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GENERAL ZIONISTS SUFFER DEFEAT IN ISRAEL ELECTIONS; HERUT GAINS

TEL AVIV, July 27. (JTA) -- Incomplete returns, representing about 90 percent of the votes cast in Israel's national elections, indicated today that although the Mapai, Israel's Labor Party, remained the leading party in the country, getting about one-third of the 850,000 votes cast, it had lost four percent as against the totals in the last general elections when it secured 37 percent of the vote.

The biggest surprise in the elections was the gain made by the extreme rightist Herut Party and the severe loss suffered by the Centrist General Zionists. The Herut Party jostled the General Zionists out of second place into fourth. It picked up about 12 percent of the vote and became the second strongest party. Four years ago the Herut won only six percent of the vote.

The General Zionist Party, which obtained 16 percent of the votes in the last elections, emerged with only about 10 percent this time. It came in behind the Religious Front--the Mizrahi and Mizrahi Laborites--which received slightly over ten percent.

Other parties trailed the General Zionists in the following order: the Socialist Achdut Avodah, about 8 percent; left-wing Mapam Party, about 8 percent; Agudas Israel, 5 percent; Progressives, 4 percent, and the Communist Party just under 4 percent.

In the municipal elections, which took place simultaneously, the Mapai in Tel Aviv was reported as having increased its lead over the General Zionists who have held the post of mayor for decades. The evening papers reported that Golda Myerson, candidate of the Mapai, may become the Mayor of Tel Aviv with the support of a coalition among the Mapai, Mizrahi groups and Agudas Israel.

In Haifa, the Mapai won 8 seats in the municipality, the General Zionists 3, Herut 2, Achdut Avodah 2, while the Religious Bloc, Agudah, Communist Party and Sephardic group secured one seat each.

New Parliament To Open on August 16; Sharett on Leave

Without waiting for the final results, a date was today fixed for the opening of the new Parliament. The Knesset will open on August 16 and will elect a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker, after which it will adjourn until after the High Holidays. Premier Sharett has, in the meantime, left on a short vacation. Upon his return, negotiations will be started for the formation of a new Cabinet.

One Arab was killed and 16 others were wounded in Tamra in Upper Galilee when two feuding Arab families clashed outside the polling station yesterday. As nearly as could be determined, the fighting broke out over politics. A number of other, minor clashes were reported from other Arab villages.

(In New York the Jewish Telegraphic Agency offices were taxed to capacity this morning as hundreds of calls requesting information on the progress of the elections in Israel poured in. Special arrangements were made to process calls and distribute the information as returns from the Israel voting came in.)

ISRAEL PLANE SHOT DOWN BY BULGARIANS; 57 REPORTED KILLED IN CRASH

JERUSALEM, July 27. (JTA) -- The Israel Government was taking energetic measures today to investigate the circumstances under which an El Al-Israel Airlines Constellation with 57 persons aboard made a crash landing early this morning one and one-half miles inside the Bulgarian border adjoining Greece. It was reported this evening that the Bulgarian Government had given Israel permission to inspect the destroyed plane.

Upon instructions from the Israel Foreign Office the Israel legation in Athens immediately asked the International Red Cross and the Greek Army to enable the Israel Minister in Greece to proceed to the site of the crash. Access to the region would have to be through a fortified Greek zone and another on the Bulgarian side of the frontier.

The plane, on the Vienna-Lydda leg of a flight from London, was fired upon, reportedly by Bulgarian anti-aircraft gunners. Just before going down, the pilot

was heard in Athens and Rome to say over his radio that the plane was in flames and he was trying for a forced landing. The pilot was a Briton.

(An Associated Press dispatch from Athens reported Greek Army sources as stating that 57 persons were killed in the crash. A later dispatch said that Greek soldiers in border positions could see Bulgarian ambulances surrounding the wreck.)

Four Americans were among the passengers and five Soviet citizens boarded the plane at Vienna. The Americans were identified: Mrs. J. Sheinbaum, a Mrs. Katz and her small daughter, and a Mrs. Schaeffer, who boarded the plane at Vienna.

One particularly poignant aspect of the tragedy was that five of the 12 persons who boarded the plane at Vienna were Russian Jews immigrating to the Jewish State, to join relatives there. El Al offices have refused to publish a full passenger list for the time being.

An El Al statement said that the plane had made a forced landing at Tsirbanovo, Bulgaria, while other reports placed the site at Petritsu. The area on both sides of the border is heavily fortified and Greek-Bulgarian relations have been strained for years. A shift of only a few miles to the east of the planes scheduled course might have carried it across the Bulgarian border.

The normally scheduled Vienna-Istanbul leg of the London-Lydda course was skipped because the plane, delayed in London, was late. It was headed directly toward Lydda when it met disaster.

El-Al-Israel Airlines Issues Statement on Incident

NEW YORK, July 27. (JTA)-- The New York office of El Al-Israel Airlines issued the following statement on the forced landing of one of its Constellation planes inside the Bulgarian border, near Greece, which it received this morning from Louis A. Pincus, managing director of the line, in Israel:

"An SOS message was received by El Al operations from El Al AKC Constellation aircraft which was flying from Vienna to Lydda and was close to the Greek-Bulgarian border. A little later a message was received from Athens airfield that the aircraft made a forced landing near Tsirbanovo, Bulgaria, near the Greek border, after it had been shot upon.

"On board were 47 adult passengers, three children and crew of seven. Israel Foreign Ministry taking all steps to rush assistance. In addition, the Israel Government has taken urgent steps to send an investigation committee to the place of the incident."

State Department Awaiting Official Report on Crash

WASHINGTON, July 27. (JTA)-- The State Department will issue no official comment on the reported forced landing of an Israel airliner in Bulgaria until the Department is in possession of the facts on what a Department spokesman termed "this unfortunate occurrence."

The State Department explained that it is awaiting reports on the incident through its regular reporting channels. Since the U.S. maintains no diplomatic relations with Bulgaria, information will not come to the Department directly from that country. However, continuing reports are reaching the State Department from Greek and Israel sources.

BRITAIN DISSATISFIED WITH EGYPT'S REPLY ON SHIP SHELLING

LONDON, July 27. (JTA)-- The British Government considers the Egyptian reply to its protest against the shelling of the British freighter Anshun in the Strait of Akaba July 2 "unsatisfactory". R.H. Turton, Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said today in a written reply to a query from an MP on the Anshun incident.

The Egyptian note is "at variance with the facts" about the case, Mr. Turton wrote and as soon as the case is studied further the government will make new representations to Egypt. Mr. Turton wrote that the Egyptian account denied statements of the captain of the British ship, accusing the master of having failed to answer Egyptian signals to identify himself and his destination. Nowhere in the Egyptian note, Mr. Turton said, is there an admission that the vessel was hit by Egyptian shore batteries. In seeking to justify the shelling, he added, Egypt claimed the right to visit and search all ships passing through its territorial waters. The note repudiated all liability.

EISENHOWER LAUDS SOBELOFF; SOUTHERN SENATORS BALK HIS NOMINATION

WASHINGTON, July 27. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower said today that he was unaware of the Congressional controversy over his nomination of Solicitor General Simon E. Sobeloff to be a United States Appeals Court Judge, but that he thought the nomination was an "excellent" one.

Yesterday, the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee hearings on the Sobeloff nomination were indefinitely postponed at the request of Sen. James O. Eastland (D. Mass.) and Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D. S. C.). Both Southern Senators requested "a reasonable length of time" to study Sobeloff's qualifications.

The President said today at his weekly news conference that he did not intend to challenge the right of Congress to make a thorough investigation. He also said that he has had a number of contacts with the Solicitor General and was impressed with his "judicial type of mind."

Other Southern Senators and Southern pro-segregation groups have opposed the nomination of Mr. Sobeloff who is a strong advocate of racial integration in the public schools. He was nominated by President Eisenhower on July 14 to be a judge of the Fourth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation.

JEWISH GROUPS ASK CONGRESS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON FAIR EMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, July 27. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A., Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, United Synagogue of America and 33 local Jewish Community Councils--which together comprise the National Community Relations Advisory Council--today called for action at this session of Congress on measures pending in the House of Representatives to establish a fair employment practices commission with enforcement powers.

The statement of the Jewish organizations was offered at a hearing on civil rights bills held today by a Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. The Jewish groups also asked for action at this session of Congress on the establishment of national commission on civil rights; a civil rights division in the Department of Justice; outlawing of lynching; strengthening of anti-peonage laws; and protection of the right to vote without discrimination on racial or religious grounds.

Bernard H. Trager of Bridgeport, chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, in his statement, emphasized the view of the Jewish organizations "that there have been more than adequate deliberation and consideration of bills seeking to secure equality for all racial and religious groups in our country."

He also stated that "further hearings would serve no useful purpose and would add nothing to the knowledge now in the possession of the members of the House of Representatives." He concluded with the assertion: "We believe strongly that the time has long since past for action rather than further deliberation on these measures."

Jewish Congress Calls for Anti-Discrimination Amendments

Testifying before the sub-committee on behalf of the American Jewish Congress, Will Maslow noted that no fewer than 95 bills aimed at achieving intergroup equality have been introduced in the House during this session and that 51 of them have been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. "The introduction of such a large number of bills by 21 members of the House reflects widespread recognition of the need for action to protect the civil rights of American citizens," Mr. Maslow said. "It reflects also a belief that legislative action by the United States Congress can contribute to attainment of the goal of full equality."

Mr. Maslow called for broader use of anti-discrimination and anti-segregation amendments to pending Federal general welfare bills as the most effective means of breaking the stranglehold the filibuster has placed on the enactment of civil rights legislation in the United States. "A legislative minority has been able to block civil rights measures year after year by exploiting the provisions of the existing Congressional rules," he declared. "For years we have watched urgently needed reforms founder because of blind intolerance. We cannot hope to persuade this arrogant and intransigent minority to abandon voluntarily their undemocratic tactics. We can hope that they will change their attitude if they find it is too costly."

"Accordingly," Mr. Maslow continued, "civil rights forces are now virtually united in calling for inclusion of anti-discrimination provisions in pending measures that would otherwise foster inequality or permit it to continue without redress. This approach offers a far better chance of concrete gains than continued support of the separate civil rights bills before this Committee."

LONDON PAPER STARTS POLL AMONG READERS ON ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, July 27. (JTA) -- The Daily Herald, one of the largest newspapers in England and the official spokesman for the British Labor Party, began today polling its readers on their views about Jews and prejudice.

Following the widespread publication of the story of a 50,000 pound bequest to St. Johns College of Cambridge on condition that the funds not be used for fellowships to Jews and Negroes, the Daily Herald published a questionnaire which it asked its readers to fill out and return. The questions include: "Do you like Jews, if not, why not?" "Would you approve of your son or daughter marrying a Jew?" "If you are Jewish have you any prejudice against persons of other races or religions, if so state which?"

ARABS CLAIM U.S. IS PRESSURING EGYPT TO EASE ANTI-ISRAEL STAND

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., July 27. (JTA) -- The Arab League is making strenuous efforts to hold the Asian-African bloc together as an organized caucus for possible use against Israel here as a follow-up to the anti-Israel attitude formalized in resolutions adopted at the Bandung conference last April.

The representatives of the Asian and African member nations here held their second caucus yesterday afternoon, presumably to provide backing for anti-colonial measures concerned with Morocco, Algeria and Kenya. However, it became known here today that Arab delegates told their colleagues in the caucus that the United States, Britain and the United Nations have been quietly exerting pressure upon Egypt in an effort to ease Cairo's hostility toward Israel.

According to this unconfirmed report the Western Powers, as well as the UN, have been suggesting to Cairo that it take steps to remove as many Arab refugees as possible from the Gaza strip. The United States and Britain would presumably back UN action to help Egypt resettle many of the Arab refugees from Gaza if Egypt conceded that such a move would be beneficial to all concerned.

The big fact as seen here, however, is the continuation of the caucus itself as an organized entity. Until the last General Assembly there had been in existence a fairly tight liaison between the Arab nations and the Latin American countries represented here. With the growth of "neutralism" in Asia, and with Israel having attained warm relationships with the Latin American bloc, it became necessary for the Arab League to seek a different form for a new pressure group here. Continuation of the Asian-African bloc under the pretext of implementing the Bandung resolutions provided the answer sought by the Arab League here.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL HONORS JUDGE RIFKIND FOR SERVICES TO JEWS

NEW YORK, July 27. (JTA) -- Judge Simon H. Rifkind, former advisor on Jewish affairs to the American commander in Germany in 1945 and 1946, was honored here yesterday for his services to Jews. William Rosenwald, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, presented Judge Rifkind with an ancient lamp recently unearthed in Israel, at a brief ceremony at UJA headquarters.

A similar presentation was made by the UJA to President Eisenhower in June in recognition of his work in liberating the Jews and other victims of the Nazis and in caring for survivors. Thirteen other military and civilian leaders will be honored by the UJA for similar contributions.

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS FORMED IN BELGIUM AND AUSTRALIA

WASHINGTON, July 27. (JTA) -- For the first time, Jewish youth in Belgium have formed a chapter of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, it was announced today by BBYO headquarters here. Organized in Brussels with a charter membership of 20 young men and women, it will function as a chapter of B'nai B'rith Young Adults. President of the new youth group is a 22-year-old medical student, Theo Brat.

It was announced at the same time that in Sydney, Australia, 50 boys of high school age have formed a chapter of Aleph Zadik Aleph. President of this group is Peter Sommer. A chapter of B'nai B'rith Girls is also being organized in the same city.