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MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SEEK TO BLOCK SENDING OF U.S. ARMS TO ARABS

WASHINGTON, March 7. (JTA) -- Members of Congress, representing both parties, today issued a statement revealing that they had held a meeting with officials of the State Department from whom they sought assurances that the U.S. Government would not supply arms to the Arab states as long as their rulers refuse to make peace with Israel.

The statement does not indicate whether the desired assurances were secured. From diplomatic sources it was learned that Acting Secretary of State Walter Bedell Smith and Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade argued that American arms aid for Arab states is necessary for the "security" of the area. (The New York Times reported today that the two high officials of the State Department told the Congressmen that only "token" deliveries of arms have been considered.)

In their statement today, the Congressmen made it known that they expressed "concern over published reports that our government is proposing to use the military aid appropriated for the Near East under the Mutual Security Act in part to give arms and other military aid to individual Arab states."

"We expressed the fear," said the Congressmen, "that such proposals may undermine rather than strengthen our defenses in this area. Furthermore, we pointed out that the Arab states show no desire to make peace with Israel, and there is every reason to fear, in view of mounting tension in the Middle East recently, that our arms may be used not to defend the Middle East against Communism, but for a renewal of warfare against Israel and even against some of our NATO allies who have interests in this region."

"The guns we give to the Arabs may be used not to advance the security of the area, not to promote peace and security, but to attack our own essential interests. At this time there is no dependable assurance to the contrary," the Congressmen emphasized.

Want U.S. to be Firm on Egypt's Blockade Against Israel

The members of Congress also sought reassurance "that the Administration would maintain a firm position" the current discussions in the Security Council designed to bring an end to the illegal Egyptian blockade of the Suez Canal and that the United States would take the position that whatever resolution is adopted on this subject by the Security Council should be implemented and enforced."

Favoring a continuation of economic aid for the area, including the Arab states, the Congressmen expressed belief that the best way to strengthen the area against Communist subversion is to continue efforts to raise the depressed living standards

of the Arab people. "Most of all," said the Congressmen, "they need more bread and more land, not more guns."

Those in attendance at the meeting with State Department officials were Senators Paul H. Douglas, Ill., Irving M. Ives, N. Y., and Herbert H. Lehman, N. Y., and Representatives Emanuel Celler, N. Y., Albert W. Cretella, Conn., Isidore Dolinger, N. Y., Sidney A. Fine, N. Y., Samuel N. Friedel, Md., Louis B. Heller, N. Y., Lester Holtzman, N. Y.; Charles R. Howell, N. J., Jacob K. Javits, N. Y., Robert W. Kean, N. J., Kenneth B. Keating, N. Y., Edna F. Kelly, N. Y., Eugene J. Keough, N. Y., Arthur G. Klein, N. Y., Albert P. Morano, Conn., Abraham J. Multer, N. Y.; Harold C. Ostertag, N. Y., Hugh Scott, Pa., and Horace Seely-Brown, Jr., Conn.

NEW SYRIAN PREMIER ATTACKS ISRAEL; SCORES U. S. AID POLICY

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- Premier Sabry el-Assaly of the less-than-a-week old Syrian Government bitterly attacked the United States and Israel in his first interview since his coming to power, the New York Times reports from Damascus.

"I am not revealing a secret," the Premier said, "if I say that flooding Israel with American aid will not be viewed with satisfaction either by the governments or Arab peoples. Furthermore, the conscience of the Arab world at least is convinced that in the judgment of history and civilized nations the United States bears the major responsibility for the Palestine catastrophe and its consequences."

Referring to a United States proposal for a "Tennessee Valley Authority" project in the Syria-Jordan-Israel area, he stated: "I do not believe it can be discussed separately because it constitutes only a secondary part in a total human disaster. The policy of the Syrian governments toward Israel has never changed because it has been inspired by bitter realities. Israel was established on the dead bodies and disasters to Palestine Arab people. All Arab governments and peoples still consider that injustices inflicted upon them as a result of this catastrophe should be removed sooner or later."

Asked whether Syria would fight if Israel persisted in her project to divert the Jordan River in the demilitarized zone, Premier el-Assaly declared: "Israeli aggressions will be countered with all the strength at our command. The attempt of Israel to seize Jordan waters will meet the same fate."

THERE WILL BE NO NEW ARAB-ISRAEL WAR, TRYGVE LIE PREDICTS

CHICAGO, March 7. (JTA) -- Trygve Lie, former Secretary General of the United Nations, said here that he feels there will be no new war between the Arab states and Israel because the Arabs realize they have nothing to gain.

Mr. Lie predicted that border friction and political dissension would continue for a long time. He said that another reason why he didn't think war would develop was because Israel has control of "hot-headed extremists" who favor aggression.

ISRAEL PURCHASES 100,000 TONS OF CRUDE OIL FROM SOVIET RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, March 7. (JTA) -- Israel has purchased 100,000 tons of crude oil from the Soviet Union and has an option to buy another 100,000 tons, under an agreement signed in Moscow, it was announced here this week-end. The agreement is an outgrowth of the barter arrangement under which the Soviet Union exchanged crude oil for Israeli citrus products.

Samples for refining tests will begin to arrive in Israel within ten days, the announcement said. However, the bulk of the shipment will be loaded in Black Sea ports in July and thereafter. Israel uses about 1,000,000 tons of crude oil annually.

GERMANY REBURIES EXECUTED NAZIS; PROTESTS VOICED IN BRITAIN

LONDON, March 7. (JTA) -- Six Labor Members of Parliament have introduced a motion in the House of Commons attacking the German reburial of some 90 convicted and executed Nazi war criminals responsible for the murder of thousands of inmates of the Belsen and other concentration camps. British occupation authorities refused to interfere with German authorities who moved the bodies from a mass grave to individual plots in the city cemetery, after a campaign by neo-Nazi elements in Hamelin, Lower Saxony.

Thirty of the 90 bodies of the executed Nazi war criminals have already been moved from a common mass grave near Hamelin and reinterred in the city's cemetery. The remaining bodies will be moved later. Among those reburied are Joseph Kramer, named the "Beast of Belsen" by inmates of the notorious death camp, and Irma Grese, who hounded women prisoners at Belsen.

The World Jewish Congress issued a statement signed by its political secretary, A. L. Easterman, severely criticizing the reburial of the "Beast of Belsen," who starved, beat and burned to death tens of thousands of Jewish and other camp inmates while he commanded the prison, as well as the other Nazi criminals. Mr. Easterman called the reburial an "act of brazen defiance of the moral principles cherished by decent people everywhere." He emphasized that it was "all the more shocking since it was ordered by a Ministry of Justice (German) and paid for by a Ministry of Finance (German) out of public funds."

"The action of the German authorities mocks the memory of Hitler's countless murdered victims," he continued. "The posthumous whitewashing of Nazi killers cast the gravest of doubts on repeated German official professions that the new Germany has purged itself of its past and must call into serious question Germany's worthiness of place among the society of nations governed by the principle that evil shall not prevail."

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT CALLS POPULATION TO FIGHT ZIONISM

LONDON, March 7. (JTA) -- Indications that the present Czech regime does not intend to relent on its anti-Zionist campaign was given yesterday by Czechoslovak President Antonin Zapotocky in two speeches in Prague marking the 36th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet army and the sixth anniversary of the 1948 "victory" of the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia.

The Prague radio quoted President Zapotocky as stating that the Communist party's policy to face its problems was the reason it was able to "settle accounts with all vestigates of Slanskyism." (Rudolf Slansky was executed after his conviction of a number of charges including participation in alleged Zionist anti-state activities.) The President also called for a continued fight against Zionism, social democracy, Masarykism and bourgeois nationalism.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS CONDEMNS ARREST OF JEWS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- The report that Czechoslovak Communist police have arrested 23 Jews in Pilsen for "forbidden contact with Jewish organizations in the West" will be viewed by Jews throughout the world with the gravest apprehension. Shad Polier, chairman of the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress, said in a statement issued here today.

Mr. Polier added that this campaign of slander and incitement on the part of the Czech authorities against Jews, which had abated for a time, "appears to have been resumed with the usual apparatus of baseless accusations and naked lies." The latest use of anti-Semitism as an instrument of state policy, he said, is a revolting spectacle from which all decent men must recoil with horror.

REVISIONISTS ASK SOVIET LANDS TO PERMIT EMIGRATION OF JEWS

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- A resolution appealing to the Soviet Union and the Communist governments of Eastern Europe to permit the emigration of 3,000,000 Jews from their territories to Israel was adopted here last night at the opening session of the national conference of the United Zionists-Revisionists of America. A second resolution urged the United States Government to give maximum assistance and support to Israel.

The resolutions were adopted following an address by Beinish Epstein, chairman of the political committee of the organization, who called for the Jewish people to launch a widespread campaign demanding that the Soviet Union "let our people go." He charged that the Jews in Eastern Europe are being "annihilated spiritually and physically."

Dr. Joseph Schechtman, chairman of the Revisionist-Herut world party council, charged that the Government of Israel is now directing not only state policy but "Zionist policy as a whole. This absurd and harmful situation has resulted in the weakening and frustrating of the Zionist Organization, and has, by the same token, deprived Israel of a powerful and dynamic force," he added.

Speaking in the name of his party, Dr. Schechtman demanded the "restoration of Zionism's political sovereignty and the establishment of an independent Zionist political department."

GOVERNMENTS URGED TO REPORT ON THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS ACHIEVEMENTS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 7. (JTA) -- Two draft articles calling on member governments to report on progress made in achieving human rights were adopted this week-end by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The United States and 13 other countries voted for the articles, although the U. S. delegation has said previously that it will not sign the two covenants on human rights.

Earlier, Miss Toni Sender of the International Confederation of Trade Unions, was joined by Saul E. Jofes, of the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, in her advocacy of the right of petition and the right of non-governmental bodies and organizations and individuals to send communications to the Economic and Social Council on fulfillment of obligations under the two covenants. The latter proposal was put forward by the delegation of Uruguay and was later withdrawn temporarily.

U. N. BODY GETS REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL AID FOR CHILDREN IN ISRAEL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 7. (JTA) -- Long-term results of the aid given to Israel by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund are reviewed in a report prepared for the UNICEF executive board by Mrs. Zena Harman, member of the Israel delegation to the UN.

The report says that 80,000 children were receiving school milk under local programs stimulated by UNICEF supplies but no longer receive any UNICEF aid. Mrs. Harman also describes a rehabilitation center established at Sarafand with UNICEF help. The 1951 poliomyelitis epidemic in Israel had been followed by 50 to 60 new cases monthly to the present, she said. And today some 1,400 child victims urgently need rehabilitation. The Sarafand center was caring for 120 child patients daily, offering physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, gymnastics and fitting with orthopedic appliances for which raw material was provided by UNICEF.

U. S. JEWISH EXPERT GOES TO GERMANY TO CONFER ON ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- Dr. S. Andhil Fineberg, community service director of the American Jewish Committee, sailed yesterday for a three-month visit to West Germany during which he will participate in workshops with German clergymen and editors on combatting anti-Semitism in Frankfurt, Munich, Karlsruhe, Stuttgart, Berlin and Weisbaden. Dr. Fineberg is making the trip under the auspices of the State Department.

TWO-DAY LABOR PARLEY PLEDGES MAXIMUM AID TO UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

CHICAGO, March 7. (JTA) -- Maximum aid to the United Jewish Appeal was pledged here today by 600 delegates from 50 communities at the closing session of the two-day Mid-Western Conference of the Labor Council of the UJA, representing the Labor Zionist Organization of America, the Farband and the Pioneer Women. Principal speakers at the conference were Zaiman Shazar and Eliahu Dobkin, Israeli members of the Jewish Agency executive.

Mr. Shazar, a former Minister of Education in Israel, told the delegates that "there are still hungry immigrants in Israel" because not enough funds are available to carry out urgently needed programs of immigrant rehabilitation settlement and integration. "Although Israel is making steady progress in its effort to achieve economic stability and independence," he said, "there are still more than 85,000 men, women and children who are living under primitive conditions because every available dollar has been going for increases in the means of production."

"The increase in productivity," he continued, "has been made at the expense of social services. Lack of funds has prevented us from caring in the proper way for the unemployed and their children and for many social cases who have found shelter in Israel during recent years."

475,000 Persons Depend on U.J.A. Aid, Dobkin Reports

Mr. Dobkin urged the assembled leaders to expend every effort to make 1954 a year of strengthening for the people of Israel and for distressed Jews throughout the free world. "More than 475,000 men, women and children throughout the free world are depending upon the UJA for life-saving aid in the coming year. I am sure you will carry forth the sense of great urgency and stir American Jewry to provide the funds to aid the people of Israel," he stated.

Louis Segal, American member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, told the conference that Israel's drive toward economic stability has brought "positive and encouraging results." "These gains," he declared, "provide us with the hope that we are on the right path in our campaign to achieve full economic independence."

Simcha Pratt, Israel consul in Chicago, said that increased aid and tighter security methods must be put into effect immediately if the State of Israel is to successfully complete her valiant struggle toward her goal of economic freedom and independence: "At this critical moment when the people of Israel desperately need our help for their survival, it is the duty of each and every one of us to join forces in a supreme effort and assure them that we do not intend to let them stand alone in their struggle," he said.

Other speakers at the conference included Dr. James G. Heller, chairman of the Labor Council, Dr. Sara Feder, president of the Pioneer Women, and Samuel Goldsmith, executive director of the Combined Jewish Appeal of Chicago, who welcomed the delegates to the city.

ISRAEL CABINET MEMBER GOES TO SOUTH AMERICA FOR BOND DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- "Regardless of any problems in the Middle East--political or otherwise--the people of Israel realize that their paramount problem is an economic one," Dr. Joseph Burg, Minister of Post, Telephones and Telegraph of the State of Israel, stated today at Idlewild Airport on his departure for South America, where he will spend a month participating in the Israel Bond drive.

Dr. Burg arrived in this country last Friday morning from Israel en route to Latin American countries where he will inaugurate campaigns for State of Israel Bonds.

EISENHOWER RECEIVES JEWISH TRICENTENARY DELEGATION AT WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, March 7. (JTA) -- A delegation of leaders of the committee to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Jewish settlement in this country was received by President Eisenhower at the White House this week-end.

The delegation, led by Ralph E. Samuel, chairman of the American Jewish Tercentenary Committee, invited the President to the official opening of the tercentenary celebration. Mr. Eisenhower explained, however, that it was too early at this time for him to make a definite commitment although he appreciated the invitation.

The delegation presented President Eisenhower with a silver medal which was struck 50 years ago on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of Jewish settlement in America. In addition to Mr. Samuel, the delegation included Jacob Blaustein, Dr. Samuel Belkin, Adolph Held, Simon Sobeloff, Irving Kane, Bernard Trager, Joseph Willen, Prof. Horace Kallen, Mrs. Irving Engel and others.

SEN. LEHMAN HONORED FOR "COURAGE AND INTEGRITY"; RECEIVES AWARD

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- Senator Herbert H. Lehman received the first John Dewey Award, presented by the New York Teachers Guild yesterday in memory of the late educator and philosopher for the Senator's "demonstrated courage and integrity."

Sen. Lehman, addressing the Teachers Guild luncheon at which the presentation was made, criticized President Eisenhower for giving Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy a "slap on the wrist" and surrendering to "appeasement and compromise" in dealing with Sen. McCarthy.

ISRAEL ENVOY LAUDS COLOMBIA'S FRIENDSHIP FOR JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, March 7. (JTA) -- Moshe Tov, Israel Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and member of the Israel delegation to the United Nations, today hailed the "deep interest in and friendly attitude towards the State of Israel" displayed by Colombian official quarters as well as by its public and press.

He made his statement upon his return from Bogota, where he was received by President General Pinnillias to whom he also presented his credentials as Ambassador on a special mission. During his one week's stay at Bogota, Mr. Tov conferred with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other high officials, as well as with members of the Jewish community.

MEMORY OF FIGHTERS OF JEWISH BRIGADE HONORED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 7. (JTA) -- A party of distinguished Israeli leaders, headed by President Ben Zvi, and members of the diplomatic corps today participated in a ceremony at which the first trees were planted in "Battalions Wood" at Avichall in memory of the Jews who died fighting in the Jewish Brigade, which was commanded by British General Allenby in World War I. A "Battalions House," which will house the Israeli military academy, will also be built on the site.

JACOB SEGAL, NOTED YIDDISH POET, DIES IN MONTREAL; WAS 58

MONTREAL, March 7. (JTA) -- Jacob I. Segal, noted Jewish poet, died here this morning. He was 58 years old. The funeral will be held tomorrow.

Born in Russia in 1896, Mr. Segal came to the United States in 1923 and shortly thereafter went to Montreal where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a member of the staff of the Montreal Jewish Eagle, composed and published many volumes of Yiddish poetry and several years ago received the Louis LaMed award for his writings.