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ISRAEL REPORTS HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF EGYPTIAN TROOPS IN GAZA

TEL AVIV, March 22. (JTA) -- The Israel press reported today heavy concentrations of Egyptian troops pouring into the Gaza area. The reports, from foreign sources, said that the equivalent of two brigades of regular troops and a special volunteer commando unit had arrived in the Gaza strip.

These reports were viewed here against a background of almost daily reports from Israel settlements near the border which speak of endless convoys of military trucks filled with Egyptian troops moving north from Rafah. It was also learned that an Egyptian battalion trained by former Nazi officers is among those now stationed in the Gaza strip.

Finally, it was reported today that the Egyptians are planning the construction of a radar station along the border strip. The post and its equipment would be put together from stores left in the Suez Canal zone when the British Army withdrew.

Meanwhile, two incidents along the Israel-Egyptian demarcation line in the Gaza area were reported by the Israel Army. An Israel patrol was fired on near Kissufim last night, and replied in kind. It suffered no casualties. A party of Egyptian infiltrators harvesting crops in an Israel field was discovered by an Israel patrol, but fled across the line into Egyptian territory when the Israelis opened fire. Israel complained to the Mixed Armistice Commission about both incidents.

The Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission condemned Jordan last night for the murder of an Israel settlement watchman in the Mt. Gilboa area last week-end.

House of Representatives Hears View on Israel-Egyptian Tension

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- The attention of the House of Representatives was called today to the fact that within a period of three months the United Nations Mixed Armistice Commission censured Egypt 35 times and Israel 15 times for border incidents.

Congressman Emanuel Celler, speaking from the floor of the House, said it is not enough for the State Department to say "Israel has nothing to fear; the Arab nations will not attack." He referred to Deputy Assistant Secretary of State John D. Jernegan's statement before the American Jewish conference held here two weeks ago.

Rep. Celler urged the State Department to stop favoring the Arab states. He said the State Department should restore balance in the Middle East by guaranteeing the integrity of present Israel borders and by removing the military disadvantage of Israel brought on by the shipment of arms to Iraq.

AMBASSADOR JOHNSTON MEETS WITH U. N. HEAD ON JORDAN WATER PLAN

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 22. (JTA) -- Ambassador Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's personal envoy to the Near East, who recently returned from that region after conferring with Israel and Arab leaders on a plan for the development of the Jordan River Valley, met briefly yesterday with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld. During the conference, Mr. Hammarskjöld summoned Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization, and the three men were closeted for a further short period.

THREE JEWS SENTENCED IN EGYPT AS "COMMUNISTS AND ZIONISTS"

LONDON, March 22. (JTA) -- Three Jews were sentenced today to prison terms with hard labor on charges of "Communist and Zionist" espionage and attempts to overthrow the Egyptian Government by Egypt's highest military tribunal, it was reported here in dispatches from Cairo. Four others, including a young woman identified as Joyce Blau, were acquitted.

The court which tried the seven Jews was the same one which condemned two other Jews to death in January on charges of espionage for Israel. The two Jews were subsequently hanged.

The Jews who were convicted today were: Henri Vita Cohen, 28, newspaper employe, who received an eight-year term; Joseph Osmo, 27, who received an eight-year term, and Nessim Nahamias, 19, who received three years.

JEWISH AGENCY PLANS ESTABLISHMENT OF 100 NEW SETTLEMENTS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 22. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency settlement department is considering the establishment during 1955-56, of 100 new settlements, it was reported here today. The new settlements, to be established in all parts of the country, would provide housing for 9,000 families--some 40,000 persons.

Plans for the construction of 2,000 housing units in 34 settlements have already been completed, and work on these projects will begin in May. These new settlements will be set up in the Lachish region, the Southern Jezreel Valley, the Huleh region, and Galilee.

ENGLAND IS FIRST, RUSSIA SECOND BUYER OF ORANGES FROM ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 22. (JTA) -- Five million cases of citrus fruits have been shipped out of Israel thus far this season, with England, the best customer, having taken 1,500,000 cases of oranges, 500,000 cases of grapefruit, and 78,000 cases of lemons.

The next largest customer has been Russia, with more than 450,000 cases of citrus fruits purchased, followed by the Scandinavian and East European countries. Canada, Argentina and Germany appeared for the first time this season on the list of countries taking significant quantities of fruit.

ANDRE BLUMEL ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ZIONIST FEDERATION OF FRANCE

PARIS, March 22. (JTA) -- Andre Blumel, until now secretary general of the Zionist Federation of France, was elected today president of the Federation to succeed Marc Jarblum, who resigned recently to take up permanent residence in Israel. M. Jarblum was elected honorary president by acclamation.

M. Blumel, who ran as a non-party candidate, was opposed only by the General Zionists and Mizrachi, each of whom named their own candidates. M. Blumel received an absolute majority.

GOLDMANN URGES U.S. TO START DRIVE FOR ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- Discrimination by the Western Powers against Israel in defense arrangements for the Middle East were assailed today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jewish Agency chairman, addressing a plenary session of the American Zionist Council, representative body of all Zionist groups in the U.S.

"The general political situation affecting Israel may remain critical for some time to come, Dr. Goldmann said. "We may witness modifications and alterations of policy, tactical advances and tactical retreat, but no basic change until the Western Powers begin to drive courageously and imaginatively toward the goal of an Arab-Israel peace. The methods they now use to achieve the laudable aims of organizing this region for Western defense are not likely to bring the results hoped for.

"The region cannot be organized for defense on the basis of discrimination against Israel, and this is the basis on which Iraq has joined in a pact with Turkey and is now inviting France and Britain and the United States to become partners in the pact. This crisis will require an increased effort by the Zionist movement to instruct public opinion with regard to the issues involved and to mobilize support for Israel's justified demands - reassurance with regard to her security position and non-discrimination in the organization of regional defenses."

Rabbi Miller Re-Elected Chairman of American Zionist Council

Rabbi Irving Miller was re-elected chairman of the American Zionist Council for the next year, at the meeting. In his annual report dealing with the current situation affecting the Zionist movement, Rabbi Miller warned that "the Zionist movement in America faces what may be the greatest challenge in its history." He added that "the State of Israel, whose creation climaxed decades of Zionist striving, is today threatened on all fronts."

The Zionist leader also cautioned that "above all, the warm friendship between our country and Israel, which has been a blessing to both nations and which we have proudly fostered, is today being undermined by the maneuvers of old enemies as well as by the blunders of old friends." Reviewing the latest developments in the Middle East, Rabbi Miller charged that "Egypt has now tipped her hand through her demand made this week that Israel cede the Negev--fully half of that little country's territory--to Arab control."

Rabbi Miller scored the State Department's policy of excluding Israel from the defense arrangements in the Middle East, and its latest actions in concluding arms agreements with Arab states. "These acts contain the worst features of appeasement--a policy which has been thoroughly discredited in our time and which is doomed to failure in the future as in the past."

"If our Government," he said, "truly wishes to play a constructive role in the Middle East, it must bend all its efforts to do away with the cause of all this bloodshed. The fundamental problem remains today what it has been during these past seven years - the refusal of the Arab states to recognize Israel's existence and to negotiate with her for peace in the Middle East. This problem will not be solved by a policy of appeasement at Israel's expense or by Israel's isolation."

In addition to the election of Rabbi Miller, the following were named vice-chairmen: Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum, president of the Mizrahi Organization of America, and Ralph Wechsler, member of the presidium of the Labor Zionist Organization of America - Poale Zion. Other officers re-elected are Charles Bick, former president of Hapoel Hamizrachi, as treasurer; Paul Goldman, general secretary of the United Zionist Labor Party, as secretary. Rabbi Jerome Unger was renamed executive director. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Louis Lipsky were re-elected honorary chairmen.

ROOSEVELT'S ALLEGED YALTA REMARKS ON JEWS DOUBTED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- Political quarters in Washington today placed little confidence in charges made by the U. S. News and World Report, a weekly magazine published here, that the version of the Yalta papers released by the State Department had been altered to delete alleged "slighting remarks" about Jews by President Roosevelt.

The publication said that deleted as "not pertinent history" was "a remark made about Jews by President Roosevelt at a plenary session of the Yalta conference on February 10. The remark came during a discussion of possible concessions to the late King Ibn Saud to secure a desired action from Saudi Arabia. According to the record, which has been deleted: 'The President replied that there was only one concession he thought he might offer and that was to give him (Ibn Saud) the six million Jews in the United States.'"

It was pointed out in some political circles here that U. S. News and World Report is a leading anti-New Deal organ which has frequently printed allegations against the Democratic Administration and Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCILS DEPLORE VISIT OF BERLIN ORCHESTRA IN U.S.

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- Jewish communities in cities in which the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra is scheduled to appear during its current concert tour of the United States have issued statements condemning the conductor of the orchestra, Herbert von Karajan, admitted former member of the Nazi Party.

In Newark, the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Essex County called upon those "whose consciences revolt against attendance at a concert under the baton of such a man" to stay away and "feel free to declare their reasons for doing so." However, the community council statement suggested that the orchestra should not be picketed or otherwise interfered with.

In Boston, the Jewish Community Council called "hypocritical" references the orchestra's tour of the U.S. as a "goodwill tour." While the statement also suggested non-interference with the concerts, it asserted that "we would slur the memory of Nazi victims were we not to express our sorrow at this reminder of the nightmare period of Hitler's regime."

PHILADELPHIA ALLIED JEWISH APPEAL STARTS \$4,250,000 DRIVE

PHILADELPHIA, March 22. (JTA) -- The Allied Jewish Appeal of Philadelphia opened its 1955 campaign for \$4,250,000 last night at a traditional Philadelphia Leaders Dinner. Chief speakers at the dinner were Senator's Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. The goal this year is \$400,000 more than was raised in the 1954 AJA campaign.

NEW YORK SENATE APPROVES BILL OUTLAWING BIAS IN PUBLIC HOUSING

ALBANY, N. Y., March 22. (JTA) -- The New York State Senate approved unanimously yesterday a bill outlawing discrimination in publicly-assisted rental property. The measure has been sent to the State Assembly, where it is assured of passage. The bill has bipartisan support.

HISTADRUT CONFERENCE URGES U.S. TO WORK FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST

HARTFORD, Conn., March 22. (JTA) -- A resolution urging the State Department to work for peace in the Middle East was adopted here last night at a state-wide conference for the Histadrut, the Israel Federation of Labor. Some 300 delegates from 20 Connecticut communities heard reports on various aspects of the Histadrut's activities and a message from Connecticut Governor Abraham Ribicoff.

\$1,000,000 FUND RECOMMENDED TO SPUR JEWISH EDUCATION IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- A recommendation for the establishment of a \$1,000,000 scholarship fund to help increase the number of Jewish children attending Jewish schools in the Metropolitan New York area was adopted here at the third annual Jewish Education Assembly following a report of a survey of Jewish education in New York. The survey established that of 407,000 Jewish children between the ages of 5 and 17 some 110,000 children are presently attending a Jewish school.

The survey, which took three years to complete and which was sponsored jointly by the Jewish Education Committee of New York and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, established that at some time between the ages of 5 and 17 four of every five Jewish children in the New York area attend a Jewish school.

The survey also revealed that \$15,000,000 a year is currently spent on Jewish education in New York and the surrounding suburban counties, with all-day schools--mostly Orthodox--accounting for 20 percent of the total, week-day schools for 40 percent of the total and one-day schools for the remaining ten percent. The enrollment in all-day schools is 20 percent of the total, in the week-day schools 40 percent and the remainder attend one-day schools.

Half of all the pupils attend Orthodox-sponsored schools, one-quarter go to Conservative schools, one-fifth to Reform schools and about five percent to Yiddish schools. Of the nearly 700 schools maintained by the various Jewish groups, 60 percent are Orthodox-sponsored, 20 percent are Conservative, 10 percent Reform and 10 percent Yiddish. The survey was carried out under the direction of Dr. Israel Chipkin, vice-president of the Jewish Education Committee.

The recommendations of the assembly, which were referred to the Jewish Education Committee for study and implementation, included a suggestion that a large revolving community building loan fund be established to provide the means for building new schools and repairing and remodeling old structures. Also recommended were:

1. A concentrated effort to increase enrollment and provide adequate school facilities in areas of the city where the survey indicated an unusually low percentage of Jewish children attending Jewish schools.
2. The merging of small school units now operating in the same geographical areas, without sacrificing the ideological autonomy of the schools. Transportation facilities should be provided to facilitate such mergers.
3. The extension of the jurisdiction of Jewish teachers registries and licensing agencies in an effort to enhance the professional status of the Jewish teacher. Attention should be given to the problem of making the Jewish school teacher's job a full-time one and to the establishment of a salary scale in line with that of the public school system of New York.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN ESTABLISHES CHAIR OF HEBREW STUDIES

MADISON, Wisconsin, March 22. (JTA) -- A Chair of Hebrew Studies has been established at the University of Wisconsin in commemoration of the celebration of the 300 years of Jewish settlement in America. The sum of \$75,000, raised by the Tercentenary Committee of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee chapter of the American Jewish Committee, was turned over to the Board of Regents of the state university to finance a professorship for the first five years.

The chair will offer a curriculum of studies of the Hebrew language and literature and related subjects. It is anticipated that during the five years for which funds were raised enough students would be attracted to the courses to make possible continuation of such studies. The funds were raised in a campaign headed by Rabbi Joseph L. Baron of Milwaukee.

DIRECTOR OF ISRAEL PREMIER'S OFFICE HONORED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, and other important government officials today attended a luncheon tendered by Israel Ambassador Abba Eban in honor of Theodore Kollek, director general of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government of Israel.

Others in attendance included Norman Paul, regional director of the Foreign Operations Administration; Gen. William R. Riley, deputy director of the Foreign Operations Administration; Francis Russell, former Charge d'Affaires of the U. S. Embassy in Tel Aviv; Dr. Arthur Burns, chairman of President Eisenhower's Economic Council, and Rep. John M. Vorys, a key member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

JEWISH AGENCY ARRANGES ISRAEL TOUR FOR AMERICAN RABBIS

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- A seminar and tour of Israel will be conducted by the Jewish Agency in cooperation with the Rabbinical Council of America this summer for American rabbis and Hebrew educators, the Jewish Agency announced today.

The group will leave New York by chartered plane on July 26th and will remain in Israel until August 24th as guests of the Agency's Department for Torah Culture and Education, the announcement said. The total cost of the tour, including round-trip air transportation, is \$796. Rabbi Zevy Tabory, director of the Department for Torah Culture and Education in New York, will escort the group.

ISRAEL BOND DELEGATION LEAVES FOR JERUSALEM ON STUDY MISSION

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- An Israel bond delegation, consisting of representatives of American and Canadian Jewish communities, left New York last night by plane for a two-week study of economic developments in Israel. The members of the delegation will meet in Jerusalem with key Cabinet ministers as a basis for formulating plans for the most effective assistance to Israel's economic growth.

The group will inspect the country's major industrial plants, agricultural settlements and irrigation projects, mining operations, harbors and transportation and communications facilities, with a view towards gauging the rate of expansion and construction in these fields as a result of the infusion of Israel bond capital. The group of leaders will also study the need for Israel bond investments for the fuller realization of the country's economic potential, with special emphasis on the tapping of natural resources and acceleration of production for export.

JUDGE ROSENMAN HONORED BY SHARETT DURING JERUSALEM VISIT

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- Premier Moshe Sharett honored Judge Samuel I. Rosenman and his wife at a luncheon here. Among the guests at the luncheon for the former advisor to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman were David Ben-Gurion, Minister of Defense, Mrs. Golda Myerson, Minister of Labor, justices of the Israel Supreme Court and members of Parliament.

A 32-member delegation of the Metropolitan New York B'nai B'rith Council completed today a two-week tour of Israel. During the tour the 32 New Yorkers visited various development projects financed by the sale of Israel bonds in the United States and witnessed a colorful parade by Israel military forces at an Army base.

ARGENTINE GOVT. ELEVATES JEWISH LEADER TO RANK OF AMBASSADOR

BUENOS AIRES, March 22. (JTA) -- The Argentine Foreign Ministry elevated Dr. Ezequiel Jabotinsky to the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary. Dr. Jabotinsky, president of the pro-Peronist Organizacion Israelita Argentina, was named Minister Plenipotentiary a few months ago, upon the nomination of President Peron.