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## ISRAEL DECLINES TO ATTEND JORDAN ARMISTICE COMMISSION MEETING

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The Israel Government was today invited to send its members to the United Nations Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission--which Israel has been boycotting for several months--for the purpose of attending a meeting at which all members of the Commission would be introduced to Gen. E. L. M. Burns, new UN chief of the truce supervision organization.

The Israelis declined to accept the invitation, which was extended by Commander Hutchinson, chairman of the Israel-Jordan Armistice Commission. However, they emphasized that they would be glad to meet Gen. Burns any time anywhere else. The Israelis said they could not attend a meeting of the Commission "as long as present conditions prevail," but pointed out specifically that they will extend full cooperation to Gen. Burns.

It was learned here today that Gen. Burns, who is in the process of visiting the capitals of all signatories to the Arab-Israel armistice agreements, has set Thursday as the day to meet here with Prime Minister Moshe Sharett and Defense Minister Pinhas Lavon.

## No Peace with Israel, Says Egyptian Representative at U. N.

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Abdul Hamid Ghaleb, acting permanent representative for Egypt, here, said today that "there could be no peace in the Middle East until the Israeli Government accepted the resolutions of the General Assembly."

He made this statement at a farewell luncheon given him here. Gen. Chaleb is going to become Egyptian Ambassador in Lebanon. He listed the resolutions that Israel "must abide by" as: 1. Repatriation of the Arab refugees; 2. Internationalization of Jerusalem; 3. The resolution partitioning Palestine.

The Egyptian envoy said nothing had marred relations between Egypt and the United States until the creation of Israel. But, he added, "the present impartiality" of the American administration was helping to improve American-Egyptian relations. He described the Arab League as a regional defense organization, and said "with the help of our friends, it could have the strength necessary for such an organization."

## ISRAEL PREMIER OPPOSES RESTRICTIONS FOR SMALL POLITICAL GROUPS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Premier Moshe Sharett today indicated that he opposes the introduction of restrictive legislation for small political parties, as demanded by the General Zionists, who insist that only those groups which receive more than 4.2 percent of the votes during general elections should obtain seats in Parliament. "Under existing conditions," he declared, "there is no justification for introducing such restrictions."

EGYPT RE-OPENS OLD GRIEVANCE AGAINST ISRAEL; WANTS RECONSIDERATION

LONDON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Egypt re-opened an anti-Israel grievance almost a year old, demanding that it be reconsidered by the Egypt-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, as its "greeting" in Cairo on the first visit there of Gen. E. L. M. Burns, new chief of the United Nations truce supervision organization in Palestine, according to press reports received here today.

Gen. Burns is touring the capitals of all the countries signatory to the Arab-Israel armistice agreements, to orient himself to his new job. At Cairo, the reports say, Egypt demanded that he re-open the Egyptian complaint which avers that Israel uses an agricultural settlement in the demilitarized zone of El Auja as "a fortified stronghold."

Egypt had made that claim before the Mixed Armistice Commission last September. Israel denied the allegation, and the Commission did not sustain Egypt's charge. Now, Brig. Gen. Mahmoud Riaud, chief of Cairo's Foreign Ministry's Arab affairs department, has revived the charge, asserting that the allegation has been "confirmed" by an Israel army deserter.

U.S. REFUSES TO BACK LEBANESE \$100,000,000 RIVER PROJECT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The United States has refused to underwrite a \$100,000,000 river development project for Lebanon, although America's Point Four program technicians blueprinted the project for the Lebanese, it became known here today.

After a three-year survey by a Point Four mission, a Litani River hydroelectric project was developed which would have doubled Lebanon's per capita consumption of electricity and would have provided irrigation for 50,000 additional acres. The project would have taken 25 years to complete.

STRONG MAPAI PARTY PREDICTED FOR NEXT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

LONDON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The Mapai party in Israel should be even stronger than it is now, by the time the next Israeli elections are held, in the opinion of an editorial in today's Times of London.

"Because of the disintegration of its left-wing rival, the Mapam, which has divided into a very small, fellow-traveling wing and a larger group drawing closer to Mapai, the Mapai should have gained even greater strength than it possesses now, when next Election Day comes around," the Times states. "This development, when associated with the new electoral reforms, seems likely to leave a clear field next year for a straight fight between the Mapai and its allies on the one side, and the General Zionists on the other."

"Meanwhile," the Times continues, "Prime Minister Moshe Sharett will probably stave off any breakdown in the coalition if he can, because Israel's external problems are now grave enough to make a domestic, political crisis an expensive luxury. Anxiety is centered on the American policy of supplying arms to the Arab states. This, of itself, is nothing new; but it is taking a sharper turn, now that the Anglo-Egyptian agreement has been reached."

BURMESE OFFICERS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL FOR MILITARY TRAINING

TEL AVIV, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A group of Burmese army officers has arrived here for training with the Israeli forces, according to an announcement today by Premier Moshe Sharett.

Mr. Sharett implied that Burma's sending of its officers for training here resulted from the visit of a sizable Burmese delegation which left for home last week after several months' study of this country's economic development and army organization. The visitors were "very impressed" with achievements here, the Prime Minister said.

PLAN TO TRANSFER JEWS FROM NORTH AFRICA PRESENTED TO HADASSAH

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A comprehensive program for the transfer to Israel of the 450,000 Jews living under the threat of renewed anti-Jewish outbreaks by Arab extremists in North Africa was outlined today to the 40th annual convention of Hadassah by Moshe Kol, world chairman of the Youth Aliyah movement.

Mr. Kol, who arrived in the United States from Israel a few days ago, told the delegates that the Jews in Morocco, Tunisia and Tangier "are living in a tinder box that may explode at any moment." He called upon Hadassah to make available additional funds to enable Youth Aliyah to undertake immediately the removal to Israel of one child from each Jewish family in North Africa. He estimated that the first phase of the exodus of Jews from North Africa to Israel would involve 75,000 Jewish children between the ages of 12 and 17, and would require five years to complete.

He explained that these children would be educated, rehabilitated, taught Hebrew and equipped with a trade or a profession, depending on their qualifications, in a Youth Aliyah settlement in Israel over a three-year period. Upon completion of their training, he said, other members of their families would be brought to Israel.

Mr. Kol expressed the hope that the French Government would take every conceivable measure to halt the anti-Jewish riots and destruction in Morocco, but he warned Hadassah against underestimating the gravity of the situation. "We who have only recently lost 6,000,000 of our people in Europe cannot afford to take risks," he said.

"We are hopeful of conducting this exodus from North Africa in an orderly and systematic manner, but we are prepared, if necessary, to get the Jews out of North Africa on an immediate emergency basis," Mr. Kol stated. "With your help, Israel took the entire Jewish population out of Iraq in 1951 within a 12-month period. If need be, we'll do the same for the Jews of North Africa, but we are hopeful that it won't be necessary."

Hadassah Adopts Statement of Principles on Civil Liberties

The convention unanimously adopted a statement of principles expressing "un-equivocal belief that security with freedom is an imperative and an achievable goal for America." Presented by Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, American Affairs chairman of Hadassah, the statement warned that "to bar the concept of free enterprise from the realm of ideas is to betray our past and to endanger our future."

The statement of principles reaffirmed Hadassah's "faith in the vigor and vitality of the American way of life, and in those freedoms which are embodied in the Constitution of the United States" and added: "Without minimizing the dangers currently threatening these freedoms, or underestimating the dangers inherent in the awful destructive capacity of atomic warfare, Hadassah records its deep concern at the growing tendency to meet these dangers in a climate of fear and hysteria.

"To equate nonconformity with disloyalty; to whittle away the inalienable rights guaranteed to all Americans by their Constitution in the name of defending that instrument; to bar the concept of free enterprise from the realm of ideas is to betray our past and to endanger our future. Freedom to pursue the truth, to exchange ideas and to disagree with accepted opinion are the freedoms which have made America great and represent its proudest possession."

The statement concluded: "The American tradition of freedom is also the Jewish tradition. In these days of understandable anxiety, we, as Americans and as Jews, must reforge the links which bind us to the great ideals of freedom bequeathed to us by our forebearers. Civil liberties are the foundation of this freedom and constitute the most powerful weapon against totalitarianism and tyranny."

JEWISH GROUPS LAUD EISENHOWER'S SIGNING OF HEIRLESS PROPERTY BILL

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The signing by President Eisenhower of the Heirless Property Bill, under which philanthropic organizations may get up to \$5,000,000 from confiscated German property in this country, was hailed today by the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, and the American Joint Distribution Committee, the major Jewish organizations which, since the war, have deeply concerned themselves with the heirless property problem both in the United States and abroad. The approval of this bill by the President brings to a successful conclusion six years of effort to obtain Congressional passage of this measure.

The bill provides that property in the United States, seized as enemy property, which was owned by persons persecuted by the wartime enemies of the U.S. for racial, religious or political reasons, shall be turned over to successor organizations, to be designated by the President, for use in the relief, rehabilitation and re-settlement of the surviving victims of persecution.

In applauding the action taken by the President and Congress, the organizations expressed great satisfaction that the Congress had formally recognized the principle, which the organizations considered to be pre-eminently just, that property belonging to persons who died as a result of the genocide practiced by the enemy should not escheat to the State, but should be employed in the relief of the needy survivors of the persecution.

The organizational representatives further emphasized that the action taken by Congress is consistent with the principle which the United States championed with respect to similar property situations abroad, including Germany, Austria, the satellite countries, and in the neutral countries. The organizations expressed their gratification over the whole-hearted support which this legislation received both from parties, and from the present and past administrations.

GERMAN MINISTER WANTS MORE NAZIS IN KEY POLITICAL POSITIONS

BERLIN, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Insinuation that Nazis are needed in political key positions in Germany, so as to exclude Jewish influence from the country's political life, was voiced at a public meeting here by Hermann Ahrens, member of the Cabinet in the state of Lower Saxony.

Addressing a rally convened by the BHE Refugee Party, of which he was formerly floor leader in the state legislature at Hanover, the Lower Saxony Minister of Economics avoided to mention the word "Jew." However, he referred to "racially alien elements," a derogatory phrase commonly employed in Nazi parlance to designate Jews and "non-Aryans." No translation can render the pungently anti-Semitic flavor of the expression, but "ethically alien forces" or "racially alien elements" come closest.

In an apparent effort to explain why formerly prominent Nazis do not heed the well-meaning advice to keep in the background for a decent interval before elbowing their way to the center of the political stage, Ahrens told the BHE audience: "We have recognized that politics may not be left in the hands of racially alien elements. We left the political stage in 1945, but we returned to it because there was no other choice."

The Cabinet Minister's candor in referring to Nazis as "we" may be due to attacks directed against him in a recent election campaign by neo-Nazi extremist Adolf von Thadden, a member of the last Bundestag, who charged that Ahrens failed to represent Nazi interests properly, even though he had been elected as a Nazi and with Nazi votes. Ahrens had joined the Nazi Party as early as 1931. After the war, the British considered him so dangerous a security risk that they interned him in a camp for Nazi activities during a two-year period.

## AMERICAN ZIONISTS URGED TO SPREAD KNOWLEDGE OF HEBREW

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Zionists throughout the United States were called upon today to spread deeper knowledge of Hebrew, and of Jewish history and culture, not only among children but also among adults. The call was issued by Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, in connection with the national observance of Jewish Education Month, which starts on September 7.

Emphasizing that he speaks on behalf of all Zionist groups represented on the American Zionist Council, Rabbi Miller said: "As the 'People of the Book,' we dare not discard our great heritage. As Zionists we must be constantly conscious of our glorious past and proud of the renaissance of Hebrew as the living language of Israel."

"To the religious Jew," Rabbi Miller pointed out, "Hebrew is the language of worship and Jewish religious thought. To men of letters, it is the key to classic literature. To lovers of Israel, Hebrew can serve as a bond of unity with world Jewry and the State of Israel. To Jewry at large, it can serve as a potent factor in Jewish survival, for it links the Jew to his past, binds him to the present, and enables him to share in the vision for a creative Jewish life in the future."

"As Americans we must continue the creative Jewish life begun on these shores by a handful of Jews 300 years ago. The accomplishments of those early settlers enable our lives and, at the same time, charge us with certain obligations as Americans and as Jews. Through a program of effective Jewish education, we can forge the links with the generations that have passed, and with the communities of Jews in all parts of the world, particularly Israel."

Rabbi Miller reminded the Zionists that at the first American Zionist Assembly last December, a resolution was unanimously adopted, declaring that "Jewish education is the primary instrument for the development of cultural and spiritual bonds between Israel and Jews everywhere." The resolution called upon the American Zionist Council "to accept the furtherance of Jewish education as a primary responsibility," and urged every Zionist "to participate in the furtherance of Jewish education in his community, and to provide his children with a basic Jewish education."

## ST. PAUL JEWISH FUND AND COUNCIL INVITES VIEWS ON SANCTIONS

ST. PAUL, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Fund and Council here, which recently voted to impose sanctions against persons holding positions of leadership whose pledges to the Fund are considered inadequate, today announced that people who wish to voice their opinions on the sanctions decision will be given an opportunity to do so. The decision touched off a sharp controversy in the community.

Dan Rosenberg, executive secretary of the UJFC, said that the first order of business will be a re-solicitation of donors in an effort to make up a \$50,000 deficit in this year's campaign. No action will be taken with respect to sanctions until completion of the re-solicitation, he added.

## 3,990 JEWISH CONGREGATIONS REPORTED FUNCTIONING IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The National Council of Churches of Christ today published data showing that Jews rank third in membership of religious congregations. The Council establishes that, in 1953, there were 3,990 Jewish congregations in the United States, with a membership of about 5,000,000. The number of Protestants affiliated with churches is given as 55,000,000. Roman Catholic church affiliation is in second place, with 31,000,000 members.

## ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION GRANTS \$10,000 FOR VIRUS STUDY IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The Israel Foundations Trustees of Jerusalem have been given a \$10,000 grant by the Rockefeller Foundation for the conduct of virus studies, under Dr. N. Goldblum. Announcement of the grant was made here today by the Rockefeller Foundation.

J.N.F. PRESIDENT URGES U.S. TO GRANT ARMS TO JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The least America could do to reassure the Israelis and to allay Israel's fears of Arab aggression that have been stirred by the promise of American arms to the Arab states is to supply Israel with sufficient American arms; nothing short of this can be expected to reduce the prevailing tension and to change the negative reaction of the Israeli citizen to the current American policy in the Near East.

This statement was made today by Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, upon his return from Israel following a month's visit. Dr. Levine added that the settlements along the borders of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt, 180 of which have been built within the last six years on the land of the Jewish National Fund, are the real "guardians of Israel," which protect the country day and night against Arab assaults.

Dr. Levine said that "the average Israeli still regards America as Israel's greatest friend, but is dumbfounded by what seems to him the pro-Arab policy of the Administration in Washington." Accompanied by Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the JNF, Dr. Levine headed a delegation to Israel which conferred with the heads of the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem and with the Israel Government.

GRAVE PERILS FACING ISRAEL, SAYS NEUMANN UPON RETURN TO U.S.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Emanuel Neumann, member of the Jewish Agency executive, and chairman of the national ZOA executive committee, asserted today that the "Middle Eastern policy of the Western powers--notably the United States--has been pushing Israel into an increasingly adverse position vis-a-vis her Arab neighbors." He further warned of the grave perils facing Israel through the arming of Iraq by the West, and the coming evacuation of the Suez Canal, enormously increasing Egypt's military potential.

In a statement issued upon his return from the sessions of the Jewish Agency executive and the Zionist Actions Committee, which recently concluded in Jerusalem, Dr. Neumann declared: "If Israel should thus be placed in grave peril, our own government must bear a large measure of responsibility. So must the American Jewish community, which does not seem to have grasped the full import of the momentous change which is taking place."

"It would be idle and self-deluding," he warned, "to expect a reversal of this trend unless we, American Jews, recognize that we have thus far failed to meet our responsibility in this vital respect, and make a renewed and supreme effort to safeguard Israel's political and military security."

DETROIT JEWS ASK DULLES TO ABSTAIN FROM ARMING THE ARABS

DETROIT, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A request to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles that the State Department reconsider its present policy, under which arms and technical assistance would be furnished to Egypt, was made here in a letter to Mr. Dulles from Sidney M. Shevitz, president of the Jewish Community Council here, and Irving W. Schlusel, president of the Zionist Council of Detroit.

MAX EPSTEIN, CHICAGO JEWISH PHILANTHROPIST, DEAD; WAS 79

CHICAGO, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Max Epstein, one of the leading Jewish philanthropists in this city. Mr. Epstein died Sunday at the age of 79. Among his philanthropies were establishment of several clinics, a Fine Arts building to the University of Chicago, costing \$1,000,000, and a \$50,000 fund to aid needy students at Harvard Law School.