's board of directors, reporting on his recent visit to Israel, forecast liberalization of the Israel economy, including steps to abolish foreign currency controls. He asserted that the re-formation of the coalition government in Israel, with the Mapai and the General Zionists as major partners, was based on a continuation and stepping-up of the policy of economic freedom and encouragement of private enterprise and private investment.

Mr. Torcsyner called upon American businessmen to become more aware of Israel's economic potentialities, and urged the Chamber to take the lead in promoting investment in and tourism to Israel. B. Rosen, a member of the Tel Aviv Chamber of Commerce, spoke of Israel's progress in foreign trade and described the new Haifa port installations. N. Lipshitz, president of the Jerusalem Manufacturers' Association, was a guest at the luncheon.

NEW BECOMES ACTING PRESIDENT OF GERMANY'S SUPREME TRIBUNAL

BONN, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Rudolf Katz, a Jew who spent the war years in the United States, has become Acting President of the Supreme Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe, West Germany's highest tribunal, following the death of Chief Justice Hermann Hoepker-Aschoff.

Until a new Chief Justice is chosen by the German Parliament--and that may not be for some time--Dr. Katz will be the top jurist of a court which has been invested with more authority than any other in the history of Germany.

Dr. Katz, who is 59, was born at Falkenberg, Pomerania, in a family which gave a number of rabbis to German Jewry. Since his return to Germany six years ago, however, he has taken no interest in Jewish affairs and has not affiliated himself with the Jewish community.

In pre-Hitler Germany, Dr. Katz was a Social Democratic leader and fled when the Nazis came to power. In the United States, where he lived from 1935 to 1946, Dr. Katz was editor of the German-language Socialist newspaper "Neue Volkszeitung." He returned to Germany in 1947 to become Minister of Justice in Schleswig-Holstein and in 1950 was elected vice-president of the Supreme Court.

BOARD OF JEWISH DEPUTIES MEETS IN MANCHESTER FOR FIRST TIME

MANCHESTER, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- For the first time in its almost 200-year existence, the Board of Deputies of British Jews today held a meeting outside London. It met here on the invitation of Manchester Mayor Abraham Moss, an active member of the Board for 30 years and one of its two vice-presidents. Last night, Mayor Moss gave a reception at City Hall to mark the Board's first meeting in this city, and some 600 representatives of Jewish organizations, the Board and of synagogues, attended.

Speaking at the meeting today, Barnett Janner, M.P., and representative of the Board to the Jewish Claims Conference, reported on the Austrian Government's stubborn resistance to a compromise solution on Jewish claims against Austria. He asserted that it was "deplorable" that Austria which is seeking its own political freedom should fail to give consideration to the "rightful demands" of world Jewish groups. He expressed the hope that when Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab visits London soon, it will be brought to his attention that his government's attitude toward Jewish claims is not consistent with its own claim for independence.

In reply to questions, Dr. Abraham Cohen, president of the Board, explained that the Board had not asked the British Government to protest to Egypt over the arrest and trial of eight Egyptian Jews on charges of carrying on Zionist and Communist activities. He said because of the present poor relations between the British and Egyptian Governments, the Board felt a protest through the British Government might be more harmful than helpful. He added that the Board would ask other Jewish communities to ask their governments to appeal to the Egyptians in behalf of the Zionists.

CONSERVATIVE PARTY IN ENGLAND AGAINST BAN ON JEWS IN CLUBS

LONDON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Sir Stephen Pierssens, director general of the central office of the Conservative Party of Britain, this week-end spoke out against the exclusion of Jews from membership in the Conservative Club of St. Anne's, a British resort town. The club has admitted that it refuses to accept Jews as members.

Sir Stephen declared: "The Conservative Party has always set its face strongly against religious discrimination in any form and will continue to discourage any such tendency. The Conservative Clubs, however, are independent bodies over which party headquarters has no control."

JEWS CONGRESS SUBMITS PLAN ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A plan aimed at breaking the deadlock which threatens acceptance of the international covenant on human rights is outlined in a memorandum submitted by the World Jewish Congress this week-end to the United Nations Secretary General here.

The WJC proposal suggests that the most effective way to achieve speedier international action on human rights would be for the UN's Commission on Human Rights to select a specific right, draft it in a covenant form, and present it to the nations of the world for approval and implementation. Once the first has been adopted, a second document dealing with another right could be prepared.

"Covenants dealing each with a single basic human right, recognized by practically all civilized nations as part of their own bill of rights, have much better chances to be widely accepted than an over-all instrument," the memorandum declares.

The principal significance of an international covenant, the proposal continues, "lies in its international implementation. However, the more comprehensive such a document is, the less its implementation on this level is likely to be accepted by a large number of states."

To achieve more effective implementation of any human rights covenants, the WJC also proposed in its memorandum to the UN that responsible non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council be permitted to call the attention of the Human Rights Committee to violations of human rights and/or the Committee be authorized to initiate proceedings on its own motion. According to the provisions of the present Draft Covenant, the only way in which a violation may be brought to the attention of the Committee is through a state which is party to the Covenant.

In a second memorandum to the UN, the World Jewish Congress urged the UN's Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, now meeting in New York, to give priority to a study of discrimination in immigration and travel which impedes friendly relations among nations.

EISENHOWER LAUDED FOR STAND ON MEASURE AFFECTING HUMAN RIGHTS PACT

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Major national and local Jewish organizations today commended President Eisenhower on his reiteration at a press conference of his opposition to the Bricker amendment and pledged their "continuing support" of his stand on "this grave issue." The proposed amendment would in effect prevent the United States from entering into any treaty affecting human rights and would doom such efforts as the Genocide Convention and the proposed Covenant on Human Rights.

The American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, United Synagogue of America, and 30 regional state and local Jewish councils affiliated with the National Community Relations Advisory Council wrote to the President to that effect.

JEWS FEDERATION HONORS BISHOP; GIVES HIM GOLD AWARD

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A gold achievement award for his national television program "Life is Worth Living" was presented to Bishop Fulton J. Sheen in absentia yesterday by the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES MEETS WITH RELIGIOUS GROUPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Members of the House Un-American Activities Committee this week-end conferred with Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders "to receive constructive criticisms and suggestions," it was revealed afterwards by Rep. Harold H. Velde, chairman of the Committee.

The Jews present at the meeting in a Washington hotel were Rabbi Morris Kertser of the American Jewish Committee and Edward J. Lucas, chief counsel of the American Jewish Committee. Rep. Velde said that the leaders had suggested changes in his committee's investigating methods, and pledged that the proposals would be given early consideration.

UNIVERSITY BARS FRATERNITY MOVE TO LEARN STUDENTS' RELIGION

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 17. (JTA) -- A move by fraternities at Brown University to learn the religious affiliation of students before they are "rushed" for membership has been blocked by Dean of Students Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney. The fraternities claim they want to "avoid embarrassment" for students who might be invited to join fraternities which would bar them upon learning their religions.

Dr. Keeney, ordering the Brown Christian Association not to make its records of religious affiliation of students available to the Inter-Fraternity Council, declared that opening the records would be a "violation of confidence." He also pointed out that the University charter bans religious tests for students or faculty members and such questions are not asked until after admission to the college and are meant for the use of religious groups only.

FORMER STATE DEPT. EXPERT ON ISRAEL JOINS C. J. F. W. F. STAFF

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Alfred D. Morgan, former United States Department of State economic officer for Israel and the Middle East, will serve as consultant for special overseas studies by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, it was announced today by Julian Freeman, president.

Dr. Morgan will continue the Council's overseas studies of programs directly related to the use of American Jewish philanthropic funds. The studies will include philanthropic activities and programs in Europe, North Africa and Israel and will focus on economy and effectiveness of operation. Economic studies which were undertaken prior to Dr. Morgan's appointment will be continued by him, serving the Council on a part-time basis.

As former Economic Officer for the Middle East, and Economic Advisor on programs relating to Israel in the Technical Cooperation Administration and in the Foreign Operations Administration of the United States Government, Dr. Morgan assessed Israel's economic needs and implementation of the United States Point Four program in that country. In 1952, he served as Executive Assistant of the special U.S. Financial Mission to Israel, sent by the State Department to study Israel's economic problems at first-hand. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University, where he also taught economics.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY DEDICATES GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS

WALTHAM, Mass., Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Brandeis University's new Graduate School of Arts and Sciences was dedicated this week-end at a two-day convocation attended by representatives of 150 colleges and learned societies. Among the speakers at the opening exercises were Gov. Christian Herter of Massachusetts, Dr. Abram L. Sachar, president of the University, Dr. Max Lerner, chairman of the new school, and George Alpert, chairman of the University's board of trustees.

PIATIGORSKY RECOVERS HIS STRADIVARIUS CELLO LOOTED BY NAZIS

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Baroness Germaine de Rothschild arrived in New York this week-end with an extraordinary gift for her son-in-law, world famous cellist Gregor Piatigorsky-- a Stradivarius cello which was looted by the Nazis from her home in Paris in 1942.

The instrument, which has a label attesting to its manufacture in 1712, was bought and presented to Mr. Piatigorsky in 1927 by a group of music lovers in Berlin. He left it in Paris with the Rothschild family when he came to the United States in 1939.

The instrument was purchased in Aachen, Germany, by a violin dealer named Mathias Niessen. He paid the sum of \$200 for it. After satisfying himself that Mr. Piatigorsky, who no longer had the documents proving ownership, had actually been the owner, Mr. Niessen turned the cello over to the Baroness, as Mr. Piatigorsky's agent, for the \$200 he had paid plus a few dollars for the repairs he had made on the instrument.

Mr. Piatigorsky, who has recently been playing on another Stradivarius cello, was extremely happy to recover the first one. He indicated, however, that he may present it to a talented young artist. The value of the recovered cello is estimated at \$50,000.

AMERICAN J. N. F. LEADERS REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- The "back-to-the-land" movement in Israel has assumed great proportions, drawing many Jews from the city to agricultural settlements in all parts of the country, Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, reported to the JNF board of directors this week-end following his return from Israel. He said that the budget adopted in Jerusalem by the JNF for the forthcoming year amounted to \$20,000,000, of which the largest part is to be derived from JNF collections, particularly in the United States.

Mendel Fisher, executive director of the American JNF, submitting a financial statement to the board for the last quarter of the year, pointed out that the proceeds showed an increase of \$150,000 over the corresponding period of last year, and that the income during the months of December was the highest of any single month in years. Dr. Samuel Margoshes reported to the board on the general situation in Israel. All three JNF leaders attended the recent session of the Zionist Actions Committee in Jerusalem where the JNF budget for the current year was approved.

GROUP OF AMERICAN JEWISH PUBLISHERS TO VISIT ISRAEL

DETROIT, Jan. 17. (JTA) -- Six representatives of the American Association of English-Jewish Newspapers will leave next week for a three-week tour of Israel to study current conditions there, it was announced here today by Philip Slomovits, president of the Association.

Those in the party will include the following editors and publishers: Morris Janoff, Jewish Standard, Jersey City, N.J.; Leo L. Frisch, American Jewish World, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.; Albert Golomb, American Jewish Outlook, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Fred Shochet, Jewish Floridian, Miami, Fla.; Isadore Moscovitz, Southern Jewish Weekly, Jacksonville, Fla. The flight will be made on El Al Israel Airlines.