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TENSION CONTINUES IN ISRAEL OVER HANGING OF JEWS IN CAIRO

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Sentiment against Egypt's hanging of two Jews in Cairo yesterday was still running high today in Israel. The Israel delegates to the Israel-Egyptian Mixed-Armistice Commission refused to attend a scheduled meeting of the MAC today. They informed the United Nations chairman that they were not in a position to attend today's session in view of the tension prevailing in Israel over the executions.

At an earlier meeting, last week-end, the Commission expressed great concern over the "dangerous situation" along the Israel-Egyptian border in the Gaza strip area. The MAC condemned Egypt for the killing of an Israeli farmer and the wounding of another by Arab infiltrators from Egyptian territory.

In Beersheba the municipality named two streets today in memory of Dr. Moïse Marzouk and Shmuel Azzar, the two Jews hanged in Cairo yesterday. Members of the municipal council visited the sister of Azzar who is a resident of Beersheba to express their condolences.

Jewish Agency Condemns Conduct of Cairo Trial

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive today issued a scathing denunciation of the conduct of the Cairo "spy" trial and the execution of two Jews yesterday.

The Agency statement declared that the trial was "marked by devilish torture of the accused which resulted in a murderous judgment and tyrannical sentences," and stressed that the executions were carried out in the face of worldwide protests. "The Egyptian effort to sever by violence the living bond between Jewry and Zion has failed ignominiously," the statement insisted.

American Jewish Groups Denounce Egyptian Government

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- American Jewish groups today condemned the "wanton hanging" of the two Jews in Egypt. A resolution characterizing the execution as "a blow to humanity and to peace" was adopted at today's session of the Hadassah national conference now taking place here. A statement denouncing the hangings was also issued by Mortimer May, president of the Zionist Organization of America.

Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, which represents all the Zionist groups in the United States, sent a telegram to the Egyptian Ambassador in Washington stating that the Egyptian Government "stands condemned in the eyes of all mankind for its brutal disregard of human decency" in rejecting the counsels of clemency and justice voiced by governments and individuals throughout the civilized world.

SYRIA REJECTS U. N. REQUEST TO RELEASE CAPTURED ISRAELIS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- United Nations truce chief Gen. E. L. M. Burns reported to Israel officials today the failure of his latest attempt to get the Syrian authorities to release four members of an Israel Army patrol captured by the Syrians last December.

Gen. Burns said that despite his failure to obtain the release, he would continue efforts in behalf of the men. He said that while the Syrians refused to free the men, in accordance with a request from the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission, they had agreed to treat the four as prisoners of war.

ISRAEL REJECTS U. S. PROPOSAL TO USE LAKE TIBERIAS AS RESERVOIR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Israel has definitely rejected the proposal by Ambassador Eric Johnston that it permit Lake Tiberias to be used as a storage reservoir for the waters of the Yarmuk River as part of a Jordan Valley scheme for the resettlement of Palestine Arab refugees, it was learned here today.

Meanwhile, it is known that the Israel Cabinet has been discussing the Johnston plan for regional development and that negotiations have been going on between President Eisenhower's personal envoy and various members of the Cabinet. However, the progress of the negotiations has been shrouded in a news blackout.

Israel cannot relinquish any drop of water at this time because it is planning its agricultural development for the next 20 years, Peretz Naphtali, Israel Minister of Agriculture, told a meeting of the Commercial and Manufacturers Club in Tel Aviv. He was speaking on the plan for regional water development proposed by Ambassador Johnston.

In connection with Ambassador Johnston's visit, the Mapam political committee has demanded that the government declare clearly that Israel's sovereignty over its water resources is "irrefutable" and that no "foreign power can interfere or deprive" it of any drop of water needed for the country's development.

ARMING OF ARABS BY WESTERN POWERS CRITICIZED BY JEWISH CONGRESS

PARIS, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Anglo-American policy of arming the Arab states and the general Western policy toward the Middle East which goes along with this development is "profoundly disturbing," the World Jewish Congress executive said in a resolution adopted at its concluding session here.

The executive asserted that this policy will not only endanger the security of Israel and the whole region at this time, but will also undermine any hope of peace between Israel and the Arab states. The resolution called on all Jewish communities and Jewish organizations to mobilize democratic opinion, Jewish and non-Jewish, against Arab arming unless or until the Arab states are ready to conclude a peace treaty with Israel.

In another resolution, the executive offered its guidance and other assistance to all Jewish communities affiliated with it in setting up and working out educational policies and programs, with particular emphasis on the need to aid small communities in South America and elsewhere in their struggle for survival. The executive also set up a commission for this work.

FIRST JAPANESE MINISTER ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The first Japanese Minister to Israel arrived with his wife in Israel today. He will also serve as Minister to Turkey.

AUSTRIAN CABINET NAMES COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE JEWISH CLAIMS

VIENNA, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Austrian Cabinet today set up a special Ministerial committee to negotiate further with the Jewish claims committee representing world Jewish groups. The committee, which is authorized to come to an understanding with the Jewish groups, will include Chancellor Julius Raab, Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf and the Ministers of Education, Social Administration and Finance.

At the same time, the Cabinet took an action which was interpreted here as a move to split the ranks of the Jews. It invited an organization of former Austrian Jewish persecutees now resident in the United States to come to Vienna to participate in the Austro-Jewish talks. At the same time, the Cabinet also decided to ask for the views of Austrian Jews who became Christian converts and were persecuted by the Nazis as Jews.

A government spokesman said that these moves might lead to the Austrian Government's calling a conference of all groups interested in restitution and indemnification in an effort to reach an overall settlement. The belief that these moves are intended to gain a further delay for the Austrian Government as well as to split the Jewish ranks was strengthened by the admission in government circles that the special Ministerial committee should have been formed three weeks ago.

GERMANY ACTS ON PAYMENTS TO "PRIORITY GROUPS" OF NAZI VICTIMS

BOEN, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Federal Council, upper house of the West German parliament, has approved an implementation regulation to the 1953 Federal Indemnification Law authorizing certain disbursements to "priority groups" of Nazi victims -- mainly those who are more than 60 years old or whose earning capacity is reduced by more than half because of sickness or injury.

These "priority groups" can, after they have complied with a variety of restrictive conditions, obtain the full amount due them for Nazi-inflicted injuries to health, for illegal detention in jails or concentration camps and, in the case of widows and minors, for death of the family breadwinner at Nazi hands.

If they were formerly residents of Germany, they can also obtain compensation up to \$2,400 for damage to property, for example, when Jewish apartments and stores were systematically destroyed in the November 1938 pogroms. For impairment of economic and professional advancement or prospects through discriminatory Nazi action, members of the "priority groups" may seek compensation not exceeding \$1,200.

The new regulation, issued 19 months after adoption of the Law itself, will enter into force upon publication in the Official Gazette, which is expected soon. Regular payments for damage to property and for impairment of economic prospects will now become possible for the first time. Advances and loans have occasionally been granted in the past, but never before full and definite payments.

Compensation for illegal incarceration, which is computed at the rate of slightly more than one dollar a day, was heretofore limited to \$715. Where a higher amount was awarded to a former concentration camp inmate, for imprisonment of more than 20 months, the German states in the past issued a sort of IOU certificate. These can now be redeemed at face value, provided the holder is elderly or an invalid.

CONGRESS GETS ELEVEN BILLS ON BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT, CIVIL RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, of Minnesota, introduced today a group of eleven bills designed to promote civil rights and ensure equal opportunity for employment. He had bi-partisan support from a number of Senators. Sen. Humphrey said enactment of any one of the 11 bills would be striking "a blow for freedom all over the world."

ANTI-JEWISH TERROR IN TUNIS CONTINUES; FRENCH PRESS PROTESTS

TUNIS, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Hardly a day has passed in recent weeks without reports of two or three violent attacks on Jews in Tunis. The assailants use a variety of weapons, but most are some type of blackjack.

Official statistics show that of every 30 reported crimes of violence, 26 are directed against Jews. While the French newspapers here have protested these attacks, the Arab papers have remained silent. At least one, the daily "Azzohra," continues a violent anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist line, using the recent "spy" trial of Jews in Cairo as a central point of its propaganda.

The growing number of attacks on Jews, coupled with the uncertain political situation, has been reflected in the climbing emigration statistics. Last July only 190 Jews left for Israel; in August the number was 280, by September it was 469, by October it was 674, by November it was 788 and during December it dropped again to 380. The drop was caused by the rough seas encountered in the Mediterranean during the winter months. By April Israel-bound immigration is expected to soar again. There are some 8,000 Jews registered for emigration with the Jewish Agency office here.

J. D. C. REACHES PACT ON TRAINING OF JEWISH CHILDREN IN NORTH AFRICA

PARIS, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Financial participation by the Joint Distribution Committee in a program of preliminary training given North African Jewish boys and girls in France before they leave for Israel, was announced here today by Moses Beckelman, director of activities in Europe.

The agreement was reached with the Youth Aliyah movement, which will bring these North African children to the Herbert H. Lehman home at Tambous, near Montpellier in Southern France, where they will receive a minimum of three months instruction in Hebrew, Israel geography and history, and agriculture. Afterwards they will be taken to Israel where they will be assigned to Youth Aliyah institutions and agricultural settlements.

The Alliance Israelite Universelle announced today the recent opening of two schools for Jewish communities in remote corners of Morocco. One was opened for 80 children of the 350-member Jewish community at Duereif, about 100 miles east of Fez. The other school was opened for 45 children of the 200-member community of another small town in southwest Morocco, at the edge of the desert.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION DECIDES TO EXTEND ITS WORK

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A decision to embark upon further colonization work in Israel was taken here today at a quarterly meeting of the council of the Jewish Colonization Association. Authorization for a study of the best region for such colonization was approved.

The council approved loans for the sons of JCA settlers in Argentina to obtain their own farms and grants for secular and religious schools in the Argentine colonies. Steps were approved to encourage Jewish farmers in Canada to acquire farms which they now work on a rental basis, and loans were authorized for recent Jewish immigrants to Brazil and Australia to help in their economic absorption.

Victor Girmounsky, director general of the JCA, reported on the progress of the organization's far-flung colonies and training institutions. He reported that the colonies established in Israel were doing very well and that agricultural and economic rehabilitation programs were being carried through in North Africa. Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid was re-elected president.

50,000 JEWS FROM NORTH AFRICA EXPECTED IN ISRAEL DURING 1955

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Immigration to Israel from North Africa on a scale reminiscent of the mass exodus of Jews from the displaced persons camps of Europe in the years immediately following the establishment of Israel in 1948, has already started and about 50,000 Jews will reach the Jewish State by the end of 1955, Mrs. Rose Halprin, the only woman member of the Jewish Agency executive, reported today at the annual mid-winter conference of Hadassah.

An important distinction existed between the mass immigration to Israel of European Jews of five and six years ago and the present movement of Jews from North Africa, Mrs. Halprin said. In the years between 1948 and 1951, Israel opened its doors to hundreds of thousands of European Jewish DP's and Jews from Arab countries, regardless of age, physical and emotional handicaps, lack of vocational skills and poverty. During these four years Israel doubled its population by voluntarily assuming staggering economic and social burdens, thus retarding its own economic independence, she said.

The present mass movement from North Africa "has been organized more systematically and more selectively," Mrs. Halprin stressed, with approximately 90 percent of the newcomers ticketed for Israel's agricultural settlements and farms before they ascend the gangplanks of Israel-bound ships. "The newcomers from North Africa are prepared to go into agricultural work and show no disposition to crowd into the country's larger cities," she said.

Speaking at the conference last night, Dr. Kalman J. Mann, director of the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel, said that Jews coming to Israel from Yemen are completely free of lung cancer and coronary thrombosis. While expressing no opinion on the reasons for the absence of these ailments among Yemenites, Dr. Mann noted that Jews from Yemen smoke narghiles - Oriental pipes in which tobacco smoke is drawn through water.

He said that during the last ten years the Hadassah Medical Organization has treated 450 persons with coronary thrombosis. Of these only two could be classified as Yemenites, and in each instance the patient had lived in Israel, rather than his native country, for more than 30 years. On the other hand, Dr. Mann said, Yemenites are twice as susceptible to lung tuberculosis, and have twice the mortality rate from this disease as the remainder of the Israel population.

Dr. Miriam Freund, chairman of the Hadassah Youth Aliyah Committee, told the Hadassah conference today that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt had undertaken to inspect facilities for the rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish children from all parts of the world in Israel. Mrs. Roosevelt will leave for Israel on March 3.

ORTHODOX RABBIS PLAN TO ESTABLISH "KEHILLAH" IN UNITED STATES

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Plans for the establishment of a "Kehillah," a central authoritative religious body for Orthodox Jews in America, were announced here today at the conference of the Rabbinical Council of America, representing 600 Orthodox rabbis in the United States and Canada.

Rabbi David B. Hollander, national president, said "that at the outset the 'Kehillah' will concern itself with six basic areas - marriage and divorce, a national 'Beth Din' (court of law), supervision of dietary laws, supervision of undertaking establishments, control and supervision of Jewish religious practices such as circumcision and set-up of maximum standards for Jewish education." He declared that the projected "Kehillah" will operate entirely on a voluntary basis and affect individuals who are members of Orthodox synagogues associated with the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

PLAN FOR WORLD JEWISH RELIGIOUS CENTER ANNOUNCED IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Plans for the establishment of a world Jewish religious center and a rabbinical-seat were announced here today by Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog.

Rabbi Herzog told newsmen that he had collected funds for this center during his recent trip through various British Commonwealth countries, and that he would continue to raise funds for the center which he visualizes as developing into a Sanhedrin.

The projected seven-story building would house the Council of the Chief Rabbinate, which will be increased from its present seven members to 20 with the addition of scholars and rabbis from all parts of the world. The building would also contain the largest rabbinical library in the world, a religious museum and the highest rabbinical tribunal in Israel.

Formal authority for the establishment of this center will be given at a world congress of some 1,300 rabbis which will meet in Jerusalem next Fall, Rabbi Herzog said. He emphasized that there was support among American and British Jews for these plans.

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A large number of overseas research institutions have been invited to submit applications for research fellowships at the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot for the 1955-56 year, it was announced today.

Applications are being accepted until March 10 from scientists who have done meritorious post-doctorate research. Three scientists--from Canada, Britain and India--recipients of last year's fellowships, are currently engaged in research work at the Institute.

ISRAEL CULTURAL DELEGATION HONORED BY NEW YORK EDUCATORS

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- More than 100 educators and leaders of American Jewish cultural life attended a reception here yesterday in honor of three outstanding Hebrew writers from Israel, held at the offices of the Jewish Agency. The reception was tendered by the Jewish Agency's Department of Education and Culture and the Brith Ivrit Olamith (World Hebrew Culture Federation).

The three writers, comprising a cultural delegation from Israel to the United States, are Reuven Avinoam-Grossman, poet, author and translator, Dr. Baruch Ben-Yehuda, former director of Israel's Ministry of Education and presently head of the Herzlia College in Tel Aviv, and Dr. Simon Halkin, chairman of the Department of Hebrew Literature at the Hebrew University and presently a visiting professor at the University of California.

DROPSIE COLLEGE OFFERS FELLOWSHIPS ON MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Institute for Israel and the Middle East of Dropsie College here has announced for the academic year 1955-56 fellowships of \$1,000 and \$600 each, available to qualified students who wish to specialize in Middle Eastern studies leading to a doctorate degree.

The curriculum offered by the Institute includes languages, literatures, history, anthropology, sociology, economics and politics of the Middle East. Applications for fellowships should be submitted not later than April 15, 1955.

JEWISH CENTER ESTABLISHES \$100,000 ENDOWMENT FOR HOMILETICS

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A \$100,000 endowment for a lectureship in homiletics has been established at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America by the Brooklyn Jewish Center. The lectureship will be named for Rabbi Israel L. Levinthal, who is this year marking his 35th anniversary as spiritual leader of the center.