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## U. S. SEEKS TO COUNTERACT ISRAEL ARGUMENTS AGAINST ARMING IRAQ

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Aiming to counteract arguments against the United States sending arms to Iraq--which are advanced by Israel, as well as by American supporters of Israel--the State Department today made public a statement lauding Iraq and justifying American munitions grants to that Arab country.

The statement asserts that "the United States Government has maintained a position of impartiality" with regard to arms purchased commercially by Middle East governments in this country, and arms purchased with special government dispensation because they were not commercially available. It emphasizes that regarding these two types of arms exports the American Government did not discriminate either against the Arabs or Israel.

The American policy in supplying arms to the Middle East countries, the statement declares, is guided by the principles set forth in the Tripartite Declaration of May 25, 1950, issued by the United States, Great Britain, and France. It says the considerations outlined in the declaration have been reflected in the decisions of the United States to issue export licences for arms purchased commercially and to make it possible for Middle Eastern governments to purchase certain arms not available on the commercial market.

Because sale of arms has been relatively limited, it has been a matter of growing concern to the United States that "the area remains relatively defenseless against possible outside aggression." As a result, Mutual Security funds were allocated for military assistance to countries of this area, the statement explains.

"Evidence of Iraq's determination to deal effectively with domestic Communist activities may be found in recent severe measures taken by the government against membership in the Communist Party and Communist activity," the statement declared. "In addition to these measures, the government is attempting to lessen the appeal of Communism by raising the general living standards through the land reform and other measures and through an economic development program for which seventy percent of the country's considerable oil revenues are earmarked."

## Dulles Dismisses Request to Sever Flow of Munitions to Iraq

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles dismissed today a Congressional request to sever the flow of munitions to Iraq. The request came from Rep. James Roosevelt of California.

Assistant Secretary of State Thruston B. Morton, in charge of legislative affairs, replied on behalf of Mr. Dulles. The Department's letter contained a justification of the policy of arming the Arabs. It noted that assurances have been given by the United States to Israel.

### YUGOSLAVIA OFFERS TO ACT AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT

LONDON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Yugoslavia is prepared to help solve differences between Israel and Egypt if asked by both sides, according to a report by Tanjug, the official Yugoslav news agency.

Tanjug added that Yugoslavia had always pointed out, however, that the Arab-Israel dispute should be settled by direct negotiations to avoid the possibility of the conflict becoming an object of intervention by "the opposing blocs."

### U. N. TRUCE CHIEF REPORTS ON ISRAEL SOLDIERS CAPTURED BY SYRIA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The Syrians have refused to release four Israel soldiers captured last December because Israel has not freed seven Syrian seamen captured when their vessel was wrecked near Haifa in the same month, Gen. E. L. M. Burns, United Nations truce chief in Palestine, said here today following his return from Damascus.

While he was in the Syrian capital, he visited the Israel prisoners. Gen. Burns also said that negotiations were continuing to have both sides release their prisoners.

The UN truce chief revealed that he had visited the Arab village of Kirat el Bakkara in Israel territory in the demilitarized zone along the Syrian border and had found that the villagers enjoyed freedom of movement and that their economic situation had improved.

### BRITAIN'S CAUTIOUS STAND ON CREDITS TO ISRAEL CRITICIZED IN COMMONS

LONDON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A debate on the British Government's overly cautious approach toward granting Israel credits for purchasing British goods developed in Parliament today during a discussion of the British herring industry.

A number of MP's pointed out that there is a good market for British herring in Israel but that it could not be exploited because the Israelis do not have sufficient sterling to purchase such products from Britain and because the British Government will not guarantee credit arrangements between British firms and Israel. It was also stressed that other European countries were selling Israel considerable quantities of this fish.

### ISRAEL GOVERNMENT TO BUILD JEWISH SUBURB NEAR NAZARETH

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The Israel Government has begun working on a new Jewish suburban development on the outskirts of Nazareth, the all-Arab Christian city in the Jewish State, the press reported here today.

The project will consist of government offices and several hundred housing units. The cost is expected to be about 3,000,000 pounds, which will be allocated from the current development budget.

A number of prominent Arab personalities in Nazareth oppose the project and the municipal council has attempted to hinder it in many ways, but the Israel Government is going ahead with its plans, the report said.

### DR. GOLDMANN RETURNS TO U.S. FROM PARLEYS IN ISRAEL, EUROPE

NEW YORK, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive and president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, arrived here by plane today after visiting Israel and Europe.

In Israel he attended the plenary sessions of the Agency executive last month. In Paris he presided at meetings of the conference and the claims committee. Prior to his return to New York, Dr. Goldmann opened the Israel bond drive in Switzerland with an address at a crowded rally in Zurich at which he called for private investments in the Jewish State.

## BONN WELCOMES DECISION OF ISRAEL LAWYERS TO REPRESENT GERMANS

BONN, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A decision by the Israel Bar Association permitting its members to represent German firms or individuals was welcomed by German business and diplomatic circles here. The original 1946 ban was renewed only last year.

Modification of the ban was suggested by the Foreign Office and Ministry of Justice in Jerusalem, it is understood, in view of the problems arising from the delivery of reparations goods, the provision of spare parts and the beginning of normal trade outside of reparations channels.

## BERLIN GOVERNMENT PLEDGES SPEED-UP OF INDEMNIFICATION PAYMENTS

BERLIN, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The governmental program of the new West Berlin Cabinet pledges an acceleration of compensation payments for individual Nazi victims and contains the admission that "faith in the authorities' good will to indemnify National Socialist injustice should not be further shaken by dilatory administrative practices."

The new "Interior Minister" of this city-state, Senator Joachim Lipschitz, pointedly told a meeting of Nazi victims here that he "does not consider himself bound by the organizational measures and personnel appointments" of his predecessor and would imbue the administration of the indemnification program with a spirit of urgency.

"The shame that overwhelms me whenever I hear or read of the Nazi atrocities must be shared in every office of the Indemnification Agency," he stated, "because no petty haggling over claims will occur wherever it is alive."

The youngest member of the West Berlin Cabinet, 36-year-old Lipschitz is its most undaunted fighter against neo-Nazism. His father, a popular Jewish physician, committed suicide at the onset of the anti-Semitic persecutions. His mother is not Jewish, so that young Lipschitz was even drafted into the Wehrmacht, together with other half-Jews, and lost an arm while serving as an infantryman on the Russian front. Later, he went into hiding in Berlin and took part in anti-Nazi activities.

## MEMORY OF ITALIAN WHO PROTECTED JEWS UNDER NAZIS HONORED IN ROME

ROME, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Italian Jewry commemorated today the 10th anniversary of the death in the Dachau concentration camp of Giovanni Palatucci, a non-Jew, who was arrested by the Nazis for protecting Jewish refugees in the city of Fiume, which was then Italian territory.

Italian Chief Rabbi Elio Toaff was the chief speaker at the ceremony. Among those present at the affair today were the father of Palatucci, Israel Minister Eliahu Sasson, the Chief of Police of Italy and several Italian judges.

## ZIONIST LEADER IN FRANCE WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION; WAS CRITICIZED

PARIS, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Andre Blumel, secretary general of the Zionist Federation of France, who submitted his resignation last month, has agreed to withdraw the resignation and resume his duties, the federation announced here today.

The resignation was submitted following criticism of the leading role played by M. Blumel in a meeting opposing ratification of the Paris Agreements providing for re-arming Germany. The executive of the federation had unanimously adopted a resolution rejecting the resignation.

REFORM CONVENTION ADOPTS RESOLUTION OF SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A resolution expressing "moral and spiritual solidarity with and tangible support of our brethren in the historic land of Israel" was adopted here last night at the 43rd general assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central organization of the Reform movement. At the same time, it was announced that a second rabbinic and lay Reform delegation would visit Israel this Summer.

Rabbi Herbert Weiner of South Orange, New Jersey, who recently spent a month surveying religious conditions in Israel, told the convention that while Orthodoxy is flourishing in the Jewish State, "many thousands are dissatisfied with strict traditionalism and are hungry for a faith attuned to the cadence of modernity. A Liberal Judaism would fill the void for many intellectuals and young people who are essentially pious but abstain from synagogal affiliation."

A vigorous debate took place at the session yesterday over the question of whether the movement should issue a manual of religious practices. During this discussion, Harold W. Dubinsky of St. Louis, president of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, declared that recent surveys had established that Reform Jews are introducing many ceremonies in their homes and synagogues.

Opposing the issuance of a code of guide of rituals, Rabbi James G. Heller of New York contended that Reform Judaism's "historic attitude of liberalism makes a fixed code unthinkable." A similar view was expressed by Rabbi Nathan Perilman of Temple Emanu-El of New York.

NON-JEWS IN HOLLAND HONORED FOR DISPLAYING INTEREST IN ISRAEL

THE HAGUE, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The Israel Minister in Holland honored four non-Jews today for their contributions to the well-being of the Jewish people. The Minister presented the four Dutch leaders with certificates that their names have been inscribed in the Jewish National Fund's "Golden Book" by the OSE, the Jewish health society.

The four, who were instrumental in the presentation of a new solarium to a children's hospital at Baka, Israel, are: Mrs. G. Wismuller-Meyer, a leader in the Resistance movement; Miss M. Tjennak-Willink, member of the Netherlands Senate; Prof. R. Kranenburg, member of the State Council, and Dr. J. P. Boekhoit.

The sum of 250,000 guilders (approximately \$70,000) has been contributed toward the cost of building a home for aged immigrants from Holland which is now rising on a site near Haifa. The money has been turned over by the trustees of the former Jewish Hospital at Haarlem, Holland.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GETS JEWISH GIFT FOR SEMITIC STUDIES

LONDON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- An offer by Isaac Wolfson, British Jewish businessman, to underwrite the publication of a "Manchester Journal of Semitic Studies" has been accepted by Manchester University, it was announced today. Mr. Wolfson offered to underwrite the sum of 2,000 pounds for an initial seven-year period of publication.

The journal will appear quarterly under the imprint of the University's press and the Isaac Wolfson Foundation and will contain scholarly articles covering the whole field of Semitic studies. It will be edited by Prof. H. Rowley and P. R. Weiss, who is the Nathan Laski Senior Lecturer in Post-Biblical Studies at Manchester University.

### JEWISH COUPLE LOSES COURT FIGHT FOR ADOPTION OF CATHOLIC TWINS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The United States Supreme Court yesterday refused to rule on a Massachusetts state law barring adoptions involving children and foster parents of different religions.

The court refused to consider a ruling of the Massachusetts Supreme Court turning down a plea from a Jewish couple, Rouben and Sylvia Goldman, who wanted to adopt a set of twins born to a Catholic mother. The mother had consented to the adoption and had agreed that the children should be raised in the Jewish faith. The Massachusetts courts held that the mother's consent was irrelevant and the state supreme court ruled that the Massachusetts law barring such adoptions did not violate the Federal Constitution.

The Goldman couple was joined in its legal fight by the American Jewish Congress. The argument presented by Leo Pfeffer, attorney for the Goldmans, was that the Massachusetts law violated the First Amendment to the Federal Constitution, which protects the free exercise of religion.

### DETROIT JEWISH COMMUNITY EXPANDS ITS PHILANTHROPIC SERVICES

DETROIT, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Expansion of Jewish communal services in Detroit, the construction of new community centers and United Hebrew School buildings to meet the growing needs of the Jewish community of this city were outlined at the annual meeting of the Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation.

Samuel H. Rubiner, president of the federation, reported that architectural plans for a joint center-school are nearing completion and that construction has started for a second unit of a home for the aged. In an analysis of results achieved in the community during the five years that he has been president of the federation, Mr. Rubiner said that since 1950 "our ties with world Jewry have deepened and matured."

He noted that overseas and Israel causes have remained the major beneficiary of the Allied Jewish Campaign of Detroit with over \$12,500,000 allocated to these causes in the five-year period.

### JEWS AND NON-JEWS IN PHILADELPHIA CONFER ON COMMUNAL AFFAIRS

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Some 200 Jewish and non-Jewish clergymen, social workers and laymen and women active in church, synagogue and communal affairs in Philadelphia met here in a lengthy conference exploring the possibilities of joint action in spheres of mutual interest.

The conference was called by the Health and Welfare Council of this city in conjunction with the Philadelphia Council of Churches and the Philadelphia Board of Rabbis. A number of panels discussed family problems, the philosophic attitudes of religion toward many of today's problems and the responsibility of the church and social agencies. The need for more religiously-oriented social workers and the need for clergymen to better understand the objectives of social workers was explored.

### F. E. P. C. BILL RE-INTRODUCED IN MINNESOTA; ADOPTION SEEN

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- An FEPC measure has again been introduced in the Minnesota State Legislature. This time there is reason to believe that the bill will be adopted because leaders of both houses of the legislature are backing it, and there is great public support.

A state-wide poll undertaken recently by the Minneapolis Tribune established that 85 percent of the people interviewed favored adoption of a state FEPC law. Of these, 54 percent favored a "quite strict" law as far as penalties for violation was concerned.