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WASHINGTON MUM ON BRITISH PROPOSAL TO PRESS PEACE ON ARABS AND ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- The State Department refused today to say what the attitude of the United States Government would be if British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden proposes to President Eisenhower on January 30 that the United States join Britain in pressuring Israel and the Arabs to settle the Palestine dispute within six months.

Reports from London today indicated that the Prime Minister will bring such a proposal to Washington. The reports said that following the two-day meeting of British Middle Eastern diplomats last week in London, the British Government came to the conclusion that the Arab countries and Israel are incapable of reaching agreement among themselves, but that a determined and coordinated joint effort by the United States and Britain on both sides of the Palestine armistice line can bring about a peace treaty soon.

(The New York Times reported today from London that a Foreign Office spokesman there said no ultimatum to Israel and the Arab countries was being considered, although it is believed that six months is the limit for any Arab readiness to consider a compromise. The report added that it is felt in British Government circles that Washington's cooperation is required because the United States is the only power capable of inducing Mr. Ben Gurion and the Israeli Government to consider a compromise.)

A report received in this country on the two-day meeting of the British envoys who had been summoned from their posts in the Middle East to London for an exchange of views, said that the British diplomats expressed the belief that despite border clashes, fullscale warfare between the Arab states and Israel was unlikely. These envoys were reported to have advanced a view that Israel would make concessions to get peace provided the ultimate settlement were guaranteed by the United States and the United Kingdom.

British Top Adviser on Middle East Coming to Washington This Week

Evelyn Shuckburgh, chief policy adviser on Middle Eastern affairs in the British Foreign Office, will arrive in Washington this week with a preliminary outline for Anglo-American action on an Arab-Israel peace and other Middle East problems. A spokesman for the British Embassy here refused today to confirm or deny or report that Mr. Shuckburgh will outline an "extensive program," as reported by official sources in London.

The report says that the proposals drawn up in London at the two-day parley of the British diplomats--which will probably be presented by Mr. Shuckburgh--in Washington call for American membership in the Baghdad Pact, a coordinated system of financial, economic and technical aid grants to Middle East countries, a strong warning against aggression and a pledge of assistance to the attacked party. This would amount to a reaffirmation of the 1950 Tripartite Declaration but with possible additional safeguards against aggression.

The plan was said to envision also a complete review of the present arms supply program to the Middle East, including safeguards against an arms race. Plans were also formulated to end current Israel-Arab border strife. American suggestions will be considered along with the British proposals at the forthcoming top level conference of President Eisenhower with Prime Minister Eden.

Secretary Dulles May Visit Israel and Egypt, State Department says

State Department sources today indicated that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles may visit Israel and Egypt in the first half of March. Speculation on this possibility followed an official announcement by the Department that Mr. Dulles will leave Washington by air March 2--probably via the Middle East--to attend a meeting at Karachi, Pakistan, of the Foreign Ministers of nations linked to the Southeast Asia collective defense organization. The meeting will take place from March 6 to 8.

If the Arab-Israel crisis does not abate in intensity, government sources indicated a "possibility" that Mr. Dulles would stop off on his way to or from Pakistan to see Israeli and Egyptian leaders. The discussions with such leaders might come as a "follow through" of important policy decisions on the Arab-Israel situation expected to emerge from the Eisenhower-Eden talks.

U.S. ZIONISTS APPEAL TO EISENHOWER TO SUPPLY DEFENSIVE ARMS TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA). -- An appeal to President Eisenhower "to make use of his executive powers to strengthen the security of Israel" by supplying her with defensive weapons and to avert disaster threatened "by Communist-backed Arab dictatorships" was issued today by the Zionist Organization of America in a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of its national executive committee at the Hotel Statler.

In another resolution, the meeting of Zionist leaders calls upon the U.S. Congress "to give expression to the sentiments of the American people that this country will not tolerate aggression against Israel by the Arab-Communist axis." The resolution further asks the U.S. Government "to reject all proposals of British origin involving the surrender of any part of Israel's territory."

In its appeal to President Eisenhower, the resolution takes note of the role played by the President ten years ago in leading the Allied armies as their Supreme Commander in the overthrow of Nazism. "The remnants of European Jewry were liberated from Nazi extermination camps by victorious American forces. Scores of thousands of other Jews, fleeing from Communist totalitarianism were given sanctuary by the American Commander-in-Chief and helped to reach the shores of the Promised Land," the resolution said.

The resolution further sounds a note of warning that today "these survivors of totalitarian oppression and refugees from Arab lands, are threatened with annihilation by the Communist-backed Arab dictatorships." It concludes with an appeal to the President that "conscious of the grave international situation and of the American national interests involved," that he will "avert such a disaster from which the conscience of humanity must recoil."

The appeal to the President was coupled with a warning to the U.S. Administration, in an address by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the national ZOA executive, against a policy of betrayal through "the sacrifice of a loyal friend and potential ally to satisfy a would-be aggressor." The warning referred particularly to the forthcoming visit to Washington of British Premier Sir Anthony Eden "to sell the American Government his own special brand of appeasement" through the partial dismemberment of Israel.

A review of the current Middle Eastern situation, with particular emphasis on the forthcoming mission of Sir Anthony, and the recent developments in Jordan was also presented by Harry Torczyner, chairman of the ZOA commission on Israel and the Middle East. The meeting was also addressed by Mortimer May, ZOA president, who, reviewing the problems facing the Zionist movement today, declared that American Jewry stands united by Israel in its present hour of grave emergency.

ADENAUER RECEIVES GIFTS FROM SHARETT AND GOLDMANN ON 80TH BIRTHDAY

BONN, Jan. 8. (JTA). -- Two ancient silver coins -- one from the time of Bar Kochba and the other a silver Shekel dating to the first uprising against the Romans -- were presented here to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer on behalf of Dr. Nahum Goldmann in his capacity as chairman of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. The presentation was made this week-end in honor of Dr. Adenauer's 80th birthday.

Dr. F. E. Shinnar, head of the Israel Purchasing Mission, who presented Dr. Goldmann's gift to the German Chancellor, also greeted Dr. Adenauer on behalf of Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett. He presented him on behalf of Mr. Sharett with a special album containing all the postage stamps issued by the Jewish State since its establishment. In his own name, and on behalf of the mission, Dr. Shinnar presented a silver plate, especially wrought at the Bezalel Art School in Jerusalem, bearing -- in Hebrew and German -- the famous words of the prophet Isaiah: "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Dr. Shinnar was received in a special audience by the German Chancellor. Earlier, he had been among the diplomats who called to congratulate Dr. Adenauer. The special audience granted Dr. Shinnar, the principal Israeli official in this country, caused considerable comment here, in view of Dr. Adenauer's crowded schedule in connection with the two-day celebration of his birthday.

JEWISH TEACHERS IN GERMANY HOLD FIRST CONFERENCE IN FRANKFURT

FRANKFURT, Jan. 8. (JTA). -- Twenty teachers of Jewish religious subjects at German schools in all parts of the country, among them several newly-arrived Israelis, met for their first conference here under the joint sponsorship of the Jewish Agency and of the Central Jewish Council's new Cultural Department.

Principal speakers were Meir Gertner of England's Carmel College, Ephraim Haessler of the Jewish Agency, Prof. Baruch Graubard of Munich and Dr. Marianne Pulvermann of the Central Jewish Welfare Agency in Germany. "Since almost all the 900 Jewish school children in Germany were born after the war and thus attend the four lowest grades, pedagogical methods adapted to this age group were stressed in a lecture by Rabbi Simha Abir, whom the Jewish Agency brought from Israel to Berlin recently to become principal of the Jewish teachers there."

PRINCE OF MOROCCO URGES "BROTHERLY UNITY" BETWEEN MOSLEMS AND JEWS

CASABLANCA, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Pleas for unity and understanding between Jews and Moslems in Morocco were voiced at Rabat, capital of Morocco, at a meeting today called by a group of Jewish and Moslem students. The meeting was attended by more than 1,000 persons and was presided over by Prince Moulay Hassan, son of Sultan Mohammed Ben Youssef. Among the guests was Dr. Leon Ben-Zaquen, Jewish leader who was recently appointed Minister of Posts and Telegraph in the first all-Moroccan Cabinet.

The Prince, addressing the meeting, said that the attachment of the Jews for Israel is as natural as that of the Moslems for the Arab states. He insisted, however, that this was no reason for division among the Jews and Moslems in Morocco and urged the promotion of "brotherly unity" for the good of Morocco and urged the promotion of "brotherly unity" for the good of Morocco behind the Sultan, "who has never created differences between his subjects." Other student speakers urged the Jews not to quit Morocco, but to remain and participate in "national tasks."

A special prayer for the sovereign has been introduced into the Sabbath services of synagogues in Morocco. The prayer asks blessings on Mohammed V, his son Prince Moulay Hassan, his family, Prime Minister Si Bekkai and the Moroccan Cabinet.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Dr. Ben-Zaquen joined his colleagues when they accompanied the Sultan to prayers at a mosque. Dr. Ben-Zaquen, who wore the same red tarboosh as his colleagues, waited outside the mosque until the Sultan had concluded his devotions.

Sultan of Morocco Reiterates Assurances of Religious Equality

PARIS, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Leaders of the "World Parliament of Religions" -- which includes representatives of all the principal religions of the world -- declared here today that they had been assured by the Sultan of Morocco that there would be no discrimination against religious minorities in his country. The leaders recently concluded a "friendship tour" of Israel, Turkey, Jordan and Morocco.

The delegation from the group, which was founded in Chicago in 1893 and has the support of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Dr. Albert Schweitzer, described its audience with the Sultan at a press conference here. They reported that he told them: "In our country we have always preached understanding between all elements of the population. We do not practice any religious or racial discrimination. We are for equality among our subjects. Tolerance is a fundamental principle of our holy religion, and it is thanks to its application that Christians and Jews have always lived freely in Morocco."

The Sultan also asserted that "Islam, Judaism and Christianity are all three religions that have been revealed and formed on the Book. Believers of these three religions must cooperate for welfare and justice." Dr. Richard Evans, a New York Presbyterian minister, led the delegation which included two Jews, Jack Pinto and Solomon Shakin.

\$42,318,550 IN ISRAEL BOND SOLD IN 1955; \$75,000,000 GOAL FOR 1956

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- A total of \$42,318,550 in State of Israel bonds was sold during the calendar year 1955, the board of governors of the Israel Bond Organization was told last night at the Savoy-Plaza Hotel here. The results of the 1955 campaign represent a 20 percent increase over the previous year. They bring the total of Israel bonds sold since the inception of the drive in May, 1951 to \$216,595,450.

The report on the results of the campaign was presented to the board by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization. Presiding at the meeting was Dr. Abba Hillel Silver who is chairman of the board of governors. This is the first meeting of the board since Dr. Silver accepted its chairmanship last month. More than 100,000 Israel bonds were sold during the year, Dr. Schwartz noted. Some 60 percent of the 1955 purchasers had never owned any Israel bonds before, he pointed out.

The 150 American Jewish leaders attending the meeting of the board of governors adopted a goal of a minimum of \$75,000,000 in Israel bond sales during 1956. The resolution announcing the \$75,000,000 goal expressed the determination of the board members "to take every possible step to assure the fulfillment of that aim as a decisive service to the cause of Israel and of the Jewish people."

In a call for the fullest participation in the campaign to provide maximum capital for Israel through Israel bonds, Dr. Silver told the board members: "Whatever support is given to the State of Israel through the purchase of Israel bonds helps to undergird its economy and to strengthen the hands of its defenders."

"In the last analysis," Dr. Silver pointed out, "it is the economic strength of the State of Israel which will determine its capacity to defend itself against aggression and consequently also its ability to survive. A sound economy towards which the Government of Israel has been steadily moving is the surest guarantee for the ultimate solution of its political problems. That, and the stout hearts and firm resolutions of the Israelis themselves, who have built their country with such zeal and vision and who can be relied upon to defend it with their very lives."

JEWISH GROUPS LAUD EISENHOWER FOR STAND ON IMMIGRATION LAW REVISION

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Major Jewish organizations and local Jewish Community Councils affiliated with the National Community Relations Advisory Council telegraphed President Eisenhower today commending him for drawing the attention of Congress to the urgent need for revision of the immigration laws.

"It is our opinion," the telegram said, "that your recommendations that the number of persons to be admitted annually be based on the 1950 census, that provision be made for the pooling of unused quotas and that the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 be amended so that its humanitarian goal may be attained, represent steps forward to rectify some of the inequities which exist. But we believe that these inequities will be eliminated only when the national origins quota system is abolished and admissions are based upon the democratic principle of individual merit."

"We trust that your detailed recommendations will be submitted to Congress promptly and that they will include provisions to eliminate entirely the invidious national-origins quota system as well as other discriminatory, restrictive and unnecessarily harsh and rigid sections of the present law, including those which pertain to deportation. We urge you to exert the full influence of your office in behalf of the adoption, early in this session of Congress, of the amendments necessary to bring American immigration and citizenship policies into harmony with the domestic needs and the foreign policy of our country," the message concluded.

The Democratic National Committee has criticized President Eisenhower's State of the Union request on the Refugee Relief Act for failure to extend the expiration date of the Act so that the balance of authorized refugees can be admitted.

A MILLION JEWS IN RUSSIA ARE STILL JEWISH-MINDED, EDITOR ESTIMATES

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- At least one million Jews in the Soviet Union are still nostalgic about things Jewish, but have no way to satisfy their yearning for Jewishness. Chaim Shurer, editor-in-chief of "Davar," influential Israeli daily newspaper, reported here last night at a reception tendered in his honor jointly by the Jewish Writers Union and the Jewish PEN Club.

Mr. Shurer, who spent several weeks visiting various cities in the USSR, urged American Jewry "not to forget the Jews in the Soviet Union" and to do everything possible to strengthen their Jewish feelings. He also appealed to American Jewry to give maximum aid to Israel in her present critical situation in which the Arab countries are being supported by the Soviet Union both morally and with military equipment.

LONDON PRESS COMMENDS BRITISH JEWRY ON TERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

LONDON, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Synagogues throughout the country marked "Tercentenary Sabbath" here yesterday, with the recitation of special prayers and the delivery of sermons on the subject. Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie officiated at services at the Great Synagogue in the heart of the city, the oldest Ashkenazi house of prayer here, while the Haham of the Sephardic congregation officiated at the Bevis Marks synagogue, which is the historical center of Sephardic worship here. At the main Liberal synagogue in London, Rabbi Leslie Edgar delivered the sermon on the tercentenary theme.

The role of British Jewry in the national life of the country was lauded in the press this week-end as the tercentenary celebration began. It was noted that Jewish names are sprinkled throughout the history of Britain in the arts, sciences, politics, literature and sports, as well as in the rolls of those who served in the armed forces during the two world wars. At the same time, it was pointed out that the many thousands of Jews whose names are not known to the public lead quiet and useful lives as citizens and neighbors.

NEW YORK MAYOR PROCLAIMS "ISRAEL HEALTH WEEK"; LAUDS "KUPAT HOLIM"

NEW YORK, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- "Israel Health Week," officially proclaimed for New York City by Mayor Robert F. Wagner, began today and will continue through January 15. It will mark the final period of the Israel Health Exhibition sponsored here by the National Committee for Labor Israel.

The Mayor's proclamation noted the great progress made by Kupat Holim, the health network of the Histadrut, Israel's federation of labor, in caring for some two-thirds of the Israel population. Kupat Holim provides medical services for newly arrived immigrants in Israel, as well as for the families of organized workers.

DR. SONNABEND, MAYOR OF ASKALON, DEAD; CAME TO ISRAEL FROM SO. AFRICA

TEL AVIV, Jan. 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Jehzekiel Sonnabend, Mayor of the town of Askalon, died here this week-end. Dr. Sonnabend, who came to Israel from South Africa, was a founder of Afridar, a construction company organized in Israel with the financial backing of South African Jews.