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## JORDANIANS MURDER ELEVEN ISRAELIS IN NEGEV AMBUSH; ATTACK BUS

TEL AVIV, March 17. (JTA) -- Eleven Israelis, including several women and children, were murdered by Jordanian infiltrators today in an ambush on the Eilat-Beersheba road. Four persons--including two soldiers, one girl and a woman--escaped unharmed by pretending to be dead.

The massacre, the worst since the end of the open phase of the Arab state's invasion of Israel, was described by a military spokesman here as the "most serious" incident since the establishment of the State of Israel. The ambush, carried out by khaki clad, red-belted Arabs using submachine guns, took place between the Scorpion Pass and the Great Crater in the Negev, not far from the Jordan frontier.

The bus had set out from Eilat this morning, bound for Tel Aviv. Several hours later, the bus stopped to give the passengers a brief rest and the entire party walked around watching or photographing the hilly, desert scenery near the Geraffi Wadi. A few minutes later all returned to the bus and the vehicle began climbing the dangerous pass.

Shortly after the climb began, automatic weapons opened fire. The bus driver was killed in the first burst of submachinegun slugs and the bus came to a halt. With the bus an easy target, the Arabs intensified their fire, killing all except the four. There were four soldiers aboard the bus as a guard unit, but they apparently were unable to bring their weapons into play before the massacre was completed. The survivors described the attackers and noted that they all wore red belts with knives in them.

An Army command car, which passed the scene afterwards, was the first Israeli party on the scene. They took the woman, two soldiers and the girl, who is the daughter of the bus driver, to Beersheba. The bus driver's name was Anane Kalman Efroni. His wife was also a victim.

## U. N. Observer Arrives on Scene; Investigation Starts Today

As they left the scene of horror, the occupants of the command car noticed that an ambulance was approaching the area. They did not wait to find out who had called for it. Also, it was later learned, a Swedish United Nations observer was the first man on the scene, having arrived before the command car. It was not immediately learned how he had found out about the incident.

The military spokesman here said that an official investigation of the incident would not start until tomorrow morning. He revealed that UN observers would be present when the investigating party began its work. The bodies have been left on the scene.

Meanwhile, a second incident involving Jordanian infiltrators was reported this evening. Arabs in the border region near Hebron opened fire on an Israel Army patrol, but no casualties were reported.

## ISRAEL GOVERNMENT EXPRESSES "REVULSION" OVER NEGEV MASSACRE

JERUSALEM, March 17. (JTA) -- The Israel Government today expressed its "revulsion and horror" at the murderous attack on an Israeli bus in the Negev by a gang of Jordanians who killed 11 men, women and children and wounded three others in an ambush in a mountainous section of the desert road between Eilat and Beer-sheba earlier in the day.

A military spokesman charged that an "organized Arab force" had carried out the "quasi-military operation" and added that the Israel Government "regards this attack as a war-like act, responsibility for which falls squarely on the government from whose territory this unit of murderers was sent forth across the border into Israeli territory to carry out this dastardly deed.

"The series of wanton acts of hostility by the neighboring Arab states against Israel has reached a new climax in this latest outrage," the Israel spokesman continued. "The Israel Government will take all the necessary measures within its power to insure that Israel citizens' blood will not be shed with impunity. All steps will be taken to safeguard the security of travellers along Negev roads and for unhindered continuation of movement.

"The deepest sympathy of the Israel people goes out to the families of the victims of this massacre," the spokesman concluded.

(In Washington, Israel Minister Plenipotentiary Reuven Shiloah today called upon Acting Assistant Secretary of State John Jernegan and brought to his attention the Arab massacre of the 11 Israelis in the Negev as well as the Syrian assault on Israeli fishing boats on Lake Tiberias. The State Department is awaiting details of the Negev ambush and is closely observing the continuing friction on Lake Tiberias, State Department sources said.)

## JORDAN REJECTS U. N. INVITATION FOR DIRECT TALKS WITH ISRAEL

LONDON, March 17. (JTA) -- The Jordan Government today rejected the United Nations invitation to attend a conference with Israel in Jerusalem under the chairmanship of Dag Hammarskjold, UN Secretary General.

Jordan Foreign Minister Dr. Hussein Fakhri El Khalidi said he would send a note to Mr. Hammarskjold within the next 24 hours announcing that "Jordan will not attend." Mr. Hammarskjold said several days ago in Stockholm he would "fix a date for the conference whether or not Jordan accepts my invitation."

## SYRIAN ENVOY IN WASHINGTON VOICES MILITARY THREAT AGAINST ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 17. (JTA) -- Farid Zeineddine, Syrian Ambassador to Washington, today called a special press conference to warn against what he described as "Israel troop concentrations" in the Tiberias area and "appalling Israel gunboat attacks" on Syrian territory on the northeastern shore of Lake Tiberias. He said that "countries neighboring Palestine feel they may be called on to use their right of defense."

(On Lake Tiberias, the Syrian troops dug in on the northeastern bank today opened fire on Israeli fishing boats for the third straight day. Israel has renewed its protest to the UN-chaired Mixed Armistice Commission.)

The Ambassador suggested that mounting tension has reached such a grave point that the United States and other countries which sell arms to Israel should re-examine their policy in the interests of world peace. He said it had been determined that Israel arms used on Lake Tiberias were of American manufacture. The Ambassador also alleged that Israeli aircraft had violated Syrian air space in this vicinity in connection with the general military build-up and that not only had Syrian positions been fired on by the Israeli boats, but also a Syrian village had been attacked by the vessels. The planes, he said, were on reconnaissance flights.

## ITALIAN JEWS APPEAL TO GOVT. FOR APPLICATION OF ANTI-BIAS LAWS

ROME, March 17. (JTA) -- For the second time in less than two years, the Union of Italian Jewish Communities has appealed to the Ministry of Justice for immediate application of Italian laws punishing racial discrimination.

The laws are part of the new Italian penal code which has not yet been approved. Pending overall approval, the Ministry has not implemented individual regulations. The Union, noting that it received no reply to its earlier letter of June, 1952, declared that the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Italy, including the publication of anti-Semitic stories by several newspapers, gives added urgency to its request for immediate action.

The laws which the Jews want applied now call for a five-year prison term for conviction on charges of prevention of enjoyment of civil and political rights because of race, language, religion, sex or political opinion, and a four-year sentence for public incitement to hatred or contempt for persons on the same grounds. In addition, the Union wants the government to tighten the provision on incitement and to increase the sentence for those who carry out such incitement for monetary reward.

## JEWS IN GERMANY URGE IMPLEMENTATION OF INDEMNIFICATION LAW

DUSSELDORF, March 17. (JTA) -- The Central Council of the Jews in Germany has called upon the Bonn Federal Government to issue the implementation regulations that are indispensable if the Federal Indemnification Law for individual applicants is not to remain a dead letter.

At a conference of the Central Council's board of directors it was described as intolerable that, eight months after its adoption by Parliament and six months after it entered into force, the law remains inoperative. The Bonn Ministry of Finance, has not yet issued a single regulation for carrying out this particular law. In consequence, indemnification payments in most states have sharply declined since the beginning of the year, although the law was designed to speed up payment and to enlarge the circle of those eligible.

An even sharper attack upon the Bonn Government's procrastination in this matter was voiced by Professor Hermann Brill at a joint meeting of the Frankfurt Jewish Community and the Association of Social Democratic Victims of Nazism. In a resolution, the meeting demanded the immediate issuance of implementation regulations and, furthermore, certain improvements to the law itself.

Professor Brill, a German whom the Nazis imprisoned in Buchenwald concentration camp for ten years, served as State Secretary in Hesse and as a Bundestag deputy after the war. He estimated that the entire indemnification program would cost the German treasury no more than \$500,000,000. He urged that the sum be raised by a special levy upon those big industrial and agricultural enterprises which had employed 9,000,000 foreign slave laborers during the war.

## BONN GOVT. SAYS PROF. BOEHM IS IN ISRAEL ON PRIVATE STUDY

BONN, March 17. (JTA) -- Prof. Franz Boehm, head of the German negotiating team which worked out the reparations agreement between Israel and West Germany, is now on a private study trip to Israel and is not in the Jewish State on behalf of the German Government, it was officially stated here today.

The announcement was made in reply to published reports that Prof. Boehm had been given the task of sounding out official circles in Israel on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Prof. Boehm is a Bundestag deputy and a member of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's Christian Democratic Union.

## JEWISH AGENCY LISTS AUTHORIZED CAMPAIGNS FOR ISRAEL IN U.S.

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- Thirteen organizations were named today by the Jewish Agency in its fifth annual list of organizations authorized to conduct campaigns in this country for the benefit of Israel.

The organizations, listed by the Jewish Agency's Committee on Control and Authorization of Campaigns, assure priority to the United Jewish Appeal as the major source of philanthropic funds for Israel's immigration, absorption and colonization programs. Their financial data was analyzed by the committee, headed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Agency, before authorization was granted.

The purpose of the committee is to service the American Jewish community and the State of Israel, by assisting in the coordination of fund-raising in this country in behalf of Israel's institutions and causes. Authorization of a campaign, however, does not imply its endorsement by the Jewish Agency.

The following organizations received authorization in 1954: American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science; American Friends of the Hebrew University; American Fund for Israel Institutions; American Red Mogen Dovid for Israel (membership campaign only); American Technion Society; Federated Council of Israel Institutions.

Also, the Hadassah; Jewish National Fund (traditional collections only); Material for Israel (materials only); Mizrahi Women's Organization of America; National Committee for Labor Israel (Histadrut Campaign); Pioneer Women; and Women's League for Israel (New York area).

## B'NAI B'RITH ADOPTS PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- A program of aid to Israel was today adopted by the administrative committee of the B'nai B'rith, interim governing and policy-making body of the organization, at a meeting attended by 50 representatives of B'nai B'rith from all parts of the country.

The program, announced by Philip M. Klutznick, president of the organization, calls for direct voluntary participation of B'nai B'rith members in the following efforts: 1. Creation of a B'nai B'rith Forest near Jerusalem; 2. Gift lunch boxes will be sent to Israeli school children in order to provide them with one supplementary meal a day; 3. Continued cooperation and participation of B'nai B'rith membership in the Israel Bond drive; 4. Sponsorship of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; 5. Sponsorship by the Women's Supreme Council of B'nai B'rith Children's Home in Israel; 6. Sponsorship of the B'nai B'rith Veterans Rehabilitation Center in Honor of Chaim Weizmann in Tel Hashomer, Israel; 7. Development of a special information service to keep the B'nai B'rith membership informed of the progress of these efforts in behalf of Israel; 8. Establishment of a permanent B'nai B'rith Israel Committee through which all efforts will be channeled.

Among the speakers who addressed the conference were Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency; and Dr. Israel S. Drapkin of Chile, president of the B'nai B'rith Latin American Committee. Frank Goldman, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, was appointed to represent the Order at the B'nai B'rith Latin American conference in Buenos Aires next month.

## PRESIDENT OF MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY HONORED IN HAIFA

HAIFA, March 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Kari Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was last night awarded an honorary doctorate in science by the Haifa Institute of Technology. The citation with the honorary degree described the American as an "educator, scientist, engineer and organizer of scientific research."

EISENHOWER INDICATES HE WILL NOT SEEK REVISION OF IMMIGRATION LAW

WASHINGTON, March 17. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower told a White House press conference today that he has no intention of becoming "a bull in a China shop" as far as steps to repeal the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act are concerned.

Indicating he had no immediate plans to seek revision of the controversial law, the President said that as we come closer to the principles of the Founding Fathers the nearer we will be to solving the problem of racial discrimination. He was answering a question put to him by a reporter who asked whether he thought the discrimination contained in the McCarran-Walter Act damaged our foreign relations and whether he would make any proposal to Congress to liberalize the Act.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS GUARANTEES EMPLOYMENT TO IMMIGRANTS

MONTREAL, March 17. (JTA) -- The Canadian Immigration Department has agreed to notify its overseas offices of an offer of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society to provide for the reception, accommodation and employment in Canada of unsponsored Jewish immigrant workers whom the government agrees to admit to the country.

In a letter to Samuel Bronfman, national president of the CJC, replying to a CJC-JIAS memorandum of last November, Walter E. Harris, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, noted, however, that unsponsored immigrants must be qualified in a skill, trade or occupation currently listed for the country where his visa application is made.

The Minister's letter also accepts the CJC-JIAS offer to find employment for the immigrants after they arrive in this country, but stressed that since the government is responsible for the ultimate integration of the immigrants among the Canadian people, the Jewish organizations must accept the overall direction of the Citizenship and Immigration Department "in diverting immigrants in any or all trades from certain areas, for such periods as may be specified."

EISENHOWER LAUDS ACTIVITIES OF JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTERS IN U.S.

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- The activities of the Jewish Community Centers in the United States were lauded today by President Eisenhower in a message to the National Jewish Youth Conference on the occasion of Jewish Youth Week, which starts this Friday. The President said that the Jewish Centers and the YM-YWHA's "have contributed much to the nation's continuing efforts to build a happier, healthier American citizenry."

Vice-President Richard Nixon, in a message, said: "It is certain that the YMHA's throughout the country have made a very real and lasting contribution to the development of young men of Jewish faith as intelligent, responsible, and forward-looking citizens of this great interfaith community of ours, the United States of America."

Jewish Youth Week is conducted annually by the Conference to focus attention on the achievements of youth. The Conference, with which many Jewish youth groups are affiliated, is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board.

RELIGIOUS BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT DECLINING IN NEW YORK STATE

ALBANY, N.Y., March 17. (JTA) -- The prediction that racial and religious discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation will be eliminated "in the foreseeable future" was made in a report by the State Commission Against Discrimination submitted here today to Governor Dewey. The report said that considerable progress had been made in New York State in 1952 to eliminate discriminatory practices.

ROME POLICE MARSHAL HONORED IN U.S. FOR SAVING JEWS FROM NAZIS

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- Mario DiMarco, long a police marshal in Rome and a hero of the Italian underground in World War II, who enabled hundreds of Jews and other anti-Fascists to escape from Nazi persecution, was the guest of honor today at a luncheon arranged by a committee of individuals prominent in Jewish-American and Italian-American organizations. He arrived in New York last week.

Signor DiMarco was for many years in charge of passport issuance and inspection under Mussolini. Using his strategic position in war-time, he worked in close co-operation with a Catholic priest, Father Benedetto Maria, hiding Nazi victims and fugitives when Hitler's forces occupied Rome, and providing them with false passports and identification cards. The Jewish Community of Rome wrote him a letter of thanks after the war.

Near the end of the war the Nazi command accidentally became aware of his activities. He was thrown into the infamous Via Tasso prison, where he was tortured in efforts to make him disclose names and whereabouts of underground leaders. But he remained steadfastly silent and survived until the Allied troops liberated the Italian capital.

BANK LEUMI ANNOUNCES PAYMENT OF DIVIDEND; ISSUES BONUS SHARES

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- Bank Leumi le-Israel --the former Anglo-Palestine Bank Ltd. --which has just completed its 50th year of operations, is declaring a final dividend for 1953 which again brings the year's total cash dividend to twelve and one-half percent, it was announced here today. The distribution is proposed for May 3rd, to stockholders of record of April 9, 1954.

In addition, the Bank is again issuing to its stockholders bonus shares, this time at the rate of one bonus share for every four shares held by them, the announcement said. This will bring the Bank's paid-up share capital to 2,000,000 Israeli pounds. At the same time, the reserves also are being raised to 2,000,000 Israeli pounds. The Bank's assets at the end of 1953 exceeded 200,000,000 Israeli pounds. It has 44 branches in Israel and offices in London, Zurich and New York.

TEL AVIV MUNICIPALITY AWARDS PRIZES TO FOUR ISRAELI SCIENTISTS

TEL AVIV, March 17. (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv municipality today awarded the Weizmann prize for science to four Israeli scientists. The recipients are Dr. David Ginzburg of the Weizmann Institute of Science, a chemist; Dr. A. Komaroff and K. Horenshtein of the Agriculture Ministry, who are working on animal illnesses; and Prof. Joel Rokach, a mathematician on the staff of the Hebrew University.

JOHANNESBURG MAYOR RECEIVES TEL AVIV CHIEF RABBI IN CITY HALL

JOHANNESBURG, March 17. (JTA) -- Mayor C.J. Patmore of this city today received Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi I. J. Unterman at City Hall. Rabbi Unterman presented Mayor Patmore with a ceremonial key sent him by the Mayor of Tel Aviv.

SAN DIEGO JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL JOINS N. C. R. A. C.

NEW YORK, March 17. (JTA) -- The National Community Relations Advisory Council today announced that the Community Relations Council of San Diego had been admitted to membership in the NCRAC, as the 31st local community member. The NCRAC is the joint planning body in the Jewish community relations field for 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 local community councils.