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## ANXIETY FOR ISRAEL BRINGS IN \$28,500,000 AT U. J. A. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Alarmed by the prospect that Israel's people may soon find themselves under attack by Arab forces heavily armed with superior Communist weapons, supporters of the United Jewish Appeal today brought forward \$28,500,000 in individual contributions to launch the UJA's 1956 nationwide campaign. William Rosenwald, general chairman of the UJA, termed this outpouring of gifts "the greatest starting sum ever given to an American philanthropic cause." He said it represented a barometer showing the widespread concern for Israel's survival.

The outflow of advance gifts terminated the final session of a two-day national inaugural conference of the UJA with more than 650 campaign leaders and contributors in attendance. Their response came after a warning from Dr. Giora Josephthal, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, that "mounting Egyptian military superiority ultimately will express itself either in full-scale aggression against Israel or in a hit-and-run aerial attack that will decimate us in the thousands."

"Does anybody think that Egypt is getting Communist arms in order to fight the Communists?" he asked. In the light of this, he said, Israel must spend \$50,000,000 beginning immediately for non-military preparations in behalf of its civilian population. He listed the following needs, for which he pointed out Israel is short of funds:

1. The stockpiling of food and fuel in the event that Israel is cut off by sea or its internal communications are disrupted, as was the case of Jerusalem during the Arab invasion of 1948.
2. The building of auxiliary power stations and their dispersal throughout the country to augment existing facilities.
3. The construction of air raid shelters by the thousands in cities, villages and agricultural settlements, many of the latter in tense frontier areas.

Dr. Josephthal, who is also head of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, pointed out that the \$50,000,000 civilian protection program is in addition to Israel's "acute need of \$50,000,000 worth of defense weapons." He asserted that "while UJA dollars are not for arms, we hope that they will come to us in generous amounts for the vital, humanitarian safeguarding of civilian lives, especially of our recent immigrants."

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the UJA, pointed out that the \$28,500,000 given here today was in response to this year's two-goal campaign, with \$19,200,000 contributed toward the regular drive and \$9,300,000 brought forward as "over and above" contributions for the Appeal's Special Survival Fund. The special fund has a goal of \$25,000,000 plus and is intended for the exclusive financing in Israel of resettlement programs in behalf of the tens of thousands of Jews streaming in from Tunisia and Morocco.

Rabbi Friedman termed it "urgent and imperative" that all others now come forward in the same spirit of generosity as was demonstrated today at the conference. "Ordinary concern and ordinary giving," he declared, "cannot and will not meet today's extraordinary needs."

The UJA executive head pointed out that nearly two million lives are involved directly and indirectly in the success of this year's campaign. Israel's population of 1,650,000 most of all. "Israel's people," he told the UJA conferees, "are threatened today as they have not been since the days of Hitler. The Arabs are not merely calling for war against Israel; like Hitler, they are calling for extermination."

## DULLES' TESTIMONY ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE PROVOKES SERIOUS CONCERN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- American Jews interested in the fate of Israel felt deeply concerned today by the views on the Arab-Israel situation expressed last Friday by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles during his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. These views also produced sharp criticism among leading Democratic members of the Senate, who declared that they are not satisfied with Mr. Dulles' testimony.

The Secretary of State admitted that Soviet bloc shipment of arms to Egypt would materially alter the military balance against Israel, however he made it plain that there was no foreseeable intention on the part of the United States of supplying arms to Israel.

The United States," he said, "does not exclude the possibility of arms sale to Israel at a time when it would preserve peace." At the same time, he revealed that not only Egypt but also Syria is receiving arms from the Soviet bloc.

Mr. Dulles asserted that "Israel cannot win an arms race against Arabs having access to Soviet bloc stocks." He claimed that Israel's hope lies in collective rather than in local security and most of all in the United Nations. He said that there was danger that Israel might precipitate what is called a preventive war and warned that if that occurs, the United States will not be involved on the side of Israel.

Admitting that if he were in the same situation as Israel he would also be clamoring for assistance, Secretary Dulles nevertheless told the Senate committee that Israel's fears of annihilation are unfounded. He blamed Israel for "clouding" on occasion efforts for an Arab-Israel settlement, and cited the raid in Gaza area as an example. He warned against using the Arab-Israel issue for "domestic political pressures."

Mr. Dulles also implied that he would seek revision of the present borders between Israel and the neighboring Arab countries before entering into any treaty engagement to prevent alteration of Arab-Israel boundaries by force. "The present existing armistice lines were not designed to be permanent frontiers in every respect," he stated. "A more permanent and agreed line is necessary."

#### Dulles and U. N. Secretary-General Will Confer Wednesday

Secretary Dulles revealed that he will confer with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld on Wednesday on the Arab-Israel situation. He emphasized that in the event of an attack on Israel, the United States would look to the United Nations to give the lead. If that was balked by a Soviet veto, a UN General Assembly meeting might be called and other alternatives considered.

He said that the United States, Britain and France had made certain plans for immediate action in the event of an "explosion" in the Middle East. Asked whether these plans were adequate to prevent the destruction of Israel, he replied that the U.S. could not "underwrite" so total a promise because the question was military.

Mr. Dulles justified the sending of the 18 American military tanks last week to Saudi Arabia. The arms shipped to Saudi Arabia, he asserted, did not affect Arab-Israel power balance. These tanks, he argued, might protect 6,000 Americans in Saudi Arabia. If the U.S. refused to sell tanks, the U.S.-Saudi Arabian agreement for the use of the air base at Dhahran might not have been renewed. He said that the policy governing the relationship between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia was laid by the late President Roosevelt and confirmed by former President Truman. He added that it was under this policy that American service men of Jewish faith were kept out of Saudi Arabia.

The Secretary several times urged his listeners not to inject the Arab-Israel issue into the forthcoming election campaign. He said that the Arab world believes that the United States is largely dominated by domestic political considerations. "It is the determination of this Administration to deal in a manner that is best for the United States," he told the Senate committee. "I hope that in the political campaign ahead the discussion will be on such level as to dissipate this idea that the U.S. policy is dominated by local domestic politics."

Important Democratic Senators today took issue with Secretary of State Dulles' explanation before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the shipment of 18 tanks to Saudi Arabia and his plea to keep the Israel issue out of election-year politics. Sen. Walter F. George, chairman of the committee, said the Arab-Israel question "can't" be kept out of the 1956 campaign. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, a committee member, complained that Secretary Dulles had left unsettled "what is going to be done to protect Israel's territorial sovereignty."

#### ISRAEL IS NOT GETTING JET PLANES FROM FRANCE; REPORTS CALLED "PLANTED"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- State Department sources sought unofficially to spread during the week-end the impression that Israel was getting jet planes and other vital military equipment from France and "in Europe." Informed sources denied the truth of these reports. They said the stories of Israel getting French jets were deliberately "planted" to confuse public opinion which, in the wake of U.S. tank sales to Saudi Arabia, is more inclined to favor U.S. arms sales to Israel.

The State Department officially denies knowledge of reported pending French sales to Israel. Secretary of State Dulles, in testimony Friday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, indicated that he favored avoidance by America's Western allies of arms sales to Israel.

#### PROGRESSIVES REJOIN ISRAEL CABINET; DR. ROSEN TO RESUME HIS POST

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Dr. Pinchas Rosen, leader of the Progressive Party, reentered the Cabinet today as Minister of Justice following his party's decision to rejoin the coalition in the wake of the settlement of the strike of professional workers.

## HIGH GERMAN COURT ORDERS PROVISIONAL RELEASE OF RABBI OHRENSTEIN

MUNICH, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The West German Supreme Constitutional Court, in what was described here as a "sensational move," has ordered the provisional release from jail of Dr. Aron Ohrenstein, former Chief Rabbi of Bavaria, pending determination of whether his constitutional rights had been infringed. The Supreme Court sits in Karlsruhe.

The point at issue in the new move is not directly concerned with Dr. Ohrenstein's guilt or innocence of charges involving fraudulent certification of indemnification claims for applicants supposedly residing at the Wildflecken DP camp, for which he had been sentenced to one year's imprisonment in 1952. His defense attorneys argued before the Supreme Court that, when his sentence was, in the main, confirmed by another Munich court in 1954, he had been "deprived of his lawful judge."

The 1954 case against Dr. Ohrenstein had been in the hands of Dr. Josef Mulzer, a notoriously Nazi-minded judge, who also presided over the trial of the late Dr. Philip Auerbach, post-war leader of German Jewry. When Dr. Ohrenstein charged Judge Mulzer with prejudice, the latter could not deny it and disqualified himself. Although he was thus no longer permitted to deal with the case, he went out of his way to assign Judge Lochner to the trial, disregarding the fact that two other judges were next on the Munich roster at that time.

In their pleas before the Supreme Constitutional Court, the Ohrenstein attorneys argued that their client had been entitled, under the German constitution, to be tried by his lawful judge" and that he had been deprived of his right through the illegal intervention of a disqualified judge and through the assignment, without sufficient reason, of a judge who was not next on the duty roster.

The Supreme Constitutional Court has never before ordered that a prisoner be released from jail. That it did so last Friday, a week after hearing the defense attorneys, makes it likely that it will, in the near future, sustain the claim that Dr. Ohrenstein was "deprived of his lawful judge." Such a verdict will not acquit him, since the German Supreme Court had already confirmed his conviction before the disputed second trial. However, a new trial will have to be held.

Dr. Ohrenstein was arrested at the airport here nine weeks ago, after boarding a plane bound for Switzerland. He is a forty-six year old native of Poland who lived in Berlin before and during the early years of the Hitler regime. He was appointed rabbi of the Munich community and "Chief Rabbi of Bavaria" in 1946, but his right to the title of "rabbi" is in dispute. He has been the storm center of Jewish affairs in Munich for many years.

## AUSTRIA ACTS ON BENEFIT PAYMENTS FOR NAZI PERSECUTEES LIVING ABROAD

VIENNA, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Austrian Ministry of the Interior has approved statute providing for the establishment of a fund of 550 million schillings to be distributed to political persecutees now living abroad over an 11-year period. It is expected that applications will probably begin to be accepted in May for a period of one year from persons who were persecuted between March 5, 1933 and May 8, 1945. Maximum benefits allowable will be 70,000 schillings.

Persons whose health was permanently injured as a result of imprisonment or mistreatment will receive 30,000 schillings if their earning capacity has been reduced by 70 percent; 20,000 schillings if reduced by 50 percent; and 10,000 schillings, if reduced 30 percent. Widows of persecutees who died as a consequence of imprisonment or mistreatment will receive 20,000 schillings. Determination of amounts will be made by a commission consisting of a president and eight members -- half of them Austrians -- in accordance with proposals put forward by political persecutees' organizations, the Jewish communities, and Catholic and Protestant groups.

## VIENNA JEWS RENEW PROTEST AGAINST RELEASE OF NAZI LEADER

VIENNA, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Strong protests against the release of H. Sanitzer, former Gestapo leader, were renewed here today at the plenary session of the Jewish Community.

An Austrian court had sentenced Sanitzer to life imprisonment in 1946. Subsequently, he was extradited to the Soviet Union, but was returned to Austria after the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty. Since then he has been free despite numerous protests by various organizations.

The Jewish Community here also demanded today the arrest of several other war criminals recently released by the Soviet Union. These include Nazis who were involved in the extermination of the Jews of Kolomea, Syryj, and Drohobycz.

## ISRAEL RABBI GOES TO RUMANIA TO STUDY PURCHASE OF KOSHER MEAT

VIENNA, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Rabbi Israel Efrathi, director of the kashruth department of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, arrived here today en route to Rumania where he will investigate the possibilities of purchasing kosher meat for Israel. A recent poll revealed that 93 percent of the Israeli population would prefer kosher meat, Rabbi Efrathi said.

## PURIM CELEBRATED IN ISRAEL; ULTRA- ORTHODOX SECT OBJECTS TO FESTIVITIES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Happy children in this and other cities of Israel celebrated Purim today with parades, dancing and singing, while special arrangements were made to include the border settlements and outlying areas in the national festivities marking the downfall of villainous Haman several thousand years ago.

A long convoy of cars and small trucks, carrying Purim groups of masked children and adults wended its way from Jerusalem through various settlements in the corridor areas around the city. In this city an estimated 4,000 schoolchildren paraded through the streets, singing and shouting with happiness.

The Neturei Karta, the ultra-Orthodox sect, opposed the festivities and carried on a campaign designed to dampen joyous spirits. One feature of the Neturei Karta campaign was to pray for rain to interfere with this outburst of "impiety and abhorrent wickedness." Neturei Karta adherents also went about wearing sackcloth and plastered the religious quarter with posters denouncing it.

## CLAY TABLETS ESTABLISH DAY OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM

LONDON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- One of four clay tablets now in the possession of the British Museum contains contemporary references to the capture of Jerusalem by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar and the beginning of the Babylonian captivity. It was revealed here in a lecture to the British Academy by D. J. Wiseman, of the Department of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum.

The tablets belong to a series known as the "Babylonian Chronicle," which give a year-by-year account of the main political and religious events from 626 B.C.E. to 594 B.C.E., with a break of only six years. Mr. Wiseman disclosed that the tablet in question, now deciphered, records that Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon "in his seventh year, mustered his troops and marched into the land of Hatti, besieged the city of Judah, and on the second day of the month of Adar (597 B.C.E.) captured the city and took the King prisoner. He appointed there a King of his own choice and, having exacted a heavy tribute, sent it with prisoners to Babylon." This is the first time that an exact date has been established for the capture of Jerusalem.

## PLANS FOR EXPANSION OF ISRAEL AIRLINE ANNOUNCED; SERVICE INCREASED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Plans for the expansion of El Al-Israel National Airline service this summer were announced here today by Louis Pinkus, general manager of the line, who also revealed that between 1950 and 1955 the line had increased service from 14,000 passengers annually to 34,000 a year.

A fifth Constellation passenger plane will be added to the line's fleet this summer, Mr. Pinkus disclosed, and the present semi-weekly flight schedule between New York and Lydda Airport will be increased to four flights a week. All European runs will have another flight added weekly. When El Al receives three Bristol Britannia's in 1955 it will achieve the same service levels as most international airlines, Mr. Pinkus pointed out.

## LOUIS BENNETT NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JEWISH CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Louis B. Bennett, who for more than 25 years has served as an administrator of social welfare agencies and as consultant in the fields of health, welfare and education, has been appointed executive director of the Jewish Child Care Association of New York. Morton L. Deitch, president of the Association announced today. Mr. Bennett, who will actively assume the post on March 1, comes to the Association from the position of assistant executive vice-chairman of the national office of the United Jewish Appeal.

As executive director of the New York Association for New Americans, he directed the expenditure of more than \$25,000,000 to help a total of 50,000 Jewish refugees settle and find gainful employment in the metropolitan area. He also served as the first director of the Veterans Service Center in New York City, as assistant regional director of the United States Office of Community War Services, chairman of the Regional Child Care Committee of the War Manpower Commission, and as consultant to the United States Office of Education, the State Civil Defense Committee and other governmental bodies. He received his law degree from St. John's University and his Master of Science degree in Social Work from the New York School of Social Work. For some years, Mr. Bennett was a lecturer at the New York School of Social Work and conducted or lectured at seminars and institutes for Harvard, Vassar, Columbia, Western Reserve and others.

## ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PRESENTS HEBREW UNIVERSITY WITH GIFT OF BOOKS

ROME, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Italian Government has presented the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a collection of Italian classics, it was announced here today. The gift of 101 books, presented by the Italian consulate in Jerusalem, is intended to be the nucleus of a library which the Italian Government will establish at the University.