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STATE DEPARTMENT MAY BE STUDYING ARMS GRANT FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- State Department press officer Lincoln White said today he thought Israel is among the Near Eastern states being considered as possible recipients of U. S. arms grants.

White, meanwhile, made known that while no recent changes have occurred in the U.S. arms policy in the Near East, this country is actively considering extending arms grants to various states in the area. He declined to specify which states were under consideration when asked to list them.

The danger of Soviet aggression in the Near East, White said, made it imperative to move forward to strengthen the region militarily. He cited a letter sent last month to Rep. Emanuel Celler as definitive of American arms policy. This letter, written August 11 by Assistant Secretary of State Thurston Morton, outlined America's reasons for arming the Arabs. It said, "we fail to find evidence that any Arab State is desirous or capable of sustaining an aggressive move against Israel."

White announced that the State Department had delivered a strongly-worded oral representation on the alleged Israel attack against a Jordan village last week to Israel Charge d'Affaires Reuven Shiloah, who was asked to come to the State Department for this purpose last Saturday. White said that the Israeli diplomat had been told that the United States viewed "the reported Israel military operations" with "great concern." He said Israel was informed that the Department recognized that infiltration from Jordan constitutes a serious problem to Israel but that Israel's "apparent policy of retaliation which has been condemned in the past," brought about increased rather than decreased tension.

Shiloah was informed that the United States believes peace can best be achieved in that region through measures to decrease tension. The belief was expressed by the State Department that retaliatory raids do not accomplish those objectives. Hope was expressed that Israel and Jordan would cooperate peacefully.

Spanish Arms Shipments to Egypt to Increase

Spanish arms shipments to Egypt will be increased, according to the September issue of "Iron Age." The magazine said that Spain is now shipping \$2,800,000 in arms to Egypt and, "contrary to some reports," has proceeded to accept orders for another \$3,100,000.

"Iron Age" said that the United States is extending financial aid for a Spanish aircraft industry under guidance of Prof. Heinkel, Nazi bomber expert, who is now in Spain.

American experts were quoted by "Iron Age" as stating that Spain's newly-developed 30 mm. anti-aircraft guns and 105 mm. field guns are "among the best existing." Spain is manufacturing artillery as heavy as 150 mm. and has already contracted to supply heavy shells for U.S. forces and probably to Egypt.

(The Belgian Government announced in Brussels last night that it had decided to lift its arms embargo against Egypt.)

It was reported here today that Egyptian Government leaders are disappointed in the extent of American economic assistance offers to Egypt. Although it is not known what the State Department has offered Cairo, best estimates here place the figure at a maximum of \$25,000,000. Egyptian economic planners are known to be seeking some \$140,000,000 for various development projects--more than the \$115,000,000 which Congress allocated for the entire Near East.

IRVING MILLER HITS U.S. ARMING OF EGYPT; URGES POLICY REVERSAL

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The American Government's new policy of granting military materiel to Egypt was criticized sharply here today by Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, which represents eight country-wide Zionist organizations with a total membership of 750,000. That Washington policy, he declared, has resulted in "profoundly shaking the precarious balance of military power in the Middle East" at a time when Egypt "continues to threaten a renewal of war against Israel."

The veteran Zionist leader appealed to the President and Secretary of State Dulles "to throw the full weight of America's influence behind constructive and statesmanlike efforts to bring peace to the Middle East," asserting that it was "not yet too late."

Rabbi Miller called on both Britain and the United States to obtain from Egypt "an affirmative guarantee" that the Suez Canal area, to be taken over soon by Egypt, will not become "a springboard for fresh Egyptian adventures against Israel and the general security of the Middle East." He criticized Western diplomatic and military thinking which relies on Egypt as the "defender" of the Middle East and Africa against possible aggression. "It is sheer military folly," he said, "to believe that Egypt can be defended without Israel."

EGYPTIANS BLAST MAIN WATER LINE TO NEGEV SETTLEMENTS

TEL AVIV, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A United Nations truce observer today discovered the tracks of four men leading toward the Egyptian lines from the scene of an explosion which had disrupted the main water line serving Jewish settlements in the Negev, Israel's southern desert area, it was officially announced here today.

The blast, apparently set off by a landmine, occurred last night. The announcement of the attack revealed that the pipeline had been blown up in a similar fashion in the same neighborhood several weeks ago.

EUROPEAN LEADERS OF J. N. F. BACK GRANOTT LAND POLICY FOR ISRAEL

LONDON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Approval was voiced here at a meeting of leading European officials of the Jewish National Fund of the policy of Abraham Granott, world leader of the JNF, including a proposal for a "unified public land policy in Israel." Dr. Granott participated in the meeting.

The JNF leaders agreed also to raise funds for a special development project to be undertaken by the JNF in Galilee. They proposed to raise funds for this project by increasing their national quotas by at least 20 percent over normal JNF needs. It was also suggested that methods of fund-raising and other activities now under way in Britain should be adopted by JNF organizations in other European countries.

MIZRACHI PARTIES HIT GOVERNMENT FOR DELAY IN INQUIRY ON MINISTER

TEL AVIV, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Mizrahi and Labor Mizrahi parties of Israel last night issued a joint statement criticizing the Ministry of Justice for having failed to complete during the past four months its investigation into alleged violation of currency control regulations of Rabbi Shlomo Rosenberg, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and leader of the Orthodox Zionist movement.

The statement, following on the heels of an announcement by Dr. Pinchas Rosen, Justice Minister, that the investigation had not yet ended, declared that the seriousness of the charges and the position of the accused demands "prompt action" by the government. Rabbi Rosenberg, who offered to waive immunity and stand trial, subsequently took a leave from his post in order to facilitate the Justice Ministry's investigation.

GROUP WHICH QUIT MAPAM ORGANIZES PARTY, ADOPTS PROGRAM

TEL AVIV, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The first constituent assembly of the Leachduth Avodah Poale Zion Party closed here this week-end after adopting a number of resolutions which placed the group in support of the Histadrut, called for a labor coalition government to rule Israel, expressed "fraternal ties" with the Soviet Union and urged the USSR and the satellite states to revise their "negative" attitude on the unification of the Jewish nation. The party was formed from a group which last month split from the Mapam--leftist--Party.

The party also demanded that the Israel Government's foreign policy be based on equality with other nations, called for solidarity between Jewish and Arab workers in Israel and for a campaign for a higher living standard. A 20-member secretariat was elected, including such well known leftist leaders as Moshe Erem, Israel Bar Yehuda, Israel Ben Aharon, Israel Galili and Igal Alon.

CATHOLIC BISHOP VISITS ISRAEL TO CONSECRATE ROAD TO SHRINE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Alberto Gori, Archbishop and head of the Roman Catholic Patriarchate in Jordan, came to Israel and attended the consecration of a new road leading to Mt. Tabor, one of Christendom's holiest shrines. The Israeli Government constructed the road to facilitate the travel of Christian pilgrims. The Archbishop expressed his gratitude to the Israeli Government for its "solicitude toward its Christian citizens and overseas pilgrims." The building of this road, he said, is "a manifestation of the Israel Government's respect for the Holy Places of all faiths."

The shrine is atop a summit 1,800 feet above sea level. Until now, access to the shrine has been by way of a precipitous, serpentine donkey path. Local dignitaries of the Roman Catholic church joined Msgr. Gori, and representatives of Israeli ministries and the Israel Tourist Department were in attendance at the ceremonies when Archbishop Gori cut the ribbon, formally opening the road.

GAS RATIONING IN JERUSALEM; OIL WORKERS' STRIKE CONTINUES

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Gasoline went on strict rationing throughout Jerusalem today as the strike of several hundred workers at the Haifa installations of Shell Oil Company entered its ninth day. Thus far, the government has maintained a hands-off policy in relation to the dispute.

HERZOG NAMED TO HEAD UNITED STATES DESK IN ISRAEL MINISTRY

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Jacob Herzog, son of Dr. Itzhak Herzog, chief rabbi of Israel, was appointed today head of the American desk in the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Dr. Herzog has been acting head of the desk for the last few months.

YUGOSLAV GOVT. ENCOURAGES SECULAR EDUCATION IN JEWISH SCHOOLS

VIENNA, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Yugoslav Government has adopted a policy of "neutralization" with regard to the schools of the Jewish community, Prof. Albert Vajs, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Yugoslavia, told the JTA here today.

Although the exercise of the Jewish religion will not be hindered in any way, and religious instruction will be permitted in the Jewish schools; the Government will encourage a secular education program there.

Prof. Vajs said that what was intended in the Jewish schools was not an anti-religious, but a non-religious program.

The Yugoslav leader said there are now 6,500 Jews in Yugoslavia, comprising 35 communities. Emigration from Yugoslavia to Israel, he declared, is not restricted, but few Jews are taking advantage of the opportunity to leave the country.

TURKISH OFFICIAL STRESSES POLICY OF FULL RIGHTS FOR MINORITIES

ISTANBUL, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A formal statement underlining the principle that no distinctions will be made among citizens on a "majority or minority" basis was issued here today by the Mayor of this city, Dr. Fahrettin Kerim Gokay. At the Mayor's request, every local daily newspaper published his statement today.

Dr. Gokay's statement was in answer to protests made by the National Federation of University Students, which complained that some members of "minority" groups had failed to display the national flag during Victory Day celebrations last week.

"In Turkey," the Mayor declared, "there is no problem of minority or majority. Failure by any citizen to display the national colors on a holiday does not authorize anybody to offend, with a general charge, those citizens whom we love and consider as real Turks. We cannot make distinctions among citizens who have fought and shed their blood in Korea, and who are now serving bravely in the Turkish Army."

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS TO PUBLISH POCKET BOOKS ON JEWISH SUBJECTS

LONDON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A publishing venture to print pocket books on Jewish subjects will be launched this month by the World Jewish Congress, the WJC announced today.

The venture, to be known as the "Popular Jewish Library," will range over such fields as philosophy, religion, history, art, sociology and literature--all written by acknowledged authorities in their own fields. Among the first pocket books to be published will be Edmund Fleg's "The Land in Which God Dwells." In all, six titles are scheduled for publication during the first year.

TRIBUTE PAID TO WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICAN REFORM MOVEMENT

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Tribute was paid here today to the deep devotion to religion of the women of the Reform Movement of South Africa by Mrs. W. Nicol, wife of the Administrator of Transvaal province. She made her statement at a garden party sponsored by a group of women members of the Reform Movement who had gathered to honor Rabbi M.C. Weiler, who is currently celebrating the 21st anniversary of his ministry. Rabbi Weiler is the leading Reform Rabbi in this country.

CONNECTICUT REPUBLICANS PLEDGE BIAS-FREE CAMPAIGN AGAINST RIBICOFF

HARTFORD, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The State Republican Party will conduct its campaign for the governorship against Abraham A. Ribicoff, the Democratic candidate, "free of appeals to racial or religious groups," Clarence F. Baldwin, Republican State Chairman, declared today.

Mr. Baldwin voiced his assurances to Louis Feinmark, president of the Connecticut Jewish Community Relations Council, who had expressed concern that appeals to prejudice might arise because Mr. Ribicoff is Jewish.

"Unfortunately, there have been several recent incidents in other parts of the country where such undemocratic appeals have been made by candidates for public office," Mr. Feinmark noted.

The Republican leader replied that "we are conducting a clean campaign and will continue to do so." He pointed out that the Republican ticket contained candidates of various religious groups and national origins.

He added that in Connecticut, "even in the heat of a political campaign, all of us--regardless of political persuasion--can agree on the fundamental freedoms which are the very foundations of our greatness."

PROTESTS MADE AGAINST ST. PAUL "SANCTIONS" IN COMMUNAL CAMPAIGN

ST. PAUL, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Protests are pouring into the offices of the board of directors of the United Jewish Fund and Council here, which recently announced a policy of "sanctions" against members of the Jewish community who do not contribute enough money to the UJFC's fund drive for local, national and overseas philanthropies.

The UJFC board of directors, however, has approved a statement issued last week by the president of the Council, Leonard Heller, explaining the "sanctions" proposal to have all Jewish officers and board members of the organizations removed from their posts if their contributions are deemed inadequate. The Council has sent copies of Mr. Heller's statement to its 3,800 contributors in this city.

10,000 JAPANESE SEEKING CONVERSION TO JUDAISM, JWB OFFICIAL REPORTS

HARTFORD, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- As many as 10,000 Japanese are seeking conversion to Judaism, Rabbi A.J. Feldman, spiritual leader of Beth Israel Temple here, has reported after returning from a 10-week tour of Torah Convocations in the Far East. Rabbi Feldman made the tour on behalf of the National Jewish Welfare Board's Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, of which he is executive chairman.

Explaining the new trend among Japanese, Rabbi Feldman stated he found that the war had "knocked out the spiritual props" which previously had been sufficient for many Japanese whom Shintoism taught that their country was invincible. As a result, many of them are turning to Judaism, bolstered to a great extent by the fact that American Jews, especially chaplains in the American armed services, had offered many kindnesses to the Japanese.

A great many Japanese, Rabbi Feldman reported, are learning Hebrew, and many are practicing Jewish rites. Jewish chaplains and rabbis, however, are "going slow" on accepting the would-be converts, he noted.

Rabbi Feldman, who is editor of the Jewish Ledger here, reported that he found that European Jews in Japan, Orthodox in their practice, had experienced little anti-Semitism in that country, except during World War II, when Japan was an ally of Hitler Germany.

GENERAL ZIONISTS TO ORGANIZE WOMEN'S GROUPS IN LATIN AMERICA

SANTIAGO, Chile, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A decision to organize women's groups of General Zionists in all countries of Latin America, and to include these women's organizations and General Zionist youth groups in the newly formed Latin American Confederation of General Zionists, was adopted here at the closing session of the first Latin American Continental Conference of General Zionists. The Conference was convened by the World Confederation of General Zionists.

The parley also decided to organize a shekel campaign and make other preparations for the elections to the next World Zionist Congress. The delegates opposed continuation of the "double shekel" system under which Israeli Zionist parties receive representation at the World Congresses based on twice their memberships.

The delegates also expressed support of the efforts of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, to unify the Progressive and General Zionist parties in Israel. They declared their solidarity with the General Zionist party in Israel, and their disappointment that the Progressives had rejected the latest General Zionist overtures toward unity.

Youth Group Quits General Zionist Conference

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- David Neumark, secretary of Hancar Hazione, General Zionist youth group, today revealed that his group had walked out of the recent conference of Latin American General Zionist parties. The withdrawal followed disagreement between Hanoar Hazione and the Conference on recognition of other youth groups.

80 BUSINESSMEN, PROFESSIONALS, STUDENTS LEAVE FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Eighty U.S. and Canadian citizens left for Israel today aboard the S.S. Jerusalem. The group includes 60 teachers, nurses, engineers, farmers and business men, some with their families - the largest single group of settlers to depart for Israel since 1948. The remainder, 20 senior students of the major Hebrew Teachers Colleges in the United States, will spend a full semester in Israel on Jewish Agency for Palestine Cultural fellowships.

The settlers' group comprises 60 persons trained in farming, experienced in business, and skilled in the professions that are most required by Israel. Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency, pointed out with regard to the latter group that their contributions to Israel are "in line with America's Point Four program of assisting underdeveloped regions and establishing closer bonds between democratic nations."

B'NAI B'RITH ORGANIZES \$1,000,000 DINNER FOR ISRAEL BOND DRIVE

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A million-dollar dinner for Israel Bond sales is being organized here for September 26, as a testimonial to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures Corporation and for 35 years a member of the B'nai B'rith. The testimonial is being arranged by the Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith.

In announcing the special tribute, the B'nai B'rith pointed out that Mr. Balaban played a major role in the founding of the Anti-Defamation League, is a member of the Israel Bond Organization's board of governors, and chairman of the amusement division of the United Jewish Appeal.

NEW YORK RABBIS STUDY PUERTO RICAN IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A project to help rabbis foster better understanding of the Puerto Rican migration to New York was launched here cooperatively by the New York Board of Rabbis, the local office of the Puerto Rican Government, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews.