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ISRAEL CANCELS MEETING WITH EGYPTIANS, THREE ISRAELIS KILLED

TEL AVIV, May 18. (JTA) -- A scheduled meeting today of Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, United Nations truce supervisor, and representatives of the Israel and Egyptian army authorities to work out methods of reducing tension along the Gaza strip border was cancelled by Israel after the death this morning of a third Israel soldier wounded when a vehicle in which a five-man patrol was riding hit a landmine near the Egyptian border. The meeting was cancelled to underline that Israel takes a very grave view of yesterday's incident.

Meanwhile, the army has announced that it has cleared mines left over from the War of Liberation from the Faluja vicinity and other areas within the Lakish settlement region in preparation for the establishment of 19 new settlements in the region this summer. Among the settlements to be opened within the next three months are 12 for new immigrants and two by youth groups. In addition, an urban center will be built close to the site of the ancient Philistine town of Gat and will be known as Kirya Gat. The Lakish area lies to the southwest of Jerusalem.

U. S. OFFICIAL TELLS SENATE BODY OF NEED TO AID ISRAEL AND ARABS

WASHINGTON, May 18. (JTA) -- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee was told by Cedric H. Seager, Near Eastern regional director of the Foreign Operations Administration, that "such importance pertains to the security and stability of the area that includes the Arab states and Israel that continued U. S. guidance and assistance in various forms is essential to its welfare as well as to ours."

Mr. Seager reported that "Israel has pursued unflinchingly its efforts to attain as high a degree of viability as possible without external aid. The goal is not possible under existing conditions. Exports have risen during the past year, the rate of inflation has been reduced, production has increased and agricultural output has been raised--but the country's resources are still far from sufficient to meet its total needs."

As previously indicated by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, "a special fund of \$65 million is proposed to help implement the agreement, when reached, regarding the division, storage and control of the waters of the Jordan River." Mr. Seager said, "It was made known several days ago that a further sum of \$73 million for development assistance is proposed for the countries of this area as part of regular mutual assistance agreements already reached and in continuation of development assistance already in effect," he concluded.

THE HAGUE PARLEY TO DISCUSS EFFECTS OF WORLD SITUATION ON JEWS

LONDON, May 18. (JTA) -- The possible effects of the forthcoming Four Power talks on the position of Jews in some European countries, as well as the situation that may arise for Jews from the restoration of sovereignty to West Germany and Austria, will be considered at a meeting of the European executive of the World Jewish Congress called today.

The meeting, which will open on June 1 at The Hague, will also consider the consequences for Jews of the projected Franco-Tunisian conventions. It will be attended by members of the European executive from 10 different countries and observers from three other European countries, as well as representatives from North Africa.

A. L. Easterman, political director of the WJC, stated today that the French and Tunisian authorities have confirmed to him assurances previously given the Congress that the status, rights and interests of the Jews of Tunisia have been safeguarded in the Franco-Tunisian conventions which were worked out in Paris. "In many consultations we have had with them since the beginning of the Franco-Tunisian negotiations, both governments have shown a deep understanding of the Jewish viewpoint and a readiness to meet it," Mr. Easterman declared.

The WJC political leader also stated that his conversations with Habib Bourguiba, leader of the Tunisian nationalist Neo-Destour Party had provided "reason for satisfaction that his colleagues in the present Tunisian Government were inspired by liberal, democratic ideals and by an attitude of cordial friendship toward the Jewish people in general and towards Tunisian Jewry in particular."

U S ANALYZES ISRAEL'S AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS: ISSUES REPORT

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- The Department of Agriculture released today a short summary on Israel's agricultural problems which effect the marketing and distribution of U S products. The summary states that Israel is encouraging farmers to produce export crops, knowing that an increase in exports will enable it to import more of other agricultural products.

Some of Israel's farm problems result from early efforts "to increase production by expanding to large uncultivated areas its unique system of intensive farming in various types of settlements," the Department of Agriculture states. It adds that Israel is "chronically short of foreign exchange" but is struggling toward self-sufficiency.

U S FINANCES "OPERATION COWBOY" IN ISRAEL: TEXANS TRAIN ISRAELIS

TEL AVIV, May 18 (JTA) -- "Operation Cowboy," a project under which Israel cattle destined for meat consumption would be grazed on open ranges, has officially begun. Several hundred head of cattle, including steers bred here in the United States and in Turkey, are being released today for grazing on a 20,000-dunam plot of land near Kinneret.

The project is being financed through funds supplied by the United States Operations Mission here. The cattle are to graze in the open for an entire year and will be transferred seasonally from one section of the range to another. Israelis in charge of the cattle have been trained for their work by Texas cowboys brought here for the purpose.

FRENCH COURT DOOMS FORMER GUARDS OF NAZI EXTERMINATION CAMP

PARIS, May 18 (JTA) -- Three former Nazi guards at the Struthof concentration camps where many thousands of Frenchmen, Jews and non-Jews met their death during the occupation of France, were condemned to death by a military court here yesterday. Two other defendants drew long prison terms.

The defendants, all of whom were condemned at an earlier military trial, are Albert Fuchs, Wolfgang Seuss and Franz Ehrmanntraut, condemned; Herbert Oehler, sentenced to life imprisonment, and Robert Nitsch, sentenced to 15 years.

ISRAEL NAMES OFFICIAL TO GERMAN ARCHIVES LISTING ANNIHILATED JEWS

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- Joseph Sela, an official in the Defense Ministry, was named today Israel's liaison officer to the archives of the International Tracing Service at Arolsen, Germany, which by an agreement initiated earlier this month will pass into international control.

Israel is one of the powers which will be involved in control of the archives which contain listings of all Jews and others exterminated in Nazi concentration camps which were liberated by the Western Powers. There are some 20,000,000 documents referring to 8,000,000 victims in the Arolsen archives.

The files will be administered for five years by the International Red Cross under control of a nine-nation committee including Israel, United States, Britain, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland, Italy and West Germany.

AURIOL SEEKS U N ACTION ON ERADICATION OF DISCRIMINATION

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 18 (JTA) -- The decisions of the recent United Nations Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Eradication of Prejudice and Discrimination, held in Geneva under the chairmanship of former French President Vincent Auriol, "creates the framework" for worldwide cooperative action. Mr. Auriol declared here today. Addressing the Economic and Social Council, Mr. Auriol laid particular emphasis on the work of the recent Geneva conference.

"Discriminatory practices, stemming from prejudice, are still rife," the former French President declared. "Recent history has unfortunately shown that racism leads to the crematorium, and racial prejudice is but one of the symptoms of this evil." At Geneva a few weeks ago and I had the honor to preside over the work of that important conference attended by the representatives of all churches -- Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox and Jewish -- as well as the labor union organizations without exception. The final resolutions of this conference represent not only an agreement in principle. They provide for practical measures for implementation.

GERMAN PROVINCE ALLOCATES \$4,000,000 FOR INDEMNIFICATION

WEISBADEN, Germany, May 18 (JTA) -- The 1955-56 budget for the State of Hesse, which is now before the legislature for approval, appropriates \$1,944,000 for the indemnification of Nazi victims. Since 1948, the equivalent of the total spent by the state for indemnification purposes has reached the equivalent of \$20,000,000.

SPANISH ENVOY IN U.S. URGES RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SPAIN

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- The Spanish Ambassador today urged that Israel establish diplomatic relations with Spain and explained that Israel will be barred from participation in the forthcoming Mediterranean Olympic Games at Barcelona because Israel "did not participate" in the 1951 Olympics held in Alexandria, Egypt. Israel did not participate in the 1951 games in Egypt because it was impossible for it to do so owing to the Egyptian attitude toward Israel.

Ambassador Jose Maria de Arceizola was asked recently by chairman Emanuel Celler of the House Judiciary Committee to explain the exclusion of Israel from the Barcelona Olympics. In his reply to Rep. Celler, the Ambassador said: "There was no deliberate exclusion of Israel, but what happened was simply that it had been agreed that the participant nations were to be only those that took part in 1951 in the first Mediterranean games celebrated in Alexandria, Egypt. As Israel did not participate in those games, an invitation to the forthcoming games was not sent to her, but there was no intention or desire to exclude her deliberately. A routine formality was followed in inviting the participants."

Ambassador Arceizola said he believed "that this kind of misunderstanding will be avoided once Israel establishes diplomatic relations with our government. These do not exist at present." Israel has thus far refrained from establishing relations with Spain. The Ambassador offered to meet in person with Rep. Celler who indicated that he would see him but a time has not yet been set.

COMMUNITIES REPORTED SURPASSING LAST YEAR'S CAMPAIGN RESULTS

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds announced today that early reports from 1955 Spring fund-raising campaigns in communities throughout the country show both large and intermediate cities "moving well ahead of last year's pace." The announcement emphasized "many cities indicate that they will equal or surpass last year's total, while others are far enough out in front to assure it."

"Comparable figures for 1955 over 1954 reveal that with pledges approaching the halfway mark, the large cities are seven percent ahead of where they were at the same stage last year," the CJFWF report says. "Intermediate cities show a 12 percent advance over 1954. Reports are pegged on comparison of pledges on the same cards in both years and generally do not yet include new contributions. Among the factors influencing the success of the campaign to date is the reassessment of fund-raising organization and techniques which was initiated nationally by the General Assembly in November, 1954."

"The re-examination studies reflected the determination of communities to halt and reverse the declining trend in fund-raising," the CJFWF states. "Reports from over 75 communities indicate that these studies were carried out on the basic community organization level, involving leadership in thorough review of strengths and weaknesses. In addition to developing new ideas and approaches to strengthen campaigns, the study process has heightened enthusiasm among leaders and workers and brought deeper understanding of the campaign needs to contributors."

"In every case the basic reappraisal of the central campaign in relation to the community organization has had an effect on planning for the 1955 campaigns, as well as for the years ahead. The results of these studies are seen in the many programs instituted by communities, emphasis upon the primacy of the campaign and its worldwide scope--the "biggest campaign" requiring the "biggest effort" and the "biggest gift"; changes in approach to top givers; special organization to solicit intermediate givers; tailoring campaign events to fit particular local situations; more intensive education of workers; more thorough interpretation of the campaigns. All of it has added up to a much greater readiness by communities to change campaign methods to meet changed conditions."

The report stresses the role played by the CJFWF, through central campaign services and through its field staff this year. "The national office has provided consultation for special campaign problems, and the seven regional offices have given direct assistance to many cities in campaign organization and planning, particularly in relation to the reassessment process. The CJFWF also produced campaign aids which were directly utilized locally by the communities," the report says.

MICHIGAN GOVERNOR REPORTS ON ISRAEL: \$4,000,000 ASSURED IN DETROIT

DETROIT, May 18 (JTA) -- Michigan Gov. G. Mennen Williams expressed confidence in the future of Israel at a meeting here last night of the Detroit Allied Jewish Campaign. Reporting on his recent trip to the Jewish State, Gov. Williams said: "I know that things are going to go well."

Isidore Sobeloff, executive director of the Allied Jewish Campaign, told the meeting that a campaign total in excess of \$4 million is assured this year. This would make it the eighth consecutive year that the AJC passed this mark.

Gov. Williams said "the dominating impression which I came home with was that the people were determined to build a new life. This was evident," Gov. Williams continued. "At every step and I heard it from the top, from Premier Sharet and Defense Minister David Ben-Gurion, down the line."

NEW YORK ESTABLISHES MUNICIPAL COMMISSION TO FIGHT BIGOTRY

NEW YORK, May 18. (JTA) -- A new 15-member municipal Commission on Inter-group Relations to fight race prejudice and discrimination was established yesterday by the New York City Council. A measure adopted unanimously provides that public hearings may be held by the group only after the Mayor gives his written permission. While it gives the commission the right of investigation and subpoena, the law prevents the group from taking up cases within the jurisdiction of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination.

The law instructs the commission "to encourage and bring about mutual respect among all groups in the city, eliminate prejudice, intolerance, bigotry, discrimination and disorder occasioned thereby and give effect to the guarantee of equal rights for all assured by the constitution and the laws of this state of the United States of America."

DR. SCHWARTZ APPOINTS DIRECTOR FOR ISRAEL BONDS IN SOUTH AMERICA

NEW YORK, May 18. (JTA) -- Itzhak Vardi, formerly European director of the Israel bond drive, has been appointed director of Israel bonds for South America; it was announced today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization. Mr. Vardi was formerly Israel's consul in London, and prior to that, vice-consul in Vienna.

In making Mr. Vardi's appointment public, Dr. Schwartz called attention to the "outstanding response" which South American Jewish communities have shown to the Israel bond drive. "Through their investments in Israel bonds," he said, "the Jews of South America have made large sums of capital available for the growth of Israel's economy. I know that, under Mr. Vardi's energetic direction, the Israel bond drive in South America will continue to provide substantial resources for the development of Israel's industry and agriculture."

JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL ANNOUNCES AWARDS FOR BEST LITERARY WORKS

NEW YORK, May 18. (JTA) -- Four awards carrying cash prizes totalling \$700 for 1954's best works of Jewish interest in the fiction, poetry and juvenile fields were made at the annual meeting of the J. W. B. Jewish Book Council of America, held today. The Council meeting was dedicated to the observance of the 750th anniversary of the death of Maimonides, author of the "Guide to the Perplexed," a philosophical defense of Judaism, and the "Mishneh Torah," which summarizes the entire spiritual and intellectual content of the Talmud into one organized whole.

The \$250 Harry and Ethel Daroff Memorial Fiction Award went to Louis Zara, New York, for his novel "Blessed Is the Land." This award, presented by Samuel H. Daroff, of Philadelphia, was given for the best work of fiction of Jewish interest written and published in the U.S. in 1954. The \$250 Isaac Siegel Memorial Award for 1954's best Jewish juvenile in English was given to Nora Benjamin Kubie of New York, for her "King Solomon's Navy." The Harry Kerner Memorial Awards of \$100 each went to: Alter Esselin, for his book of Yiddish poetry, "Lider Fun a Midbarnik" ("Poems of a Hermit") and Gabriel Preil, for his volume of Hebrew poetry, "Ner Mul Ko-Chavim" ("Candle Under the Stars.")

DANIEL SCHORR, FORMER MEMBER OF J. T. A. STAFF, DECORATED BY HOLLAND

THE HAGUE, May 18. (JTA) -- Daniel L. Schorr, American newspaper man, has been elevated to the rank of Officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau by Queen Juliana; it was announced here today.

Mr. Schorr, who is now with the Columbia Broadcasting System, was a member of the staff of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency from 1934 to 1941. During World War II, he was a member of the staff of the Dutch news agency ANETA, which was organized by the Netherlands Government-in-Exile. Later he was the correspondent in Holland of a number of publications, including the Christian Science Monitor, Time magazine and the New York Times.

IRGUNISTS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH IN ACTION OF THEIR MEMBERS

TEL AVIV, May 18. (JTA) -- The death in action or by execution of members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, one underground group in the battle for Israel's independence, was marked at various ceremonies throughout Israel yesterday.

The date was the 14th anniversary of the death of David Raziel, first leader of the rightist group, who died in Iraq while on active service with the British forces during World War II. Services were also held in the death chambers of Acre and Jerusalem prisons, where several Irgunists died or were imprisoned during the last years of the British Mandatory regime.