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ARAB-ISRAEL TENSION REVIEWED AT EISENHOWER-CHURCHILL TALKS

WASHINGTON, June 27. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Churchill's talks with President Eisenhower this week-end included discussion of moves desired mainly by the United States to expedite the arming of Iraq, Egypt and possibly other Arab League states. It is believed Churchill was urged to make concessions to Egypt on the Suez Canal issue so that State Department plans to arm Egypt might be facilitated.

Meanwhile, Arab-Israel tension was reviewed with emphasis on the strengthening of United Nations truce apparatus and possible reaffirmation in some form of the tripartite declaration of 1950. The Near East was discussed against the background of State Department warnings that Russia was becoming increasingly active there. Moves envisaged by the United States to win Arab cooperation with the West were stressed.

Presidential press secretary James Hagerty revealed that Henry A. Byroade, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, has participated in the top-level talks. Mr. Hagerty said Mr. Byroade was helping to draft a final statement. A White House communique announcing results of the week-end meetings is expected some time Monday.

Z. O. A. CONVENTION APPEALS TO U. S. AGAINST ARMING ARAB STATES

NEW YORK, June 27. (JTA) -- The 57th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, at its closing session today unanimously adopted a resolution urging the government of the United States "to reconsider the contemplated arms shipments to the Arab States which could prove disastrous to Middle East stability."

The resolution declared that "recent actions of our State Department and certain of its officials jeopardize our country's traditional policy of friendship for Israel as well as America's vital interest in promoting peace and stability in the Middle East."

Another resolution demanded that "Rumania immediately halt its persecutions of Zionists and Jewish community leaders, release these innocent people and permit their emigration to Israel." The convention declared that "the worst forms of totalitarian brutality are being inflicted on Rumanian Jews merely because they assisted some of their brothers and sisters to emigrate to Israel."

The resolution calling upon the United States to reconsider its decision on sending arms to Arab states was adopted following a report to the convention by I. L. Kenen, executive director of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs, which is watching developments in Washington. Mr. Kenen charged that "the apparatus of the Department of State, primarily concerned with the Near East affairs, is

being fully utilized to alienate our friends in Congress and in all walks of public opinion," and in the hope of convincing President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles that the majority of the American people favor a "new look" in the U.S. policy toward Israel.

"The new climate in Washington," Mr. Kenen said, "dictates an intensification of our work. If, during 1951 and 1952 we found ourselves advocating a pro-Israel program in harmony with our government, in 1953 and 1954, we find ourselves in a seemingly endless dispute with the Department of State. We are in a continuing struggle to defend our cause from attack and to maintain and reinforce the broad friendship for Israel in Congress and American public opinion."

Mortimer May Unanimously Elected Z. O. A. President

Mortimer May, of Nashville, Tennessee, veteran Zionist and communal leader, was unanimously elected president of the Zionist Organization of America. The election was uncontested. Dr. Emanuel Neumann was elected chairman of the national ZOA executive committee; Dr. Harris J. Levine, chairman of the national administrative council; Herman L. Weisman vice-chairman of the national executive committee. I. S. Turover of Washington was elected treasurer.

Addressing the convention last night, Dr. Emanuel Neumann asserted that Zionists would never accept the severance of world Jewry's ties and obligations to the State of Israel. He labeled as "Byroadeism" this "insidious doctrine" set forth by Assistant Secretary of State Henry Byroade in a recent speech. "Byroadeism," he said, "would isolate Israel, sever her vital connection with the Jewish people, block out her cultural hinterland, fore-shorten her world horizons and reduce her in the end to an enclave buried away in a corner of the Arab world."

Dr. Neumann referred to the progress that had been made in creating an American Council for Israel" embracing all important Jewish national organizations and local communities" in this country. "We have sounded most of the important organizations," he reported. "Their responses have been varied, ranging from complete and enthusiastic endorsement in some cases to outright disapproval in one case. Nearly all, however, have agreed on the desirability of establishing a procedure for mutual consultation from time to time and as occasion arises."

Rabbi Irving Miller, outgoing ZOA president, speaking last night at the convention, defined the status of Israel, a subject of much controversy among Zionists, "as a political sovereign state for Jews within its borders and as a spiritual and cultural home for all the Jewish people." Dr. Israel Goldstein condemned as "specious" the claim that "possible emigration of Jews from Eastern Europe to Israel will represent Communist infiltration." Jacques Torczyner, ZOA vice-president, warned of an "assimilative tendency of the American-Jewish community as a threat to the Zionist movement."

He said that the time is ripe for the ZOA to recapture American Jewish leadership. The session was also addressed by George Flesch, member of the Israel Parliament, who emphasized that Israelis cherish friendship with the United States.

Dr. Goldmann Urges Reorganization of Zionist Movement

In a message to the convention, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency, who is now abroad, advocated the reorganization of the Zionist movement outside Israel into territorial federations based on membership at large, and not on parties as at present. He has always qualified his position by pointing out that he does not call for the abolition of parties, but does feel that they should accept a secondary role.

Warning that the Zionist movement "must undertake, deliberately and courageously, radical changes in its structure, constitution and functions," Dr. Goldmann said: "The viability of the Zionist movement will be determined by its flexibility. If the Zionist movement is to adapt itself to the new circumstances, it is essential that a sense of common devotion and responsibility for the welfare of the movement as a whole, replace partisanship, petty group interests, and addiction to antiquated methods of procedure."

JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY PROGRESS REPORTED AT Z. O. A. CONVENTION

NEW YORK, June 27. (JTA) -- The Jordan Valley Authority project is now being successfully implemented by the Government of Israel within the limits of the Jewish State fully independent of other plans that may be projected, it was reported by Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk noted American soil expert, at a special session of the convention of the Zionist Organization of America devoted to the activities of the Jewish National Fund.

Dr. Lowdermilk's announcement was considered especially significant in view of the current visit of Eric Johnston to Israel and the Arab states on a mission relating to a new plan for the utilization of the water resources of the region. Dr. Lowdermilk praised the manner in which the Jordan Valley Authority project is being carried out. He also lauded the Jewish National Fund for its work in stopping soil erosion through afforestation and the reclamation of vast stretches through the drainage of swamps.

Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the JNF, told the session that the Fund has mobilized in the United States for the purpose of land purchase and land development in the land of Israel, since its inception 34 years ago, the sum of \$190,000,000. In summarizing the achievements of the Jewish National Fund since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, he said:

"The land holdings of the Jewish National Fund have risen from less than one million dunams in 1948 to close to 3,500,000 dunams in 1954; rural settlements on JNF land from close to 250 to more than 600; the Jewish population living on JNF land has increased from 125,000 to half a million."

Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the Jewish National Fund, stated that the blue-white JNF box--the most popular symbol of the individual Jew's personal affiliation with Israel--is now to be found in 1,000,000 homes in the United States. Mr. Fisher, in pointing to the expansion of the sphere of influence of the Jewish National Fund and the broadening of the base of the organization, said:

"We derive special satisfaction from the fact that we have extended the sphere of influence in the United States attracting new elements in the Jewish community to participate in our endeavors, and that we have extended our base of representation to include, in addition to our constituent Zionist groups, representatives of other segments of the Jewish community."

A total of \$300,000,000 has been provided by the United Israel Appeal to its agencies in Israel since 1948 when the State was established, it was reported by Rudolph G. Sonneborn, national chairman, at the session on "Israel Funds" during the ZOA convention. This amount did not include the tens of millions of dollars channeled through the Joint Distribution Committee for its projects.

The Palestine Economic Corporation which invests funds and promotes new business enterprises in Israel, reported at the ZOA convention through Robert Szold, chairman of the PEC board of directors, that its total capital, surplus and reserve in 1953 were 12 million dollars as compared to five and three-quarter million dollars in 1948. He was the principal speaker at a session on "Israeli Economics, Investment and Tourism."

ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES "BIG THREE" NOTES ON BORDER TENSION

JERUSALEM, June 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet discussed the recent notes from the United States, Britain and France on Israel-Arab border tension and the Eric Johnston proposal for development of the Jordan River valley at today's regular weekly meeting.

The official communique issued after the meeting did not disclose whether the Cabinet had decided to accept or reject either the Western notes on border security or the Johnston plan. Nor did the communique state whether the Cabinet would further discuss either matter, but it is believed here that both issues will again come up before the Cabinet.

AMERICAN JEW KILLED BY ARAB INFILTRATORS IN ISRAEL SETTLEMENT

TEL AVIV, June 27. (JTA) -- An American Jew who settled in Israel more than two decades ago was shot and murdered in the township of Raanana last night by a small party of hit-and-run Jordanian infiltrators, a military spokesman announced here today.

The Jew, Meir Weiner, 50, father of three children, heard a noise at his door last night and went to see what it was. As he opened it, he was shot by three Arabs. He died instantly.

Mr. Weiner came to the Sharon colony in 1930 as a member of the "Hartford Group," a party of American settlers from Hartford and surrounding communities in Connecticut. He and other members of the group purchased land from the development corporation which set up Raanana. He was a successful farmer by the time of his murder. Most of the settlers in the township came originally from the U.S.

CONTINUED AMERICAN-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP URGED BY ISRAELI ZIONISTS

TEL AVIV, June 27. (JTA) -- Continued American-Israel friendship should become the base of Israel foreign policy, the 20th national convention of the General Zionist Party of Israel, declared here this week-end at its closing session. For this very reason, the centrists pointed out, American arming of the Arab countries presents a "grave" threat to Israel independence. The convention also called for Israel's association on an international basis with the Western democracies.

The convention urged the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency to come to full agreement and ratify the convention defining the status of the Zionist movement. The delegates declared that the world Zionist movement is needed to foster Zionist ideals and ideas among world Jewry, therefore they called on General Zionists throughout the world to strengthen the movement and opposed its elimination. The parley also expressed gratitude to Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver for his activities in behalf of Israel.

The convention called for the adoption of some means of limiting the number of political parties on the Israel political scene and hit persecution of Zionists in Rumania. It also demanded the end of foreign currency controls in Israel and action on the part of the government to attract foreign capital investments.

ISRAEL PHYSICIANS ASSN. AUTHORIZES UNLIMITED STRIKE OF DOCTORS

TEL AVIV, June 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Physicians Association has approved an unlimited strike of doctors working for the Israel Government beginning next Thursday. The association also voted to have doctors working for the Hadassah medical network in Israel join the strike of the government physicians if Hadassah does not meet the demands of the doctors for wage increases.

Physicians working for municipalities and other local governments are scheduled to join the national work stoppage on July 4 and those working for the Joint Distribution Committee's Malben welfare project will begin striking on July 15. A strike of doctors employed in the Histadrut medical welfare program has temporarily been held off pending continuation of negotiations between the doctors and the Histadrut.

It was learned that Minister of Health Joseph Serlin requested the government doctors to hold off their strike threat to give him another chance to raise the question of their wage demands with the Cabinet today, but they refused. Nevertheless, Mr. Serlin is expected to raise the issue with the Cabinet. More than a month ago, the doctors called a one-day and later a three-day "warning" strike, but without achieving any results.

CONVENTION OF REFORM RABBIS ASKS U. S. AID FOR ISRAEL; HITS RUMANIA

PIKE, N. H., June 27. (JTA) -- Pleas for American support of Israel and condemnation of the mass arrest of Jewish leaders by Rumania were contained in a series of resolutions adopted by the Central Conference of American Rabbis at the conclusion here today of its 65th annual convention.

Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, of Cleveland, was unanimously elected president of the Conference, which is the organization of about 600 Reform rabbis. Dr. Israel Bettan, Professor of Homelitics at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, was elected vice-president.

The resolution on Israel proposed three steps which the rabbis feel would advance a "just and secure peace between Israel and her neighbors." The first was "reconsideration by the State Department of its announced intention of granting arms-aid to Iraq, inasmuch as Arab leaders have unceasingly affirmed their determination to destroy Israel." Economic aid for the entire Middle East was the next measure suggested, and the third was for the State Department to "use" its good offices with the United Nations to bring the Arab states to a peace conference with Israel. "

The Soviet Government of Rumania is castigated in another resolution "for its ruthless persecution of Jews." The measure also contains praise for the State Department for its recent "stern rebuke of the Rumanian government" and goes on to call upon the United Nations to "take appropriate action to haul Rumania before the bar of justice so that the Jewish population may be spared further persecution. "

A statement praising the Supreme Court for its recent decision outlawing segregation in the public schools was endorsed by the vast majority of the rabbis, although some from the South abstained from voting. The resolution expressed the hope that segregation would be "harmoniously" accomplished.

Opposes Anti-Zionist Schools; Will Study Conversion of Non-Jews

In a resolution on anti-Zionist religious schools, the convention deplored the attempted creation of a nation-wide system of so-called "classic Reform" religious schools. The delegates recommended that a special committee of the CCAR be appointed to study this situation. On the question of conversion of non-Jews, the convention adopted a resolution suggesting that the executive board of the CCAR explore the matter further through research and institutes.

In a resolution on Bible distribution, the convention applauded the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey in prohibiting the distribution of the King James Version of the New Testament in the public schools. The delegates expressed gratification over the appearance of the Synagogue Council of America and the National Community Relations Advisory Council as amici curiae.

In a resolution hitting Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin and the "hysteria commonly known as McCarthyism," the rabbis declared that "no free society can long survive if its citizens are encouraged or permitted to inform indiscriminately on one another.

"By creating an atmosphere of suspicion and fear," the resolution asserted, "such informing inevitably becomes a vestibule to the police state. The repeated use of professional informers, motivated either by personal grudges or psychopathic needs of their own, destroys the morals of government officials and the confidence of the people."

On Liberal Judaism in Israel, the convention endorsed the hope that an indigenous liberal Jewish movement will be established in Israel.

123 U.S. STUDENTS, TEACHERS GO TO ISRAEL FOR STUDY-WORK PROGRAM

NEW YORK, June 27. (JTA) -- A group of 36 young teachers and students, the first of a party of 123, left today for Israel on an El Al plane, while another group of 52 is departing tomorrow and the remaining 35 will leave a day later. They will all participate in the Israel Summer Institute - a seven-week travel, work and study program in Israel sponsored by the Jewish Agency.

The 123 will be joined in Israel next month by 25 teen-agers, members of the U.S. and Canadian Young Judea, who will leave New York by air on July 6th. More than 100 students and teachers from Britain are also enrolled in the Institute. The Institute, a non-profit educational and cultural exchange project inaugurated in the first summer of Israel's independence six years ago, has the largest enrollment to date, the Jewish Agency reported.

Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency, declared, at a farewell reception for the groups, that it has long been a tradition of American education to arrange summer tours abroad for American students. "These young people," she said, "serve a double purpose: their very presence in Israel contributes to a greater familiarity by Israelis with America, while they themselves will absorb an intimate understanding of Israel's culture and her problems."

47 PERCENT OF ORT FUNDS LAST YEAR CAME FROM U.S. JEWRY, REPORT SAYS

NEW YORK, June 27. (JTA) -- Of the \$3,088,210 spent last year by the ORT on its vocational training program throughout the world, about 47 percent came from American Jewry, it was emphasized here today in the annual report of the American ORT Federation.

Dr. William Haber, president of the Federation, said that the bulk of the funds received by the ORT in the United States came from the Joint Distribution Committee. He called attention to the sum of \$11,500,000 contributed by American Jews for overseas ORT schools since 1946. More than 175,000 displaced and needy persons have been taught occupational skills by ORT in this period and have been restored "to economic health and independence," declared Dr. Haber.

Last year, ORT operated 274 schools, workshops and technical courses among Jewish communities in 19 countries. The report announced that 17,599 persons enrolled in these programs. Main centers of ORT work were listed as Israel, the Moslem lands of North Africa and Iran, and Western Europe.

RIBICOFF NAMED BY DEMOCRATS FOR GOVERNORSHIP OF CONNECTICUT

HARTFORD, Conn., June 27. (JTA) -- Former Rep. Abraham A. Ribicoff was named by the State Democratic convention yesterday as its candidate for Governor of Connecticut in the coming elections. Rep. Ribicoff, who was nominated by acclamation, will oppose Gov. John Lodge, whom the Republicans are expected to renominate next week.

Rep. Ribicoff was elected to two terms in Congress in 1948 and 1950. In 1952 he was defeated in a close race for Senator, although he led his ticket by some 100,000 votes. He has served in the State Legislature and as a judge.

PINCHOS JASSINOWSKY, JEWISH COMPOSER, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, June 27. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Pinchos Jassinowsky, composer and well known cantor, who died here at the age of 68. One-time president of the Jewish Cantors and Ministers Association, Mr. Jassinowsky wrote the "Prophecy of Isaiah" to commemorate the opening of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1925. He was born in the Ukraine, and immigrated to the United States in 1917.