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ISRAEL PREMIER STARTS NEGOTIATIONS TO PREVENT CABINET CRISIS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The possibility of avoiding a Cabinet crisis was seen here today, after a visit paid by Prime Minister Moshe Sharett to Israel Rokach, leader of the General Zionist Party who is also a member of the Cabinet. Consultations between the leaders of the Mapai and the General Zionists, with a view to preventing a Cabinet crisis, also took place today at the home of Mr. Rokach, who is indisposed.

It is understood that Prime Minister Sharett is inclined to settle the dispute that has arisen between the Mapai and the General Zionists--the two largest groups in the Parliament--by a compromise. Mr. Sharett's proposal is that the existing agreement between the two parties to introduce legislation aimed at eliminating small political parties should be confirmed; but the Prime Minister suggests that the implementation of this pact be postponed until after Parliament is reconvened following its summer recess.

The dispute between the Mapai and the General Zionists was precipitated when the Mapai suggested that the agreement should not be implemented before May, 1955, about two months before the next scheduled parliamentary elections. The General Zionists insisted that the agreement be implemented now. They threatened that their four Cabinet members would no longer back the policy of the Prime Minister, and that their 20 deputies in Parliament would cast their votes in a way that would deprive the government of the needed majority, thus bringing about the fall of the present Mapai-dominated Cabinet.

At his meeting today with Mr. Rokach, Prime Minister Sharett sought to find a solution satisfactory both to the Mapai and the General Zionists. He indicated that he is ready to meet the request of the General Zionists half-way. Following the talk between Mr. Sharett and Mr. Rokach, the General Zionist members in Parliament were advised by their leaders not to vote against certain clauses in the income-tax law presented by the Cabinet to the Parliament, despite the fact that the General Zionists oppose these clauses.

As a result of this move, the income-tax law was passed today by the Parliament, with the General Zionist deputies merely abstaining from voting, thus avoiding their first opportunity for creating a Cabinet crisis. Further talks between leaders of the Mapai and the General Zionists will take place, and indications today pointed to an optimistic outcome as a result of the talks.

SYRIA RETURNS CAPTURED BOAT TO ISRAEL; SHIP REACHES HAIFA

HAIFA, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The S.S. "Nachman," Israeli fishing boat seized in international waters last week by a Syrian naval vessel, returned here today with its master and crew. However, fish valued at 3,000 Israeli pounds had to be dumped. The entire catch was spoiled because the "Nachman's" refrigeration machinery was put out of commission by the Syrians during the few days the boat was interned.

JORDANIANS ATTACK ISRAEL ARMY UNIT; THREE SOLDIERS WOUNDED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Three Israeli soldiers were wounded yesterday when Jordanians fired on an Israeli army unit which was exercising on the Beersheba-Hebron road, a military spokesman announced here today. The Jordanians attacked the Israelis with automatic fire from across their border.

The Cairo radio today reported that the United Nations Mixed Armistice Commission found Israel guilty of two attacks on Egyptian-held territory in the Gaza area. At the same time, the chairman of the Commission abstained from voting on the Israeli charge that Egyptians had dynamited the Israel water pipeline in the Negev, near Nir Aam, the broadcast said.

(From Jordan it was reported today that the Jordan-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission condemned Israel for violating the armistice agreement August 13, claiming that an Israeli patrol penetrated into Jordan territory and killed one Arab and captured another.)

STAND OF U. N. CHAIRMAN OF ARMISTICE COMMISSION IRKS ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The failure of the United Nations chairman of the Israeli-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission to condemn Egypt for last week's explosion of a main water pipeline in the Negev, near Nir Aam, is "a deviation from the responsible attitude shown by the Commission in the past, and can not but encourage those who plan further attacks on Israel territory," the Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman declared here today.

The chairman of the Commission, where this act of sabotage had been considered, had abstained from voting on Israel's resolution condemning Egypt and calling upon Egypt to cease its aggressive actions.

Expressing deep concern over this abstention, the Foreign Office spokesman pointed out that the explosion had been carried out by trained saboteurs, who used 50 kilograms of high explosives, resulting in the loss of 14,000 cubic meters of water.

In another of the recent incidents, he stated, Egyptians fired from their side of the border on an Israeli patrol. "These incidents," the spokesman said, "are links in a long chain of acts of military attacks and sabotage by Egyptian forces which have been condemned in the past by the Mixed Armistice Commission."

ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE NOW CONSIDERED PRINCIPAL MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM

LONDON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- "The Arab-Israel issue is the problem of the Middle East," John Walter Nicholls, newly-appointed Ambassador to Israel, declared today. "Now that the problems of Iran and Egypt are settled," he said, "the settlement of Israel-Arab tensions head the diplomatic concerns in the Middle East."

The British diplomat told newspapermen interviewing him at his suburban home at Celsted, near London, that he felt the relations between Israel and Britain are extremely good. He expressed the hope that, by the time his tour of duty in Israel is over, those relationships will be even better.

Mr. Nicholls said he is looking forward to his post in Israel because "it seems to me that the whole idea of the State of Israel is an exciting and interesting development." He added that he had a good "working knowledge" of Zionist history. His diplomatic experience, he said, has never been connected directly in any way with the Middle East. Mr. Nicholls said he expects to take up his new post in October.

ISRAEL-RUMANIAN TRADE TALKS REPORTED DEADLOCKED OVER OIL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The trade talks that are taking place here with the Rumanian trade delegation which arrived here a week ago were reported today to have deadlocked over the issue of Israel's oil import from Rumania. Israeli oil officials feel that importation of petroleum from Iran would be more beneficial than its purchase from Rumania.

Negotiations for importation of oil from the Abadan refineries in Iran will start as soon as those refineries are reactivated, it was learned here today. Representatives of foreign oil companies interested in the Iran oil concessions have informed Israeli oil company officials that they are ready to negotiate an agreement. Israeli oil men believe it would be cheaper to import oil from Iran than from Venezuela, even if the oil from Iran has to be shipped around the Cape of Good Hope because of the Egyptian blockade of the Suez Canal.

There is a possibility that Israel may also obtain more oil from the Soviet Union, bartering citrus fruits in exchange, but the quantities obtainable from Russia will be insufficient for this country's needs.

HERUT LEADER WANTS EGYPT TO LEAVE THE OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Israel should demand at the next session of the United Nations General Assembly adoption of a resolution ordering the Egyptians to evacuate the Gaza Strip in Palestine, Menachem Beigin, leader of the extreme nationalist Herut Party, today told foreign newspapermen here.

Distributing to the press a "proclamation" which he said spoke in the name of "all citizens of Israel," Mr. Beigin insisted the Egyptians must leave Gaza, where their presence is "like a pistol aimed at Israel's heart." The Strip, he said, must be "freed of foreigners." Those Arabs who may want to remain in the Strip should be allowed to stay on as "full-fledged citizens of Israel, with rights equal to all other citizens," he said.

Mr. Beigin asserted he does not want or believe in preventive war against Egypt. He protested against gifts of arms being given Egypt by the Western Powers, and ridiculed the notion that those arms would ever be used by Egypt against Soviet attack. He quoted the British War Minister as stating that atomic weapons would prevent the Russians from penetrating into the Middle East.

1,664 ARABS, 857 ISRAELIS STUDYING IN AMERICAN COLLEGES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Institute of International Education reported today that 857 Israelis are studying in the United States, as compared with 1,664 students from Arab League countries enrolled in American colleges and universities.

Egypt was not included in the tabulation, presumably because the Egyptian Embassy here considered the information secret. Many of the students, Arabs as well as Israelis, are pursuing engineering studies with a military potential. In many cases, such studies are connected with aviation and other technical fields.

Israel has 701 men and 156 women enrolled here. Of this number, 259 are in engineering; 25 in government and political science; 104 study the humanities; 66 are in medicine and medical science; 96 in physical and natural science; 123 in social science; 9 in public administration; and the rest in other fields.

Arab League states for which student figures were given include 669 from Iraq, 206 from Lebanon, 39 from Saudi Arabia, 529 from Jordan, 220 from Syria, and one from Yemen. More Arab students are in engineering than in any other single field.

U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVES REPORT FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The United Nations Security Council, at a closed meeting here today, approved the draft of a report to be submitted to the forthcoming session of the UN General Assembly on the activities of the Council during the year ending July 15, 1954.

The Council, whose deliberations and decisions during the year were devoted to a great extent to the Arab-Israel issue, also approved at today's meeting a number of amendments to its draft report which had been circulated before the meeting. The members of the Council decided that, if more amendments are received, and if any objection is raised against them before next Monday, another meeting will be called; otherwise, the report will be considered adopted. The contents of the drafted report were not made public by the Council, nor was the nature of the approved amendments.

The Arab-Israel issue does not figure on the agenda of the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, which is scheduled to open here next month. The only item concerning the Palestine situation which appears on the agenda is a report on relief work among Palestine refugees in the Arab countries. However, the possibility is not excluded that other items of direct interest to Israel may still be included when the agenda will be revised in its final form.

ADENAUER PLEDGES TO SUPPRESS ATTEMPTS TO REVIVE NAZISM

BONN, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Konrad Adenauer, West German Chancellor, in a radio broadcast to the nation, emphatically warned that any attempt to revive Nazism in Germany will be sternly dealt with. He added that, at present, resurgent Nazism does not exist in the country.

"If there are a few fanatical Hitlerites left, they are keeping their peace," the Chancellor said. "Any attempt by them to form dangerous organizations will not be tolerated. The German people want no part of radicalism, either of the left or of the right," Dr. Adenauer concluded.

CHIEF RABBI OF RUMANIA CHALLENGED IN U.S. BROADCAST FROM EUROPE

MUNICH, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- A sharply-worded reply by Isaac Glickmann of New York, president of the United Rumanian Jews of America, to a recent communication from Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Bucharest was broadcast here today in a special Rumanian-language program by Radio Free Europe. RFE is an anti-Communist radio station sponsored by private American backers.

Not long ago, a circular letter, bearing the signatures of 36 rabbis in addition to Dr. Rosen, was published in the Soviet satellite press, and also sent to Jewish personalities in other countries. Obviously intended to counteract world-wide indignation aroused by the persecution of Zionist and other Jewish leaders in Rumania, the letter claimed that Jews enjoy equal rights and religious freedom under the Communist regime. Dr. Rosen, the chief signatory, has lent himself to such Communist propaganda in the past.

One of the recipients of Rabbi Rosen's latest communication was Dr. Glickmann. Believing that his retort to Dr. Rosen would be held up in the mails by censorship, Dr. Glickmann entrusted its text to Radio Free Europe for transmission to Rumania over the air.

In his open letter, Dr. Glickmann reviews the harassments inflicted upon Rumanian Jewry in consequence of the hostile attitude of the authorities and refers to the many innocent people rotting in jail without trial, simply because they believe in traditional Jewish ideals, and calls upon Dr. Rosen as a spiritual leader to share openly the sufferings of his brethren, even at the cost of great sacrifice.

MAJORITY OF JEWS IN CANADA ARE CANADIAN-BORN, SURVEY SHOWS

MONTREAL, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress today released data establishing that the majority of the Jewish population in Canada is Canadian-born. The report points out that, although 25,619 Jewish immigrants entered Canada in the period 1941-51, increasing the Jewish population by 15 percent, the percentage of the Canadian-born of the Jewish population of Canada continued to increase. By 1951, the Canadian-born among the Jewish population in Canada formed 57 percent.

Nova Scotia, with comparatively few Jewish immigrants since 1921, had the largest proportion of Canadian-born among its Jewish population in each of the census years 1931, 1941 and 1951. In 1931, it was the only province in which more than half of the Jewish population was Canadian-born, and by 1951 the percentage of Canadian-born among its Jewish population had reached 66.6 percent.

By 1941, the majority of the Jewish population in every one of the Canadian provinces, with the exception of British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba, was Canadian-born. By 1951, the majority of the Jewish population in every one of the provinces from New Foundland to British Columbia was Canadian-born.

In general, the proportion of the Canadian-born among the Jewish population is usually higher in the smaller communities than in the larger centers, and still higher in the villages and rural areas. Jewish communities in 32 out of 34 Canadian cities, with total population exceeding 30,000, had a majority of Canadian-born in 1951. The only two cities in Canada with population exceeding 30,000 in which less than one-half of the Jewish population was Canadian-born in 1951 were Toronto and Windsor.

U.S. JEWISH YOUTH URGED TO PRESERVE RELIGIOUS VALUES

STARLIGHT, Pa., Aug. 18. (JTA) -- "The preservation of the moral and ethical fabric which underlies our religious faith is the greatest challenge facing the youth today," Jacob J. Lieberman, of Los Angeles, chairman of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission, told the delegates of the 10th annual international convention of B'nai B'rith Girls which is taking place here.

"In our present-day world, beset by constant turmoil and tension, youth must stand guard over these precepts and ideals which cynics would take from you," Mr. Lieberman asserted. "In the final analysis, it is application of ideals and morality handed down to us by the great Hebrew prophets which will help youth meet that challenge."

In another address, Mrs. Gertrude Goldman, of Boston, national chairman of B'nai B'rith Women's Bonds for Israel Committee, deplored "the attitude in some quarters that Israel's present struggle against economic strangulation and Arab intransigence is a Jewish problem." Such a concept, she said, "is contrary to the aspirations of the free world."

AMERICAN LABOR DELEGATION WELCOMED IN ISRAEL BY HISTADRUT

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Eight American labor leaders, representing large trade unions in both the AFL and the CIO, arrived here last night for a week's study of Israeli labor practices and labor-management relations. Sponsored in the United States by the American Christian Palestine Committee and the National Committee for Labor Israel, they are the guests here of Histadrut, the General Federation of Jewish Labor.

Mordechai Namir, general secretary of Histadrut, welcomed the guests, hailing "the great part which American labor has played in the formation of policy toward Israel since the first days of our statehood."