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EGYPT TO RELEASE "BAT GALIM" CREW; WILL STILL HOLD VESSEL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Egypt announced today in a letter to the Security Council that it is ready to release the crew of the Israel freighter Bat Galim "as soon as the necessary formalities have been concluded."

From the contents of the letter, addressed to Dr. Charles Malik of Lebanon, president of the Security Council this month, by Omar Loutfy, acting chairman of the Egyptian delegation here, it was evident that the Egyptians intend for the time being to detain the ship itself. At the same time, the letter was an obvious effort to influence the Security Council, which meets tomorrow at Israel's request to consider the Jewish State's long-standing grievance against Egypt for blockading the Suez Canal.

Unofficial comment here from Israel sources indicated that no change in Israel's stand before the Council has been necessitated by the letter. It was pointed out that Israel had mentioned the Bat Galim incident only as the most recent illustration of its Suez complaint against Egypt. Israel's grievance as it stands on the Security Council agenda at the moment concerns freedom of shipping through the Suez Canal regardless of the fate of the Bat Galim.

Israel will insist firmly before tomorrow's Council session upon the immediate release of the Bat Galim so that it might proceed through the Suez Canal to Haifa, its original port of destination.

The Egyptian letter today declares: "The Egyptian judicial authorities have set aside, owing to insufficient evidence, the charges of murder, attempted murder and unlawful carrying of weapons, brought against the members of the crew of the Bat Galim. The seamen will be released as soon as the necessary formalities have been completed. The Egyptian Government is prepared to release the seized cargo immediately."

Israel Demands Unconditional Release of "Bat Galim"

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The unconditional release by Egypt of the Israel vessel "Bat Galim" was demanded today in a statement made by a spokesman of the Israel delegation here following Egypt's announcement that it will release the ship's crew, but not the ship. The statement reads:

"The Egyptian seizure of the Bat Galim was a warlike act against Israel; a violation of the armistice agreements; a breach of the Security Council decision of 1951, of the Constantinople Convention of 1888 and of universally accepted maritime

practice. To crown it all it was accompanied by a base libel that the crew of the Bat Galim had shot and killed Egyptian fishermen.

"The Egyptian Government now announces its readiness to release the crew and cargo of the S.S. Bat Galim, thereby recognizing that the seizure of the vessel in the first place, on September 28, was without cause or foundation.

"While we welcome the release of the crew of the S.S. Bat Galim from unlawful detention, it must be emphasized that this does not meet the case; the only solution which Israel can accept is the unconditional release of the ship, together with its crew and cargo, so that it can complete the journey which Egypt had not the slightest right to interrupt in the first place. No other outcome would be compatible with international law and practice.

"There is, moreover, a clear necessity for the Security Council to reassert its general policy in favor of terminating all restrictions on free passage for the ships of all nations, including Israel, through this international waterway."

PRO-ARABS SEEK TO HAMPER REVISION OF U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who is reported to have begun a reconsideration of American policy in the Near East, was visited for 30 minutes today by a leader of the "American Friends of the Middle East," a pro-Arab group. The Rev. Edward L.R. Elson, who is best known as President Eisenhower's pastor, sought to dissuade Mr. Dulles from revising policy in the Near East, according to informed sources.

George V. Allen, newly-appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, may briefly visit Israel and the Arab League states on his way back from India where he has served as Ambassador, it was learned here today from government sources.

Mr. Allen is expected in Washington between December 15 and January 1. His schedule for the return trip has not yet been definitely arranged, although it is known that he wishes to visit Israel and the Arab states before returning to Washington.

U.S. ATTACKED BY SYRIAN DELEGATE IN U.N. ON JERUSALEM ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The United States and Britain were criticized here today by Ahmed Shukairy, Syrian delegate, for having their Ambassadors to Israel present their credentials in Jerusalem.

Speaking at the UN Political and Security Committee on the question of Korea, the Syrian delegate said that while the American and British governments insist upon invoking the United Nations' authority in Korea, they "betrayed the authority of the United Nations in Jerusalem."

"It was common knowledge," Mr. Shukairy said, "that the UN General Assembly had decreed the internationalization of Jerusalem as a corpus separatum; nevertheless, the United States and the United Kingdom had instructed their Ambassadors to Israel to submit their credentials in Jerusalem, a city where Israel has no sovereignty under a UN resolution. How can you reconcile your attitudes, gentlemen?" He added, "you can't advocate the authority of the UN in one question and destroy the authority of the UN in another."

ISRAEL RESPONDS TO SYRIAN DISTRESS CALL; SAVES SYRIAN SEAMEN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Seven Syrian seamen who had abandoned their severely damaged sailing vessel and taken to a lifeboat were rescued today by an Israeli tug which put out of Haifa in response to their SOS.

When the Israeli vessel came on the scene it found the men in their small boat and picked them up. Then it proceeded to take the listing sailboat "Adala" in tow and bring it back into the port of Haifa.

ISRAEL GOVT. DECIDES NOT TO CHECK PRIVATE TRAFFIC ON SABBATH

JERUSALEM, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet decided last night not to interfere with private traffic on the Sabbath, although it agreed not to license trucks to pick up passengers on the Sabbath when public bus service is suspended.

The decision, a reaffirmation of past policy, came at the conclusion of a stormy meeting at which Minister for Religion Moshe Shapiro and Minister of Post Joseph Burg--representatives of the religious parties--raised the question of the recent street fights between Orthodox and Laborite elements over Sabbath observance.

The religious ministers demanded that the police curb "private militias" which, they charged, had broken up demonstrations by Orthodox groups against traffic in Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Minister of Police Behor Shitreet, whom the religious Cabinet members have attacked over his handling of this matter, was told to deal with the problem, and to call on Premier Moshe Sharett for consultations should the situation warrant them.

The Orthodox ministers also lost out on a demand that a Histadrut athletic club and playground established near the Mea Shearim quarter, where the ultra-Orthodox elements in Jerusalem live, should be moved to another neighborhood. They noted that money was offered to buy another club and playground site for the labor group. The Cabinet upheld the club's right to remain where it was and guaranteed that it would be permitted to carry on its activities with the full protection of the law.

JEWISH AGENCY TO SPEND 114,000,000 ISRAEL POUNDS THIS YEAR

JERUSALEM, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency's budget will reach a total of 114,000,000 Israel pounds during the current fiscal year, with 85 percent of all funds allocated for immigration, Youth Aliyah, colonization and absorption, Dr. Giora Josephthal, Agency treasurer, told newsmen today.

He revealed that the Agency plans to establish some 30 to 35 new settlements and to invest 28,000,000 pounds in increasing the productivity of settlements already in existence, through adding irrigation and other facilities.

The Agency will also set up factories such as cotton mills or sugar factories to use agricultural products grown by Israel settlements. Dr. Josephthal reported that the Agency will spend 5,000,000 pounds for the transportation of some 30,000 immigrants.

ISRAEL TAKES MEASURES TO HALT DECLINE IN TRADE WITH TURKEY

ISTANBUL, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The Israel commercial attache here has taken several measures to fight a threatened decline in Israel-Turkish trade due to Turkey's inability to meet her commitments to export wheat, cotton and cereals to Israel.

Turkey, Israel's second best customer, has suffered crop reverses and has halted all exports of these products. She has also ordered large quantities of American wheat and cereals. At the same time, Turkish importers have continued to purchase Israel manufactured and other products against notes. This has forced the Israel Ministry of Trade to refuse export permits for Turkish shipments unless a letter of credit--the equivalent of cash in international trade--has been received in advance by the Israel exporter.

Meanwhile, the Israel commercial attache her, Moshe Galli, has been trying to locate substitute products which Israel firms can buy from Turkish exporters. One such recent deal involved the shipment of 6,000 sheep from Turkey to Israel. It is also expected that after the arrival of American wheat and cereals, Turkey will actually have an excess of these products and will be willing to start selling them to the Jewish State.

BRITAIN'S ACTION ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN BERLIN SOUGHT IN COMMONS

LONDON, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- A demand that the British Government protest to the German authorities against the anti-Semitic incidents at the recent German Party rally in Berlin was voiced in Commons today by Emrys Hughes, Independent Laborite, who also wanted to know the extent to which anti-Semitic propaganda was permitted in West Berlin.

Replying for the Government, R.H. Turton said it was a matter for the Berlin authorities to handle. He noted that the Berlin city council had adopted a resolution condemning the anti-Semitic incidents. He also quoted from the Berlin constitution which says that racial persecution or manifestations of national or religious hatred are punishable under the law.

GERMAN COURT RULES "ARYANIZATION" SALES CONTRACTS VOID

FRANKFURT, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- In a precedent-making decision, a German court here has invalidated the forced sale of businesses by Jews under Nazi laws which required the "Aryanization" of their properties. The case involved the sale of a publishing concern owned by a Jew to a high ranking Nazi officer.

For the first time, the decision also takes judicial cognizance of the fact that restitution legislation does not exist in the Soviet Zone of Germany. Under special circumstances, Jewish victims of Nazism from that part of Germany may therefore protect their interests by taking certain legal steps in West Germany, the court further stipulated.

At stake in the legal controversy was the right to employ the name of a publishing house specializing in scientific periodicals, which was founded half a century ago in Leipzig, in what is now the Soviet Zone, by Dr. Leo Jolowicz. In 1938, the business was taken over by SS Colonel Noatzke. The Jewish founder died in Leipzig shortly thereafter, but his children found refuge in the United States and became American citizens. In New York, his son, Walter Johnson, has built up a similar publishing house, the "Academic Press."

After the war, the "Aryanized" firm carried on in Leipzig under Soviet rule. Last year, the Jolowicz family re-established the old business under the same name, in Frankfurt. Both publishing houses claimed to be the legal successors to the original Leipzig firm and both made efforts to publish the same type of scientific journals.

In the ensuing legal dispute, the Frankfurt firm owned by the American heirs of Dr. Jolowicz has been upheld. The latter could not be expected to sue in the Soviet Zone, said the court, in view of the fact that no restitution legislation had been enacted there.

1955 GERMAN BUDGET LISTS \$38,000,000 FOR INDEMNIFICATION

BONN, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- West German budget estimates for 1955-56, which will be sent to the Bundestag soon for adoption, lists \$38,000,000 under the category of indemnification payments for individual Nazi victims.

The amount appropriated would thus be more than double that made available in the current fiscal year. In addition to the \$38,000,000, one and one-half million dollars has been provided for pension payments to rabbis and religious or administrative officials of former Jewish communities in Germany.

Meanwhile, top indemnification experts from the United States, Britain and France, invited by the Legal Committee of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, met in Frankfurt to work out recommendations for an amendment designed to make the Federal Indemnification Law more workable and more equitable, particularly by simplifying the need for documentary proof of persecution. Ever since this law for regulating the claims of individual applicants was adopted in the summer of 1953, the need for an amendment to rectify deficiencies and injustices has been recognized on all sides.

JEWS PRESENT PERON WITH COLLECTION OF HIS PRO-JEWISH SPEECHES

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- A delegation of the DAIA, representative organization of Argentine Jewry, has been received in audience by President Juan Peron and has presented the General with a booklet entitled "President Peron's Thoughts On The Jewish People." The booklet, which contains excerpts from the President's speeches friendly toward Jews, was published by the Jewish community.

Dr. Israel Novick, former president of the DAIA, speaking for the delegation, expressed the sentiments of the Argentine Jews in relation to President Peron's repeated statements which have set a policy in the country. Dr. Novick characterized the President's sentiments as humanitarian and leading to tolerance and understanding. President Peron, who received the booklet with expressions of thanks, expressed again his warm feelings for his Jewish fellow citizens.

JEWS IN ONTARIO OPPOSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WINNIPEG, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Port Colborne, Ontario, has made representations to the school authorities opposing the introduction of religious education in the public schools. A similar proposal was made some eight years ago, but was eventually dropped.

The Jewish position on the proposal, raised by the local ministerial association, is that religious instruction will raise the question of "differences" among children of the various faiths and as such will cause segregation or embarrassment of the children of minority groups. Advising the local community in this problem is the National Joint Public Relations Committee.

84 PERCENT OF CANADIANS REJECT BIAS IN ENTERTAINMENT PLACES

MONTREAL, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Some 84 percent of the Canadian people reject discrimination in places of public entertainment, and only ten percent favor it, a recent survey by the Gallup Poll has revealed.

The Canadian Institute of Public Opinion, commenting on the results, said that this is an "extremely high unanimity of opinion, seldom found in controversial subjects." The results show a favorable development over a similar poll in 1946, when only 77 percent opposed discrimination and 19 percent favored it.

YOUNG VANDALS ARRESTED; SCRAWLED ANTI-JEWISH SLOGANS ON WALLS

DETROIT, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Three youths have been taken into custody by the Oakland County authorities in connection with a wave of vandalism at Woodhuil Lake, a summer colony.

Summer homes and cottages, many of them owned by Jews, were damaged and anti-Semitic inscriptions scrawled on the wall. The three youths, apprehended following an investigation, were described as having long records of juvenile delinquency.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY ERECTS \$1,000,000 HAYDEN SCIENCE BUILDING

WALTHAM, Mass., Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Ground was broken here yesterday for the Hayden Science Building at Brandeis University. The four-story building will cost, when completed, \$1,000,000.

Funds for the new building, to be the largest teaching facility on the campus, were provided by the Charles Hayden Foundation. Research and instruction will be provided on graduate and undergraduate level.

J.N.F. CONFERENCE URGES U.S. TO REVIEW ITS MIDDLE EAST POLICY

BOSTON, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The United States Government was urged last night to review its current Middle East policy and not to ship arms to the Arab states, in a resolution adopted at the annual "Land for Israel" convention of the Jewish National Fund of New England.

Another resolution passed by the 700 delegates at the parley was an endorsement of the JNF program of expanding frontier settlement in Israel as a security and development program and providing work villages for an anticipated 50,000 immigrants from North Africa.

Fred Monosson, who was re-elected president of the New England JNF, announced that 100 families will move into Neve Monosson, the village in Israel named for him, next month. Featured speakers at the conference were Louis Lipsky, veteran Zionist leader, and Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the JNF of America.

BNAI ZION PRESIDENT ASKS U.S. NOT TO ARMS ARAB LANDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The United States Government was urged to reconsider the shipment of arms to the Arab states by Supreme Court Justice Arthur Markevitch, in an address here at the Grand Street Boys Association which was sponsored by Bnai Zion, the Zionist fraternal organization. Judge Markevitch, who spoke at a dinner marking the election as president of Bnai Zion, expressed the opinion the newly elected Congressmen would press for such reconsideration.

Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, a guest speaker, declared that the U.S., by virtue of its powerful influence, was now in a position to serve as "conciliator and mediator" between Israel and the Arab states. He insisted that Israel would "go a long way" to help make such an effort a success.

SEVENTEEN AMERICAN YOUNGSTERS WIN JEWISH AGENCY TOP PRIZES

NEW YORK, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- Seventeen American students in their 'teens and early twenties won top prizes in the second annual world-wide Torah Essay Contest conducted by the Jewish Agency's Department for Torah Culture and Education, it was announced here today. The American winners were in competition with some 200 parochial school students in ten countries.

The purpose of the contest, a Jewish Agency spokesman said, was to stimulate interest in the study of sources of Judaism among Jewish youth outside of Israel. The prizes were divided into three categories and consist of sets of valuable religious books. Most prizes in all categories were taken by youngsters from three North African countries. Other countries participating in the contest were Argentina, Belgium, England, Holland, Switzerland and Turkey.

MILWAUKEE WELFARE FUND ANNOUNCES VOORSANGER'S RETIREMENT

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 6. (JTA) -- The board of directors of the Milwaukee Jewish Welfare Fund, acting upon a recommendation of the executive committee, granted the retirement request made by Elkan C. Voorsanger, executive director of the Welfare Fund. Effective date of the retirement has been set as of June 30, which means that Mr. Voorsanger will continue in his familiar capacity during the 1955 campaign.

Mr. Voorsanger, 66, has completed 16 years of service in the Milwaukee community, during which time he was an instrumental factor in organizing the annual campaigns and in communal activities touched by the Welfare Fund. His retirement carries with it an annual pension.