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EISENHOWER HINTS POSSIBILITY OF SALE OF AMERICAN ARMS TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 14. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today held open the possibility of U. S. arms sales to Israel. The President told a press conference that the possibility of the sale of munitions to Israel had never been foreclosed. He said that neither he nor Secretary of State Dulles ever stated the United States would not sell arms to Israel.

Mr. Eisenhower pointed out that American policy to date has been to avoid an arms race in the belief that the best prospect for peace and security lies in the United Nations. He indicated that American interests in the Middle East would be gravely jeopardized by an Arab-Israel war. He cited the Tripartite Declaration of 1950.

United Nations action to ease tension, he revealed, was one of the factors under intense study. The nature of such action will be publicized as soon as it is formulated, he said. It was not clear from the President's statement if the Administration plans to give more favorable consideration to Israel's application for arms. But it was thought here that he left the door open to such a possibility.

Mr. Eisenhower said he has worked long hours on the Arab-Israel question, often far into the evening. The President revealed that he participated in a secret exchange of correspondence with Soviet Premier Bulganin on the Egyptian-Communist arms deal. In October, before the Foreign Ministers' conference at Geneva, Bulganin wrote the President that the arms transaction with Egypt was a purely commercial business deal.

Israel Ambassador Seeks New Meeting with Dulles on Arms

Meanwhile, it was learned here today that Israel Ambassador Abba Eban is seeking a State Department appointment this week to prepare for a meeting with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles on the latter's return from abroad. Mr. Dulles is due back in Washington on March 21. It is expected that Ambassador Eban will pursue Israel's arms application during the talk with him.

Speaking on the floor of the House today, Rep. Emanuel Celler cited the arms flow from Britain, United States, Russia, and Sweden to the Arab states which he said were "bent on Israel's destruction." Stating that arms for Israel is in U. S. self-interest, Rep. Celler said he hoped pressure from the House and other sources "will cause sense to become the watchword of the Administration so that arms will be sent to Israel by the United States."

Acting Secretary of State Herbert Hoover, Jr., was urged today by New York State Attorney General Jacob K. Javits to recognize the need for a commitment now for arms sales essential to Israel's security. Mr. Javits, ranking Republican, met with Hoover on the Israel arms issue. He stressed the urgency of Israel military requirements in view of the flow of Communist arms to the Arabs.

After the meeting Mr. Javits expressed belief that "our government is making tremendous efforts to prevent any war in the Middle East between Israel and the Arab states and to bring about a permanent peace there." He revealed that, during his talk with Mr. Hoover, he urged that "a practical beginning" be made now in supplying arms for Israel's defense, and that the U. S. Government give notice to all the Middle East that "the United States policy of preserving Israel was firm and was being implemented."

President George Meany of the AFL-CIO today urged U. S. military supplies for Israel. Stating that "it is unrealistic to regard military aid to Israel as an instigation of an arms race," he said: "Actually, the race is already on and Israel may soon be out of the running."

"With the continued help of Communist armament, the Egyptian dictatorship is now openly organizing a military bloc dedicated to a war of annihilation against the democratic republic of Israel," the noted labor leader stated. He warned that "the growing imbalance" would "inevitably" bring about war unless the U. S. provides Israel with arms. "Only if Israel is equipped to defend herself effectively can the forces of aggression arrayed against her be deterred," he pointed out.

Once hostilities are averted, he said, the United States should seek action through the United Nations and other channels to bring about a negotiated peace settlement. He urged Congressional reinforcement and reaffirmation of the 1950 Tripartite Declaration.

ISRAEL SUBMITS COMPLAINT TO U. N. AGAINST EGYPT'S MASSING OF TROOPS

UNITED NATIONS, March 14. (JTA) -- The Israel Government today lodged a protest with the president of the United Nations Security Council against the "menacing build-up" of massive arms by Egypt along the Israel frontier. At the same time, the United Nations received a report from its truce chief Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns relating in detail the Syrian killing of four Israelis in the attack, ten days ago on Lake Tiberias, and implying that Israel was also at fault.

The Israel complaint, which will be circulated to all members of the Security Council, said that "close to 180 separate acts of aggression by forces under Egyptian control" took place during the last three months in the Gaza strip area. "The situation in the area has deteriorated sharply," the complaint said. "The Egyptian attacks have become more frequent and more brazen; Egyptian troop concentrations, equipped with heavy armor and other modern weapons of offense are being massed on the borders; propaganda against Israel grows more warlike and more virulent with every passing day; in consequence, the lives and safety of the people of Israel are endangered and the peace of the region imperilled."

The heightened tempo of Egyptian aggression on the borders and of Cairo's increasing troop build-up "have been accompanied by an increase in Egyptian political activity against Israel," the accusation declares. "Official Egyptian propaganda has reached an almost unbelievable pitch of shrillness and venom. The central theme, repeated every hour of every day in public utterances, in the controlled press and over the controlled radio services, is the destruction of Israel."

Gen. Burns, in his report on the Syrian shootings at Lake Tiberias, establishes that the Israel boat "was fired at from various spots" but nevertheless he comes to the conclusion that "both sides violated the General Armistice Agreement." "This new incident," he says in his report, "should be considered by both parties not as further instance of the other's aggressiveness, but as proof of the necessity to take adequate measures to remedy a dangerous situation."

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY LEAVES ISRAEL; DECLINES STATEMENT ON TALKS

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA) -- British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd left here today for Libya. Asked whether Britain's attitude toward Israel might change as a result of his talks yesterday with Israeli Government leaders, Lloyd replied: "If I say yes, there will be trouble--and if I say no, there will be trouble, too."

The Cairo radio reports that French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau conferred with Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser for two hours today. Afterwards, he told reporters the talk was "extremely interesting and frank." M. Pineau added he will meet Nasser again this afternoon.

HAIFA UNDERGOES FIRST AIR RAID DRILL; ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS ACTIVE

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA) -- Haifa's first combined air raid drill was carried out successfully yesterday. The test included simulated bombing carried out by units of the Israel Air Force, anti-aircraft battery operations, and all units of civil defense--fire brigade, first-aid, police and raid wardens. The civil defense units participated in the control of fire-bomb damage caused by the mock attack.

Haifa residents took shelter in basement apartments and public shelters within minutes after the sirens sounded. The Haifa drill was the first of a series of tests which will be conducted in the near future in towns and settlements in all parts of the country.

An Israel Air Force plane crashed today near Modim during an exercise flight. The two crewmen were killed. An Israeli policeman was wounded today when Jordanians opened fire on the Israeli section of Barta village, east of Hedera. Exchanges of fire also took place today on the Egyptian frontier where several attempts were made by infiltrators and armed Egyptian soldiers to penetrate into Israel. No casualties were reported.

GROUP OF 19 IMMIGRANTS FROM SOVIET UNION ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA) -- Nineteen immigrants from the Soviet Union arrived here today by plane. They include Eric Behr who was kidnapped in 1948 in West Berlin and sentenced by the Soviet to five years' imprisonment, most of which he spent in Siberia. After completing his term he asked for permission to leave for Israel. Another arrival today was Noel Bering, veteran Rumanian Zionist who participated in the first Zionist Congress. The 19 immigrants included Jews from Bessarabia and Lithuania.

DULLES ACCEPTS INVITATION TO ADDRESS B'NAI B'RITH IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, March 14. (JTA) -- The State Department made known today that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles has accepted an invitation to speak before a triennial meeting of B'nai B'rith in Washington on May 8. Mr. Dulles' appearance before the Jewish fraternal order is subject to further confirmation, however, in view of the troubled world picture.

- 3 -

NEW YORK U. J. A. OPENS ITS 1956 DRIVE WITH \$10,000,000 IN CONTRIBUTIONS

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- The 1956 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York set a record mark of more than \$10,000,000 tonight when the drive was formally launched at its inaugural Dinner in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Plaza. Seven hundred business and community leaders attended.

Governor Averell Harriman, the principal speaker, called for positive action by the United States in the current Middle East crisis to bring Israel's neighbors to "understand and accept the fact that Israel is going to continue to exist and that if it is attacked, it will be defended by outside forces, including forces of the United States."

The Governor said this is our obligation under the Tripartite Declaration of 1950 by the United States, Great Britain and France guaranteeing the status quo in the Middle East. Stating that the United States should, of course, support UN action in the situation "to the full," Mr. Harriman also declared that this country cannot use the United Nations "as an excuse for weakening our own determination to live by our own obligations" toward Israel.

The U. S. Government should have honored Israel's request for defensive arms at once, Governor Harriman maintained in his address. "It is futile to do so, he claimed, "has served to encourage further Communist adventuring," while it has "increased the sense of isolation in Israel." The Governor went on to say that he did not hold with those who say that providing defensive arms to Israel is futile because the people of Israel are outnumbered by the Arabs. "There are other qualities than numbers that make for defensive strength," he said. "Anyone who has been to Israel knows that every man and every woman is ready to give his life in the defense of home and country."

Warburg Urges U. S. Jews to Return to "Crisis Standard" of Giving

Edward M. M. Warburg, president of the national United Jewish Appeal, emphasized the vast scope of the needs which must be met through the 1956 campaign. After describing the plight of the 500,000 Jews in 20 countries who must be helped through the UJA this year, he underscored the peril of the 45,000 North African Jews who are striving to escape to Israel this year. "I feel that we must return as individuals and as communities to the crisis standard of giving which we reached when Israel was fighting for its existence eight short years ago," he said.

Referring to the arms which are being provided Egypt by the Communists, Mr. Warburg stated: "The Egyptians have received a gift that begets death. We are not asked to give a gift in kind. We are asked by the people of Israel only to make a gift of life." He pointed out that this year's nationwide United Jewish Appeal campaign is really two separate campaigns. The organization seeks to meet Jewish needs throughout the world, and it also seeks a Special Survival Fund for resettlement and rehabilitation of North African immigrants to Israel.

The dinner was a testimonial to Samuel Hausman, who is now serving as a general chairman of the New York UJA campaign for the tenth successive year. He received the highest honor bestowed by the UJA of Greater New York, the Annual Chairmen's Award for distinguished service. The presentation of the gold plaque was made by J. W. Schwab, who was chairman of the dinner committee.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL TO STUDY RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTS AMONG U. S. JEWS

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America today announced that it is initiating a research study to establish the factors "motivating and inhibiting the meaningful involvement of the Jewish population in the life of the synagogue." The projected study will be conducted by the Bureau of Applied Social Research of Columbia University.

The carrying out of the study will take 18 months and will cost from \$60,000 to \$100,000, it was estimated. The proposed research investigation will seek to determine "the religious, social, and psychological needs and satisfactions experienced by the synagogue member, and the kinds of educational programs necessary to relate the synagogue's message to its constituency in an optimal way." The study would also seek to determine the motivations accounting for non-affiliation with the synagogue and to suggest what can be done by the synagogue to encourage affiliation.

The Synagogue Council is now submitting the proposed study to the constituent agencies of the Council for formal ratification. These agencies are: The Rabbinical Council of America and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; the Rabbinical Assembly of America and the United Synagogue of America; the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The study would also be submitted to the National Sponsors Committee in order to enable the key Jewish leaders throughout the country to determine its application to their local communities. The Synagogue Council plans to hold regional and local mobilization conferences throughout the United States to bring together the rabbinical and non-rabbinical leaders of Judaism in a concerted effort to advance this program. A General Assembly devoted to an analysis of the current religious revival in America will be held this fall in New York, it was announced.

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS GET GLIMPSSES OF ARAB-ISRAEL CONFLICT OVER TV

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- The Arab-Israel conflict was brought literally into the homes of millions of Americans last night in an hour-and-a-half special television documentary broadcast conducted by Edward R. Murrow over the CBS television network. Scenes from Israel, including interviews with Premier David Ben Gurion and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, were narrated by Mr. Murrow, while scenes from Egypt and an interview with Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser were interpreted by Howard K. Smith, CBS chief European correspondent.

Premier Ben Gurion, in his interview with Mr. Murrow, said that he foresees an eventual Arab-Israel alliance in which Israel will help her Arab neighbors to solve the overwhelming problems facing them in the areas of education, sanitation and development. He reiterated his willingness to sit down and talk with Arab leaders any time they show a sincere desire to achieve a genuine peace settlement. At the same time, he stressed Israel's need for defensive arms until such time as cooperation is made possible by changed Arab attitudes. He also stressed his continued belief that President Eisenhower's statement of November 9 meant that the United States will grant arms to the Jewish State.

Premier Nasser, in his interview with Mr. Smith, asserted that neither he, nor the Arabs whose point of view he represents, feared Russian domination as a result of his arms deal with Czechoslovakia. On the contrary, he declared, Western domination, occupation and imperialism had a long history in the Middle East and were still considered the chief threat. The United States, he declared, is supporting France and England against the Moslems. He also said that the United States had forfeited the goodwill of the Arabs when it supported Israel in 1948; as well as by its support of imperialist powers.

The television broadcast was concluded by Mr. Murrow with a warning that "there is the smell of war" between the Arabs and Israel. -- "If war should come," he went on, "free men everywhere will have cause to examine their consciences to see if it might not have been prevented."

YIVO SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH PLEADS FOR FUNDS

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in this country as well as to individual American Jews to increase their contributions to the YIVO Scientific Institute for Jewish Research was made here today at a press conference arranged by the Institute, which is considered one of the most valuable Jewish institutions by world Jewry.

Leaders of the Institute revealed at the press conference that their institution receives about \$30,000 a year from Jewish welfare funds and close to \$80,000 in contributions from individuals. They emphasized that this income is too meager to meet the research and publications program of the Institute. They also revealed that the Institute now faces a deficit of \$100,000 and announced a campaign for 1,000 new members.

The Institute has now in its possession many archives of Jewish organizations which have made history in Jewish life. They include the files of the HICEM which for many years conducted Jewish emigration activities, of the late Dr. Joseph Rosen who directed the Agrojoint's colonization work in the Soviet Union, and of many communities annihilated by the Nazis in Europe.

PASSOVER INDUCTION DEFERMENT ANNOUNCED FOR JEWISH DRAFTEES

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- The Jewish Welfare Board received today an official communication from Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of the Selective Service System, announcing that all local draft boards have been requested to give "favorable consideration, wherever possible," to requests of registrants of the Jewish faith not to be forwarded for physical examination or induction into the Armed Forces during Passover.

The communication was received by Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, chairman of the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy. It gives Jewish registrants scheduled for physical examination or induction between March 27th through April 3rd, the right to request deferment until after Passover. Requests for such deferments should be made directly to local draft boards.

DISPUTE IN ZIONIST RANKS IN BRAZIL SETTLED; UNITY ACHIEVED

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 14. (JTA) -- A dispute between two Zionist factions in Brazil which had disrupted the national convention of the United Zionist Organization six months ago, has been settled at a meeting in Sao Paulo. Settlement of the dispute was marked by the election of new leaders to the so-called "Unificada" -- the leading body of the organization.

The differences between the two groups centered on a demand by the General Zionists that united fund-raising activities in Brazil be separated from the United Zionist Organization itself. This demand was opposed by the Poale Zion and other Zionist groups. At the meeting in Sao Paulo, the General Zionists withdrew their proposal for a separate fund-raising group in this country.