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## U. S. MAY HOLD UP ARMS FOR ISRAEL BECAUSE OF CLASH WITH SYRIA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- State Department sources hinted today that consideration of Israel's arms request may be delayed by Israel's military action this week against Syria.

It is the opinion of the State Department, it was explained, that the reprisal raid by Israel was an act in which weapons were employed for offensive uses. Before approving the Israel arms list, or any portion of it, the U. S. Government must be convinced that the American arms will be used for defensive purposes only, the State Department sources said.

State Department spokesman Lincoln White said today the United States is awaiting the report of the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission on the Israel-Syrian military clash and that "it would therefore be premature to make any comment on what the ultimate position of the United States will be."

"The United States, of course, regrets the loss of life in this as in previous incidents," Mr. White said. He pointed out that the Mixed Armistice Commission will make its report to the United Nations and that Syria has requested a Security Council meeting. The United States, he said, as a member of the Security Council, would presumably receive the report of the Mixed Armistice Commission.

## WESTERN POWERS TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles will discuss the Arab-Israel conflict in Paris with British Foreign Secretary Harold Macmillan and French Foreign Minister Antoine Pinay, in an attempt to secure a common approach toward bringing peace in the Middle East within the next six months, it was learned here today.

Mr. Dulles, who flew to Paris yesterday to participate in a three-day North Atlantic Treaty Council meeting which opens tomorrow, was accompanied by State Department advisers on Middle Eastern affairs. American officials said that a vital aspect of his mission will be talks with the representatives of Britain and France on Middle East problems, and that these talks will be held in private.

The New York Herald Tribune reported today from Washington that it is the American view that without an Israeli-Arab settlement within six months the Middle East competition for arms may get out of hand. "At the moment officials believe that Israel holds a clear edge in military power," the report said. "But this lead may be dissipated by a flow of Communist arms to the Arab states. The American goal, as explained here, is to win a Palestine accord by summer. There is a feeling in Washington that it is now or never," the report stated.)

Moshe Sharett, Israel Foreign Minister, left here tonight by air for Paris. In the French capital he will meet not only with Foreign Minister Pinay but also with Italy's Foreign Minister Gaetano de Martino. Mr. Sharett has also summoned all the Israel envoys in Western European countries for a special conference in Paris.

## U. N. TO TAKE UP SYRIA'S COMPLAINT AGAINST ISRAEL TOMORROW

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Security Council will meet Friday afternoon to consider Syria's complaint against Israel in connection with Sunday night's reprisal raid on Syrian outposts on the eastern shore of Lake Tiberias which had been shelling Israeli fishermen on the lake.

Syria is understood to be pressing for a Council resolution imposing strict sanctions against Israel. So far, however, the nature of the Council's "measures" demanded by Syria has not been decided upon. The British, French and American delegations were in consultation today, trying to arrive at a joint plan of procedure at the Friday session.

The General Assembly's Administrative and Budget Committee voted today to increase the 1956 budget of the Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine from \$644,000 to \$747,500, the extra funds to be used to increase the TSO staff, under Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, from 76 to 88 persons.

## KNESSET VOTES SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET OF 113,000,000 POUNDS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament approved the first reading of the government's supplementary budget of 113 million pounds today. The vote was 46 to 22.

## ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES PLAN FOR DISPERSAL OF POPULATION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A plan for the dispersal of Israel's population more evenly over the country was discussed by the Israel Cabinet.

The plan is part of an overall "four-year plan" proposed by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol for the development of agriculture, basic and light industry, sea, land and air communications and relieving the overcrowding in Israel's urban centers. The plan will come up for decision next week.

A Cabinet spokesman announced that the government had accepted an anonymous contribution of \$500,000 for the construction of a "clearing center" for Israel academics, which would concentrate the administration of Israel's advanced educational set-up. A site of 30 dunams (seven and one-half acres) has been set aside in the center of this city for the project.

## ISRAEL SETTLES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CLAIMS FOR WAR DAMAGES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Roman Catholic Church's claims for compensation for war damage and for the restitution of church property requisitioned during the War of Liberation have been settled to the full satisfaction of Israel and of the Church, the Ministry for Religions announced here.

At the same time, it published a letter from Antonio Vergani, representative in Israel of the Latin Patriarch, who expressed warm appreciation of the "goodwill, cooperative spirit and efficiency" displayed by various ministries and departments of the Israel Government, including the Ministry for Religion and the Defense Ministry, in handling the Catholic claims. In the letter addressed to Moshe Shapiro, Minister for Religions, the Catholic functionary also praised the understanding and consideration for other religions displayed by the Israelis during the lengthy negotiations.

## BRITISH MILITARY SUPPLIES SOLD TO EGYPT THROUGH BELGIUM

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A loophole in Britain's security regulations permitted dealers in surplus military supplies to modernize obsolete army equipment and export it to the Middle East, the British Government admitted last night.

In a written reply to an MP, R. H. Turton, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, said he was aware that such surplus army stores had been resold to Belgium and later made their way to Egypt. Export licenses had been granted on the understanding that such materiel was intended for civilian use and its export for military purposes is an "evasion" of the regulations.

Action would be taken to prevent further evasion, Mr. Turton pledged. It has been learned that Ministry of Supply officials have been instructed to scrutinize carefully all export applications and to establish the purposes of sale of such materiel and its ultimate purchasers.

## U. N. ASSEMBLY ADOPTS ISRAEL RESOLUTION ON CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT SAFETY

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The General Assembly adopted today, by 45 in favor, none against and 13 abstentions, the Israel resolution expressing United Nations concern with "incidents involving attacks on civilian aircraft deviating from fixed plans in the vicinity of or across international frontiers."

The resolution, an outgrowth of Bulgaria's attack on an Israel passenger plane last summer with a resultant loss of 58 lives, had been approved previously by the Assembly's Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee. Israel had brought the resolution to that committee to emphasize its non-political, humanitarian nature. The delegations that abstained today are the same that had recorded abstentions earlier in the committee, comprising the Arab and Soviet blocs.

## ISRAEL GROUP GETS \$4,000,000 CONTRACT IN TURKEY; WILL BUILD HOTEL

ISTANBUL, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- An Israel construction company, Reisal-Efraim Company of Tel Aviv, has just signed an \$4,000,000 contract to build a 120-room tourist hotel at Soguksu, a suburb of Istanbul. The hotel will be completed in ten months.

The Turkish affiliate of the company, TIYAP--Turkish-Israel Construction Company--has also agreed to build 4,000 homes in the same suburb, which the Turkish Government is developing as a tourist center for foreign visitors. TIYAP has already built 120 villas in Istanbul for top Turkish government officials and 250 two-storied houses for workers in Hereke, an industrial town in Anatolia.

J. D. C. TO SEEK \$29, 200, 000 FOR 1956 ACTIVITIES; ANNUAL MEETING TODAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee will require a minimum of \$29, 200, 000 for its activities in 1956, it was learned here today on the eve of the 41st annual meeting of the organization, which will be held tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Of the JDC's total 1956 budget, about \$15, 200, 000, or more than 50 percent, will be spent on those programs directly connected with Israel - for immigration to Israel, for Malben, for ORT training programs, and for cultural and religious programs there. Other major budgetary items will include some \$3, 700, 000 for aid to Jews in the Moslem world; \$3, 200, 000 for other emigration aid and relief-in-transit; \$1, 540, 000 for reconstruction assistance and \$3, 904, 000 for aid programs in 14 countries of Europe.

With these sums the JDC expects to aid more than 200, 000 men, women and children in some 25 countries of the world. These include: 1. Up to 45, 000 who must be aided to leave North Africa for Israel, the largest number from Morocco; 2. Nearly 100, 000 others in Moslem countries, who must continue to rely upon JDC feeding and medical programs, must continue to seek vocational and educational opportunities, must look to the JDC for aid against the triple threat of poverty, disease and discrimination. 3. More than 30, 000 persons in Israel, who must continue to receive medical and institutional care, rehabilitation and reconstruction aid, vocational training, and cultural, religious and educational assistance. 4. Almost 30, 000, including thousands of disabled refugees and their dependents in Europe, to whom virtually all emigration opportunities have been barred.

Edward M. M. Warburg, JDC chairman, said today that more than 500 delegates, representing Jewish communities in every part of the United States, will join tomorrow in adopting the 1956 budget of the JDC, which this year aided more than 160, 000 men, women and children in 25 countries of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, including Israel. Speakers at a dinner the same evening will be Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice-chairman, who returned recently from a survey of relief and welfare needs in Europe and Israel. Mrs. Roosevelt was in Israel earlier in the year.

The 1956 budget for overseas assistance will be presented to the delegates by Morris Laub, JDC assistant secretary. The budgetary analysis was to have been presented at this meeting by Moses W. Beckelman, JDC director-general for overseas activities, who died suddenly last week in New York. In 1955, JDC spent over \$25, 000, 000. More than half of this sum was spent on the agency's Malben program in Israel, aiding aged, ill and handicapped newcomers there.

\$17, 000, 000 PLEDGED IN FIRST MONTH OF SPECIAL U. J. A. FUND DRIVE

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- More than \$17, 000, 000 has been pledged so far by 40 Jewish communities toward the United Jewish Appeal Special Fund drive for \$25, 000, 000 to finance the emigration to Israel of 45, 000 Jews from North Africa, it was reported here today by Joseph Mazer, national chairman of the UJA Special Fund campaign, which was launched about a month ago.

"The response to the UJA Special Fund drive," Mr. Mazer told a press conference "is a heartening demonstration of the understanding, as well as the generosity, of the Jews of America. They have been stirred by the expressed determination of Israel's people to keep their doors open to all Jews seeking a democratic haven." Included in the cities and areas which have accepted quotas for the Special Fund drive are New York, \$7, 000, 000; Chicago, \$1, 575, 000; Philadelphia, \$1, 162, 500; Los Angeles, \$1, 410, 000 and Detroit, \$1, 230, 000.

Mr. Mazer also expressed his gratification at the understanding and acceptance on the part of American Jewry of the extraordinary nature of the \$25, 000, 000 UJA Special Fund. This fund, he pointed out, will be used exclusively to meet immigration and initial settlement costs in Israel for 45, 000 North African Jews with the most impelling need for re-settlement. The \$25, 000, 000 fund will be over and above the monies to be raised in the regular UJA 1956 nationwide campaign.

The initial speedy response to the Special Fund drive, Mr. Mazer said, can be "credited in great part to the outstanding group of Jewish communal leaders who have accepted posts on the Special Fund Committee and to the UJA national leaders who have joined me on a series of whirlwind tours of key cities to help mobilize community efforts for the special drive." Among the leaders who already have taken part in flying visits to key communities, Mr. Mazer said, are William Rosenwald, UJA general chairman; Edward M. M. Warburg, UJA president; Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, UJA executive vice-chairman; Samuel H. Daroff, chairman of the UJA National Campaign Cabinet; Jack D. Weiler and Dewey D. Stone, both national chairmen.

Mr. Mazer's report came on the eve of the Appeal's two-day annual national conference opening at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel Friday. The conference will set in motion the regular 1956 campaign in behalf of the UJA constituent agencies--United Israel Appeal, Joint Distribution Committee and New York Association for New Americans.

CENSUS OF CHURCH AND SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP IN U. S. DUE IN 1956

BUCK HILL FALLS, Pa., Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A county-by-county census of church and synagogue membership in the United States will be completed and released late in 1956, it was reported here yesterday at the sixth annual assembly of the Division of Home Missions of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. The study is being conducted by the bureau of research and survey of the National Council.

Jewish data has not yet been completed in the survey, it was reported, although Protestant and Catholic figures are complete except for groups which do not keep membership statistics or do not choose to make them public. When the survey is completed, any religious group will be able to find the exact number of its members in any county of the country through a card index file.

The census is being financed in part by an anonymous \$35,000 contribution from a foundation and through denominational contributions which will bring the total to over \$100,000. The last religious affiliation survey undertaken on a national basis was carried out in 1936 by the Federal Government.

NEW YORK TEACHERS OPPOSE INTRODUCTION OF RELIGIOUS VALUES IN SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The New York Teachers Guild, an AFL-CIO union, has expressed determined opposition to a proposed Board of Education policy statement on "Moral and Spiritual Values and the Schools." The statement, drafted by the Board of Superintendents, has evoked controversy, with the New York Board of Rabbis and some Protestant groups opposing it and the Catholics approving it. The Teachers Guild statement declared:

"The document confuses religious with spiritual values in such a way as to identify spiritual values with those of conventional religion. It would introduce religious controversy into the schools in such a way as to be divisive and to excite old animosities and prejudices. It is a violation of our cultural pluralism and respect for all faiths, or of no faith."

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND HOLDS CHANUKAH DINNER IN NEW YORK; 2,000 ATTEND

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The people of Israel, though surrounded by hostile, aggressive neighbors, are not afraid, but are filled with the same courage and faith that characterized the Maccabees of old, declared Judge Louis E. Levinthal, former president of the Zionist Organization of America, at the Chanukah dinner of the JNF held last night at the Commodore Hotel. He recently returned from an extended stay in the State of Israel.

The dinner, arranged by the religious department of the Jewish National Fund, was dedicated to the establishment of a chain of religious border settlements in Israel as part of American Jewry's contribution to the strengthening of Israel's security. The 2,000 guests who packed the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Commodore heard the speakers urge the Jews of America to rally to the defense of Israel in this critical hour of its history. Those who spoke were Leon Gellman, world president of the Mizrahi Organization, who recently arrived from Jerusalem; Mrs. Miriam Granott, Hadassah leader and the wife of Dr. Abraham Granott, world chairman of the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem, and Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the JNF.

U. S. VETERANS OF PALESTINE JEWISH LEGION LAUNCH DRIVE FOR MUSEUM

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- A drive for \$150,000 to erect a memorial museum, library and community center at the Avichail settlement by the American Palestine Jewish Legion which during World War I served with the British armed forces, was launched at a dinner attended by 150 former legionnaires from various parts of the country.

The dinner was addressed by Israel Consul General Cebil Hyman, himself a veteran of the Legion. Arnold K. Israeli, co-chairman of the Legion's Projects Committee, presented him with a scroll citing his record of achievement for Israel as soldier and statesman. A message from Israel President Itzhak Ben Zvi, who was also a member of the Legion, was read at the dinner by Elias Gilner, the Legion's national commander.

REMAINS OF BECKELMAN BURIED IN PHILADELPHIA; PRIVATE RITES HELD

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The remains of Moses W. Beckelman, JDC director general for overseas operations who died in New York last Saturday, were buried here today in a private ceremony at Har Zion Cemetery.

Members of Mr. Beckelman's family continued today to receive messages of condolence from Jewish organizations in all parts of the world. Sympathy to the widow was expressed by Philip M. Klutznick and Maurice Bisgyer, president and secretary of B'nai B'rith, respectively; by Ben Touster, president of United Hias Service; Israel Bond Organization; World Jewish Congress; Jewish Scientific Institute--"Yivo"; Otzar Hatorah and many others.