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SYRIANS ATTACK JEWISH SETTLEMENT; BATTLE LASTS TWO DAYS

TEL AVIV, July 20. (JTA) -- A two-day battle between Syrians and Israelis, in which a number of houses were hit in the Israel settlement of Hagovrim, came to an end today when United Nations observers on the Syrian side forced the Syrians to halt their fire. No Jewish casualties were reported.

The battle started yesterday when the Syrians opened fire on the settlement which is situated in the northern part of the Huleh area. Israel police and the Hagovrim settlers replied to the fire. The shooting subsided for a while, but later the Syrians resumed fire, using automatic rifles. The exchange continued until noon today, when the UN observers intervened.

ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM WILL NOT ARISE AT GENEVA, COMMONS TOLD

LONDON, July 20. (17A) -- The British Government does not consider the current Big Four talks at Geneva a suitable occasion for attempting the settlement of the Arab-Israel problem, Anthony Nutting, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, told the House of Commons today. He made his statement in the course of a concerted drive on the government's position on the Arab-Israel situation by such Labor big guns as Emanuel Shinwell, Herbert Morrison and John Strachey, all members of the last Labor government.

Asked by Mr. Shinwell whether the government would attempt an Israel-Arab settlement at Geneva, Mr. Nutting declared: "No sir. The Foreign Secretary (Harold Macmillan) does not consider the Geneva talks offer a suitable occasion for dealing with this problem." He added that there is quite "a lot" to occupy the conferees at Geneva without this situation.

Mr. Shinwell persisted, noting that this problem was suitable for consideration at a conference which is reviewing the global situation and in view of the fact that danger might develop in the Middle East. Was the government going to remain silent and "acquiesce in the present position now that diplomatic efforts at the Security Council have failed?" he asked. Should not other steps be taken?

Secret Diplomatic Moves on Arab-Israel Situation Reported

Mr. Nutting agreed that further measures should be taken and asserted that they were being taken. But, he insisted, it would not help to publicize these activities for fear that such publicity would prejudice the outcome of the diplomatic maneuvers. He called the Middle East situation explosive, adding that it blows "hot and cold from time to time" and that currently there has been a slight cooling off. At the talks on the Gaza frontier there is some promise of success, he stressed.

In a written reply to a request for a statement on the Gaza talks, Mr. Nutting declared that the "points to be settled have been reduced to a very limited number." He noted that another meeting of the Israelis and Egyptians was scheduled on the Gaza border today, and paid tribute to the work of Gen. E. L. M. Burns, the United Nations truce chief, in these "difficult negotiations."

Mr. Morrison, who was the last Labor Foreign Secretary, indirectly charged the government with following an anti-Israel policy. Amid cries of indignation from the Conservative benches, the Minister of State said "there is absolutely no justification" for such charges.

Returning to the fray, Mr. Shinwell said that the failure of diplomatic efforts to secure free passage of shipping through the Suez Canal and the Straits of Akaba was forcing the Israel Government to prepare for military action to protect its shipping. He asked what the British Government proposed to do about this situation.

Mr. Natting said he was aware of certain election speeches by the Prime Minister and Defense Minister of Israel and counter-statements by Egyptian spokesmen, apparently occasioned by the Egyptian shelling of the British freighter Anshun in the Straits of Akaba. He said that the British Government deplored attempts to interfere with shipping and other rights and would continue to work for removal of the state of tension that gave rise to them, but he did not think the danger to peace was any greater now than in the past few months.

ISRAEL CABINET CONDEMNS BOMBINGS; ASKS COOPERATION WITH POLICE

JERUSALEM, July 20. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet condemned today the recent wave of bombings which have occurred during election rallies. Two "scare" bombings took place in Tel Aviv this weekend at General Zionist election meetings. No one was injured.

The Cabinet statement sternly warned of the consequences of such actions and called upon the entire population to cooperate with the police to track down and prevent such indicents. Thus far the police seem to have run into a blank wall in their inquiries and nobody has come forward with any information.

NEW SHIP FOR ISRAEL LAUNCHED AT HAMBURG; BUILT AS REPARATIONS

HAMBURG, July 20. (JTA) -- The 10,000 ton passenger-cargo ship, the Zion, slid down the ways here today after being launched by Mrs. Hermann Maas, wife of Dean Maas, one of the staunchest friends the Jews have had in Germany for the past few decades. The Zion and her sister ship Israel, launched last March, are the largest vessels to fly the Israel flag. Both were built in West Germany as reparations payments to Israel under the terms of the Luxemboure Agreement.

The Zion has accommodations for 312 passengers in first class and tourist accommodations and can carry at the same time some 5,000 tons of freight. The 500-foot long vessel also has a synagogue with seating capacity for 50 persons, a cinema, a swimming pool and a variety of other recreational facilities. The vessel will be placed on Haifa-New York and Haifa-Halifax runs.

GERMAN-BUILT FLOATING DOCK ENABLES ISRAEL TO REPAIR HER SHIPS

LONDON, July 20. (JTA) -- The German-built floating repair dock which has been in service at Haifa harbor only a few months has already earned Israel some 250, 000 Israel pounds which otherwise would have been spent abroad for the repair of Israel shipping, it was reported here today in the current issue of Barclay's Bank Overseas Review, an economic publication covering developments in all parts of the world.

The Overseas Review said that among other work done at the floating dock, obtained as part of the reparations payments program from West Germany, was the repair of 16 ships owned by ZIM Navigation Company. The dock gives employment to 240 persons, most of whom learned their trades fairly recently. Because of the added costs entailed in moving men and parts from Haifa's shops to the moored dock, the installation will eventually be moved into the new Kishon harbor, closer to the shops, the Overseas Review said.

The publication also reports other new Israel economic developments, including the fact that an Israel shoe company has exported 4,800 pairs of shoes to Poland as an "experiment" and is expected to ship shoes to Burma and other countries soon. Air conditioning units worth \$120,000 have been shipped abroad by the Electra Company of Israel, the Overseas Review reported; The company, which only began exporting last December, has already shipped 400 units to West Africa, Malaya, Burma, Cyprus and Italy.

ISRAEL AUTHORIZES 25 FIRMS TO REPRESENT GERMAN MANUFACTURERS

COLOGNE, July 20. (JTA) -- The Israel Purchasing Mission here has published a first register, with the names of twenty-five Israel commercial and technical agents approved as representatives of German manufacturers and exporters in servicing heavy machinery, electrical power plants, engines, sewing machines, printing machinery and medical equipment.

"Service agents" are not, however, permitted to play a part in the buying of goods within the framework of the reparations agreement, since such purchases are handled without agents or intermediaries. The role of the service agent is limited to mechanical servicing after the goods have been delivered, and to the procurement of replacement parts. Contracts between the German and Israel business partners must be submitted for app.oval to the Shilumim Corporation, the Israel government agency charged with the ordering and distribution of reparations merchandise.

JEWISH RESIDENTS OF THREE GERMAN CITIES OPEN JOINT SYNAGOGUE

ESSEN, Germany, July 20. (JTA) -- In the city of Recklinghausen, at the northern edge of the industrial Ruhr region, a new synagogue seating sixty worshippers has been dedicated by the Jews of three cities in the area - Recklinghausen, Herne and Bochum. Since the total number of Jewish residents in the three cities and vicinity is below 100, they formed a single combined congregation.

FIGHT FOR RE-OPENING OF RESTITUTION CASES MOUNTS IN GERMANY

MUNICH, July 20. (JTA) -- In pursuance of what has the earmarks of a concerted campaign, a third Bavarian parliamentary committee -- this time the Landrag Constitutional Committee -- has by unanimous vote called upon the Bavarian Government to re-open restitution cases that have already been closed through the return to the original Jewish owners of homes, real estate or businesses.

The motion asking the Bavarian Government to intervene with the Bonn Government was introduced by Free Democratic deputy Ernst Rabenstein and supported by all political groups, from left to right. None was deterred by the explanation of a government spokesman that the Federal Republic had undertaken in the Paris agreements to carry out Allied restitution legislation without change.

Prior to the committee meeting lobbyists for the "Aryanizers". -- the Germans who took over Jewish property in the Nazi era and had to return it after the war -- propounded the view that, no matter what undertakings Chancellor Konrad Adenauer had signed, the return of "Aryanized" property violated constitutional property guarantees. Since the constitution was paramount, they argued, the German courts would have to invalidate restitution rulings found to be "unconstitutional,"

In addition, the motion seeks compensation from the Federal Treasury for "Aryanizers" who suffered "hardship" by having to return Jewish property which they had acquired "in good faith." Similar motions were adopted unanimously last month by the Landtag Committee on Petitions and last November by the Landtag Legal Committee.

60 JEWISH HOSPITALS IN U.S. CARED FOR 500, 000 PATIENTS LAST YEAR

NEW YORK, July 20. (1TA) -- Every community in the United States with a Jewish population of 30, 000 or more -- except Washington -- maintains its own Jewish hospital, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds reported today. In addition, several communities with smaller Jewish populations have their own Jewish hospitals.

Last year an estimated 500, 000 patients received care in 60 Jewish hospitals in this country, the report established. About half of the patients were Jews, although this figure varied with each community and hospital.

The Jewish hospitals, the report emphasized, continue to seek improved techniques in combatting illness of all kinds. "They are improving their in-patient and out-patient departments, expanding home care programs, stimulating medical research and joining with other community agencies to help build integrated programs where needed," the CJFWF stated. It pointed out that care of the Jewish aged and hospital care continued an uninterrupted five-year upward trend last year.

According to the CJFWF, there has been a cumulative increase of 31 percent since 1949 in the number of beds available for the aged and the chronically ill aged; and a cumulative rise in the same period of 28 percent in the actual number of aged resident served. The increase in days care reported by hospitals under Jewish auspices, increased by 21 percent since 1949. The number of days care was 4, 470,000 in 1949 and increased to 5, 400,000 in 1954.

The CIFWF also reports greater receipts in Jewish agencies from fees for service and from public funds. Payments for service increased by 10 percent over 1953, while receipts from public funds showed a 7 percent rise. Fees for service in family agencies amounted to only 2.8 percent of the total receipts. Nevertheless, this figure represents a 33 percent rise over 1953. Most agencies maintained their 1953 levels of service or even expanded them in some areas despite a dip in community fund raising results.

70 Jewish Institutions Reported Caring for 9,400 Aged

Bed space for the aged showed a four percent increase in 1954, thereby continuing the overall upward trend begun in 1949. There is also mounting pressure for care of the chronically ill aged and mildly disturbed older persons. Filling vacant beds almost as fast as new facilities are completed, the number of aged estimated to be receiving care in some 70 Jewish institutions, reached a peak of 9,400 at the end of 1954, an increase of 3.4 percent over the same date of 1953, the CJFWF stated.

The number of patients treated in Jewish hospitals last year showed a rise of 7 percent. The number of days of medical care increased in the same period by five percent. One-fourth of the patients received free hospital care, a rise of four percent. These totals too were part of the overall increase begun in 1949.

GOV. HARRIMAN LEAVES ISRAEL; HOPES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF JOHNSTON PLAN

TEL AVIV, July 20. (JTA) -- Gov. W. Averill Harriman of New York left Israel today after spending four days touring the country and meeting its leaders. In a ceremony at the airport, he was presented with a silver-bound Bible by the Israel Foreign Ministry.

Before leaving, he expressed the hope that an Israel-Arab agreement on the Johnston plan for development of the Jordan River would pave the way for a general settlement of the region's problems. He said he hoped the conciliatory mood that prevailed at the Geneva Big Four talks "might find its way into this area."

U.S. FIRMS ASK ISRAEL GOVERNMENT TO ABOLISH TRADE CONTROLS

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- Israel authorities have been asked by leaders of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce "to give serious consideration, at an early stage, to the need for maximum economic freedom and the cancellation of all controls, exchange and otherwise, which at present tend to stop the flow of capital from abroad for investment in constructive development of the country," it was reported here today by Nathan Straus III, president of the Chamber.

Mr. Straus said that the request was supported by delegates from eleven countries at the first conference of Israeli Bi-National Chambers of Commerce held in Israel recently. A resolution to this effect, introduced by members of the American delegation, was adopted at the conference unanimously.

"The delegates from the eleven countries also heard from their American colleagues how their countries, whose purchases from the U.S. are limited by dollar shortages, can buy American products via Israel, where such products already are and will increasingly be manufactured under license and assembled from parts shipped from here", Straus reported. These delegates he said, represented some 5000 corporations and businessmen who are members of the eleven Chambers.

ISRAEL REMOVES RESTRICTIONS ON FILM BROUGHT BY TOURISTS

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- Restrictions on the amount of still and movie film which a tourist may bring into Israel for his vacation use have been lifted, according to Joseph Ilan, director of the Israel Government Tourist Office here. "The Government has recognized the fact that the mementos a tourist prizes most are the photographs he takes himself and accordingly issued a new regulation which permits unlimited amounts to be brought into Israel," Mr. Ian said.

While there is no limitation, the amount of film brought into the country will be marked in the visitor's passport upon his arrival. Should he decide to leave some film in Israel, he will have to pay duty and taxes on the amount left behind on his departure.

100 JEWISH YOUTHS FROM 30 STATES COMPLETE LEADERSHIP COURSE

LOS ANCELES, July 20. (JTA) -- Some 100 Jewish young men and women of college age will complete a four-week leadership course at the Brandeis Camp Institute at Santa Susana, California, this week-end and will return to their home communities in 30 states and several foreign countries. A second four-week institute will open July 31. Between the two sessions a special four-day institute for adults will be held.

The camp, located on a 2200-acre ranch 35 miles from Los Angeles, is sponsored by the Brandeis Youth Coundation, in keeping with the late jurist's objectives to revive and sustain Jewish cultural values.

NETHERLANDS JEWISH OFFICIAL HONORED BY KING OF BELGIUM

THE HAGUE, July 20. (JTA) -- King Badauin of Belgium has honored Dr. E. H. van dan Beugel, a Dutch Jew. The Belgian King bestowed the Order of Leopold II, officer, on Dr. van dan Beugel, who is director general of the Netherlands economic and military aid program.

ABRAHAM LEVINSON DIES IN ISRAEL; WAS MEMBER OF POLISH PARLIAMENT

TEL AVIV. July 20. (1TA) -- Abraham Levinson, head of the Histadrut's educational center and co-editor of "Di Goldene Keit", Yiddish literary quarterly published by the Histadrut, died here today after a prolonged illness. He was 65 years old. Born in Lodg, Poland, he was active in the Zionist Socialist movement there and was elected to the Polish Parliament in 1922.