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ARMY SAYS "NO BASIS" FOR ADL BIAS CHARGE IN MONMOUTH CASES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- An Army spokesman said this week-end that there was "no basis" for charges made by the B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation League that anti-Semitism was the motivation for the suspension of 38 civilian employees at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., as security risks.

The Army's statement followed disclosure of the secret memorandum submitted to the Army by the ADL last February reporting the results of the ADL's private investigation of the situation at Ft. Monmouth. The 10,000-word document had asked Secretary of the Army Robert T. Stevens to examine the files of 600 civilian employees at the installation in order to establish whether the suspension of the 38 Jewish civilian employees as security risks was the result of anti-Semitism.

(In New York, the Anti-Defamation League vigorously denied that it had made the secret document public. Extensive excerpts from the memorandum were quoted Thursday by a Long Branch, New Jersey, newspaper. Originally, the only copies of the secret report outside the ADL office were those delivered to the Army.)

According to the Army spokesman, Lewis W. Berry, Deputy Army Counsellor, soon after receipt of the memorandum, the Secretary of the Army "took action to check the reports" of anti-Semitism in the Ft. Monmouth case, but "we found nothing in our investigation" to bear out the charges.

Extent of Army Inquiries into Charges Not Indicated

Mr. Berry, who said the Army investigation was carried out last February or March, did not explain why no reply had been forthcoming to the ADL until on June 24 when, in a letter to Henry E. Schultz, head of the ADL, the Army asserted there was no basis to the charges of anti-Semitism.

This conclusion was reached, according to that letter, on the basis of an independent investigation by the Army of the possibility of religious bias at Ft. Monmouth. The ADL was not informed and was never able to ascertain whether the Army had, as requested by the ADL, examined the files of the 600 civilian employees. This examination, according to the ADL, would have determined whether supervisory personnel at Ft. Monmouth had treated the cases of Christian employees differently from Jews and whether one supervisor had failed to process for action cases involving Christian employees where the adverse information respecting them "was virtually similar to the adverse information he accumulated with respect to Jewish personnel."

A statement by the ADL subsequently pointed out that it was "significant" that in the same letter, the Department of the Army "advised us that it was directing

its Chief Signal Officer to take whatever steps were necessary to ensure that racial or religious prejudice does not enter into personnel activities at Ft. Monmouth."

The ADL disclosed that in a subsequent communication, on July 7, the Army had described the ADL memorandum as a "very excellent, exhaustive and candid study of the situation at Ft. Monmouth." The ADL also noted that Maj. Gen. Kirke B. Lawton, retiring commander of the base, had praised the report.

"We believe that the American people is entitled to the answers to the questions which our report did not answer and which only the Army can," the ADL declared.

The ADL, in a summary of conclusions contained in its memorandum, said this week-end that "we found sufficient evidence in addition to persuasive hearsay to conclude that one key security officer at the installation was personally anti-Semitic." This officer was considered to have followed "a consistent pattern of delays and other dilatory tactics in clearing Jewish employees, but was expeditious when it came to non-Jewish employees."

Fulltest Examination Urged by A. D. L.

The ADL pointed out that it was "unable to prove that the anti-Semitism of this key security officer was a motivating factor in initiating the suspensions he stimulated." It noted that the answer to the question could only have been obtained by careful examination of the files of each of the 600 technical civilian employees at the base.

"For this reason," it noted, "we strongly recommended to the Secretary of the Army that he initiate such an examination. It was our belief that because of the widespread rumor that anti-Semitism was a factor in the suspensions at Ft. Monmouth, fairness to the security officer in question, and everyone else concerned, required a full examination of all the personnel files to determine whether it was the critical factor."

The ADL statement noted a further conclusion that "the established criteria for security evaluation are so without safeguards that malicious rumor and the most careless hearsay can be the basis for suspensions and loss of security clearances."

The statement also stressed the conclusion that "the unfortunate public impression that communism was rampant among the suspended civilian personnel at Ft. Monmouth, and that it was rooted almost without exception in Jews, came largely from the collateral activity of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations."

UJA OPENS SECOND HALF OF 1954 DRIVE; SEEKS \$50, 000, 000 IN CASH

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal will open the second half of its 1954 nationwide campaign tomorrow with all efforts aimed at raising \$50, 000, 000 in cash by the year's end for the strengthening of refugee settlement programs in Israel, and emigration and welfare programs in Europe and North Africa, it was announced today by Edward M. M. Warburg, general chairman of the UJA. Mr. Warburg announced also that Morris W. Berinstein, a national campaign chairman, has been named chairman of the cash drive.

The UJA general chairman, in announcing the \$50, 000, 000 cash goal, termed it a "must raise" figure for completion of "unfinished humanitarian business in Israel, tension-wrecked North Africa, and other parts of the free world." Mr. Warburg stressed that "unfinished business in Israel is the UJA's number one concern."

He said that "contributors throughout the country will be called on, beginning tomorrow, to redeem their campaign pledges in full, and without delay," for the swift financing of a four-point program in Israel and other lands of the UJA beneficiary organizations. This program includes hastening construction in Israel of 19 new refugee agricultural settlements, improving 40 previously established immigrant settlements, completing 8, 000 refugee housing units, maintaining in transitional camps 100, 000 newly-arrived immigrants, and providing medical aid, educational assistance, vocational guidance and custodial care for a total of 19, 500 child, aged and infirm newcomers.

U. S. TO DOUBLE NUMBER OF EXPERTS ASSISTING ISRAEL DEVELOPMENT

TEL AVIV, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The United States Foreign Operations Administration Mission here will soon increase the number of experts in Israel, to help this country implement its various development projects, it was announced here today by Dr. Lincoln Hale, new head of the FAO Mission in Israel. The number of experts will go from 42 to 85.

Dr. Hale said he looked forward to great benefits for Israel's economy from a contract recently concluded between his mission and the State University of New York under which, he said, Israel will be aided materially in solving difficult technical problems through researches to be carried on by the State University.

Twenty-five additional experts will arrive here from the United States within the next two months, Dr. Hale said. The group will be composed of 17 agricultural experts, four public health specialists, three in the field of education, and one expert in industrial production.

Dr. Hale had high praise for the "sense of planning" which he has encountered everywhere he has gone in this country, and declared he was highly impressed by the "dynamic rhythm" of Israel's economy. He just returned from a trip to Haifa and the area south of that port, where he saw improvements being built for the railroad system and inspected huge railway equipment repair shops being built by the British to serve the entire area from Cairo to Palestine. He also inspected development work at the new Kishon Harbor.

NEW U. N. TRUCE CHIEF CALLS ON SHARETT; BENNIKE LEAVING FRIDAY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, new chief of the United Nations truce supervision organization in Palestine, paid his first official visit here this week-end to Prime Minister Moshe Sharett. Also present at the formal conference were Dr. Walter Eytan, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike, retiring head of the UN truce set-up, whom Gen. Burns succeeds. Gen. Bennike is leaving this area next Friday.

Meanwhile, it was announced here today that two Jews have been killed, and one wounded, over the week-end, by Jordanian fire from across the frontier. Israeli authorities promptly lodged complaints with the United Nations organization.

MAPAI-GENERAL ZIONIST RIFT SEEN EASED; COMPROMISE UNDER STUDY

TEL AVIV, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The threatened split in the Israel Government coalition between its two largest parties, the Mapai and the General Zionists, seemed today on the way to peaceful solution. The parties had disagreed on the timing for introduction of a bill in Parliament which would, in effect, hamper the activities of small political parties by ruling that no party receiving less than 4.2 percent of the total ballot in any election may have parliamentary representation.

A joint committee of Mapai and General Zionist party representatives held a four-hour meeting this week-end, and concluded with a joint statement declaring that the "discussions were held in a friendly atmosphere." The joint committee announced it will hold a second meeting later this week. It is presumed that some compromise between the two parties has been proposed, and is now under study by the leadership of each of the parties.

FIVE COMMUNISTS ARRESTED IN NAZARETH FOR UNAUTHORIZED RALLY

TEL AVIV, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Five Communists, including City Councilman Munnim Jarjura, were arrested in Nazareth today on charges of participating in an unauthorized demonstration. The demonstration was in protest against the arrest a month ago of 30 other Communists accused of attacking an Army officer and violating Army regulations.

BONN CONFIRMS ISRAEL'S REPORTED REQUEST FOR REPARATIONS ADVANCE

BONN, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Israel did ask West Germany for a \$70,000,000 loan against reparations payments, as reported in the German press last week, a spokesman for the Bonn Foreign Office confirmed today. The reports revealing that the first request had been made, said that the government had "turned a cold shoulder" to Israel's loan suggestion.

The Foreign Office spokesman, confirming the reported loan request, declared, however, that no decision has as yet been made by the government.

Informed sources here pointed out today that the Israeli request is strictly within the terms of the German-Israel Reparations Treaty which pledged Germany to try to increase reparations installments "insofar as possible," and to pay installments ahead of time "in the event that Germany obtains financial relief from external sources." The Israeli request, as reported, asked that Germany lend the \$70,000,000 to the Jewish State out of its vast accumulation of negotiable monies in the European Payments Union.

GERMANS COMPLETE FIRST VESSEL BUILT FOR ISRAEL REPARATIONS

HAMBURG, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- With Israel's flag fluttering in the breeze, and her name, "Dagan," emblazoned on her sides in both Hebrew and Latin lettering, the first vessel to be completed under the German-Israel reparations treaty slid down the ways today in the Stuelcken Shipyards here.

The "Dagan" is a spruce, 7,000-ton ship, 385 feet in length, 56 feet wide, with a height of 31 feet at the main deck. She has a draft of 25 feet, and can make over 14 knots an hour. This latest addition to Israel's merchant marine has four cargo holds, and a refrigeration store-room with a capacity of 20,000 cubic feet, in addition to accommodation for 12 passengers. The Zim Sholah Line, new owner of the "Dagan," plans to use her as a fruit carrier between Haifa and European ports.

The ship was dedicated by Mrs. Franz Boehm, wife of Prof. Boehm, who headed the German delegation at the negotiations at The Hague where the reparations treaty was drawn between West Germany and Israel. Thousands cheered as Mrs. Boehm broke a bottle of Israeli champagne on the bow of the "Dagan." She made an impassioned address, praising the "peaceful upbuilding of the Jewish State."

Dr. F. E. Shinnar, head of the Israel Purchasing Mission in Germany, described the vessel as "a very special link in the widespread network of trade relations woven by Israel's economy in the last six years." "The frightful events against which the Reparations Treaty is silhouetted," he said, "and the spiritual message of this ship must not be forgotten. If we should forget that spiritual message - the call to all people of goodwill to preclude any possible repetition of the tragic chapter in the history of humanity that led up to reparations from Germany to Israel - all of this would be in vain."

An Israeli crew will take over the "Dagan" at the end of next month, and sail her to Haifa with reparations goods. On her return trip, the ship will carry one of the season's first boatloads of this year's crop of Jaffa oranges.

FREDERIC SANBORN NAMED U. S. MEMBER OF BERLIN RESTITUTION COURT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The State Department announced this week-end the appointment of Frederic R. Sanborn of New York as the United States member of the Supreme Restitution Court for Berlin.

The court was set up by international agreement to pass on cases of restitution of property to persons deprived of such property by the Nazi regime. It is composed of three German judges, one British, one French and one American judge, in addition to a neutral president. It is the final court of action on restitution matters in Berlin.

Z. O. A. LEADERS HIT ADMINISTRATION FOR POLICY OF ARMING ARAB STATES

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Fierce protests against the State Department's policy of furnishing arms to the Arab states and thus endangering the security of Israel and of the whole Middle East were voiced here this week-end as 300 leaders of the Zionist Organization of America met in a two-day extraordinary conference of the ZOA National Administrative Council.

Addressing last night's session, Mortimer May, president of the ZOA, called upon American Zionists to "speak out in loud and clear voice" against the State Department policy which he called "unfair to Israel, dangerous to peace and stability in the Middle East and harmful to America's interests in that part of the world." He ridiculed the State Department's contention that it was arming the Arab states as a bulwark against Communism.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the ZOA National Executive Committee and a member of the Jewish Agency executive, charged that the Administration in Washington as a whole is responsible for the pro-Arab policy of the State Department. He asserted that "things have gone too far and are getting out of hand. Neither the President nor the Secretary of State can be absolved of responsibility for the acts of their subordinates and the possible consequences."

"We have long clung to the belief," he said, "that this reckless and one-sided policy in the Middle East has been the work of our lower echelon officials while, on the highest level of the State Department and the Administration as a whole, friendship and concern for Israel continue unchanged. But we can no longer console ourselves with that comforting thought," Dr. Neumann declared.

Reuben Shiloah, Israel Minister to the United States, addressing the conference, declared "the development of economic stability and democracy are the most urgent and vital goals in the Middle East." These goals, he continued, "will not be achieved through an armament race in the area. Neither will they be achieved if the leaders of the Arab world harbor the belief that they can gain the friendship of the Western world leadership without abandoning their policies of boycott, blockade and belligerency toward Israel."

In his address, Mr. May announced that the ZOA is undertaking a thorough overhaul of the public relations and information machinery of the Organization. The ZOA president further announced the establishment of a new Department of Public Information, which will operate as a single overall instrumentality for conducting the public relations work of the ZOA, and in which will be integrated a number of ZOA committees and departments. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver will serve as honorary chairman of the new department, Dr. Leon I. Feuer as chairman, and Harold P. Mason as executive vice-chairman.

A. J. C. HITS "INADEQUATE" CONGRESSIONAL RECORD IN CIVIL RIGHTS AREA

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The record of the 83rd Congress in enacting legislation to end racial inequality was decried today as "woefully inadequate" by Shad Polier, chairman of the National Executive Committee of the American Jewish Congress. While noting that the 83rd Congress "was no worse than its predecessors," Mr. Polier pointed out that the new Administration's failure to put through an "affirmative program" on civil rights, "no matter how minimal," was particularly "disappointing."

In a statement analyzing the record of the 83rd Congress, Mr. Polier noted that little or no headway had been made by either the House or the Senate on all the standard items of the civil rights program. He underlined its failure to act on the bipartisan Ives-Humphrey FEPC bill and on proposals to liberalize the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act - despite President Eisenhower's campaign promise.

MAINE DOCTORS SWITCH CONVENTION SITE IN BLOW AT DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- The Maine Medical Association has abandoned plans to hold this year's convention, due to open next month, at the Colony, a resort at Kennebunkport, Me., because that resort operates on a policy of racial discrimination, it was announced today by the Anti-Defamation League here. Instead, the convention will be held at the Eastland Hotel in Portland.

According to the ADL, protests against holding the meeting at the Colony were made by two members of the Maine Medical Association, Dr. Benjamin Zolov, who is on the executive committee of the ADL's New England regional board; and Dr. Maurice Ross, a member of the Biddeford-Saco B'nai B'rith. As a result of their protests, Dr. William Mahaney, president of the Maine Medical Association, named Dr. Zolov general convention chairman, and the latter moved the convention site.

Dr. Ross had also fought successfully against the use of the Colony at Kennebunkport as the site for the annual meeting of the New York County Medical Association. The owners of the Colony also run a hotel attacked as discriminatory at Delray Beach, Fla.

COURT UPHOLDS MASSACHUSETTS TEMPLE'S BUILDING PLANS

NEWTON, Mass., Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Temple Mishkan Tefila, of Roxbury, largest Conservative synagogue in New England, has won a round in its fight against Newton's mayor, Howard Whitmore, Jr., who wants to stop the congregation from erecting a new temple here.

Judge Daniel T. O'Connell, of the Suffolk Superior Court, this week-end ruled in favor of the congregation, on a suit against the mayor. City Solicitor Matt B. Jones announced he would appeal Judge O'Connell's ruling to the State Supreme Judicial Court, but the congregation is proceeding with building plans which it hopes to have completed before the approaching High Holidays.

The congregation purchased a 23-acre tract of park land for its planned new house of worship last month from the Metropolitan District Commission which held title to the land here. After the deed had been turned over to the congregation, Mayor Whitmore suddenly created a Park Commission. According to a State law, a Park Commission must approve the transfer of park lands. The new Park Commission vetoed the District Commission's sale, the veto was immediately supported by Newton City Council, and Mayor Whitmore ordered the land sale to the congregation cancelled. The court invalidated the Mayor's order.

FOE OF ANTI-SEMITISM ELECTED HEAD OF CANADIAN LABOR CONGRESS

REGINA, Canada, Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Claude Jodoin of Montreal, a leading figure in this country in the fight against anti-Semitism and racial discrimination, has been elected president of the 600,000-strong Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Mr. Jodoin has been chairman of the Congress' standing committee on racial discrimination for a number of years. He has frequently appeared at Histadrut gatherings.

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH GROUP HONORS SAMUEL GERSHOVITZ

STARLIGHT, Pa., Aug. 29. (JTA) -- Samuel D. Gershovitz, executive vice-president of the National Jewish Welfare Board, has been named 1954 recipient of the Aleph Zadik Aleph "Sam Beber Distinguished Alumnus" award. AZA, which is the boys' group of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, concluded its 31st convention and leadership training institute here today. Mr. Gershovitz was a member of AZA when he was a student in Minneapolis.

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