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## ISRAEL CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH HUGE MILITARY PARADE

TEL AVIV, April 16. (JTA) -- Israeli jet planes swooped and circled overhead today as Israeli heavy guns rumbled along the streets of Haifa followed by jaunty arm-swinging foot troops in the eighth celebration of Israel Independence Day. More than 250,000 Israelis crowded the city of Haifa today to watch their men and women soldiers demonstrate the Jewish State's readiness to repulse any Arab "second round" invasion.

The parade was led off by Sherman tanks, half-tracks and French-heavy artillery pieces on a bright sunny day that blended the greenish slopes of Mt. Carmel with the white surf and blue sea along Haifa's coastal streets, through which the cream of Israel's youth marched. Cheer after cheer rang out as border policemen were followed by women's units, youth battalions and detachments of paratroopers, infantry, navy and air force. On the reviewing stand were President Ben Zvi, Premier David Ben Gurion, Army Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Moshe Dayan and Mrs. Vera Weizmann, widow of Israel's first President.

The marching units were succeeded by dance groups of all varieties, including parties representing various national minorities in Israel—the Druze and others. In fact, in Haifa as elsewhere in Israel, dancing had not halted since last night when the holiday was ushered in atop Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem where Knesset Speaker Joseph Sprinzak lit the giant "Independence Candle," prototype of hundreds of thousands of other lights. This ceremony gave way to all-night dancing in the streets amid the staccato bark of fireworks.

An exhibition of Israel-manufactured small arms was opened in Jerusalem yesterday in advance of the celebrations. The arms, whose quality brought praise from experts among the viewers, demonstrated Israel's independence of the great powers in this field and underlined the Jewish State's drive for self-sufficiency in every field of manufacturing.

Included were examples of virtually every type of weapon carried by soldiers, as well as various types of bombs--aerial smoke bombs, artillery shells, anti-tank shells and anti-aircraft guns and shells. Other Israel-made war material exhibited included spare parts for tanks and cannon. M. Gad, director of Israel's military production industry, said that Israel was able to manufacture this wide assortment of arms because of the foresight of Premier Ben Gurion who, immediately after the end of World War II, sent emissaries to various countries to purchase machinery for the production of arms.

British Ambassador J. M. W. Nichols presented a huge menorah, a gift of the people and Parliament of Britain, to the State of Israel, at an impressive ceremony in Jerusalem yesterday. The candelabra will remain on a temporary site in the center of the city until the Knesset building is completed and the work, by sculptor Benno Elkan, is moved there. Ambassador Nichols expressed his admiration for the "steadiness of the people of Israel" in the current critical period and compared the British tercentenary of the return of Jews to Britain and the eighth anniversary of the independence of Israel.

Israel's Independence Day was celebrated today by Jewish communities in many lands, according to cables received by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency headquarters in New York. Celebrations were held in London, Paris, Johannesburg, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, Mexico City and in other capitals. In New York, radio and television programs marked the celebration. Among those who appeared on the television programs were Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and other dignitaries.)

## Eisenhower Cables Congratulations to Israel on Independence Day

WASHINGTON, April 16. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today cabled congratulations to Israel President Itzhak Ben Zvi and the people of Israel on the occasion of Israel Independence Day. "I am happy to extend to your Excellency and to the people of Israel on behalf of the people of the United States congratulations and sincere good wishes on this anniversary of the independence of Israel," Mr. Eisenhower's message stated.

Several members of the House joined today in congratulating Israel on its Independence Day and urging the United States Administration to provide arms to the Jewish State. Led by Rep. John J. Rooney, New York Democrat, several Congressmen voiced support of Israel and opposition to the Administration's policies in the Middle East. Rep. Rooney is chairman of an appropriations subcommittee in charge of State Department funds.

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., April 16. (JTA) -- Israel has insisted, in a fresh exchange of letters with Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, that Egypt's pledge made last week to live up to a strategic clause in its armistice agreement with Israel should be interpreted as a readiness by Cairo to lift the Suez Canal blockade against Israel's shipping.

Mr. Hammarskjold, who is due in Israel tomorrow, announced last week that both Israel and Egypt have given him renewed assurances that "no element of the land, sea or air military or paramilitary forces of either party shall commit any warlike or hostile act." In the exchange of correspondence, released here today by Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., president of the Security Council, Israel's Premier David Ben Gurion and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett maintained that the Suez Canal blockade is automatically covered by the key clause in the armistice agreement by which Egypt's Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser agreed to abide.

Mr. Ben Gurion, in a letter to Mr. Hammarskjold dated last Friday, also brought up the problem of ultimate peace talks between Israel and Egypt. "I would be grateful," Mr. Ben Gurion wrote, "if you could ascertain whether their readiness to undertake the full implementation of the general armistice agreement signifies that they no longer consider Egypt to be at war with Israel, as they have claimed to be before the Security Council."

After making that point, Mr. Ben Gurion's letter continued: "I should also like to be informed whether they realize that the observance of the general armistice agreement obligates them to discontinue the closing of the Suez Canal to Israeli ships and to desist from other forms of interference with Israeli shipping."

In his answer to Mr. Ben Gurion the UN Secretary General hinted without saying so outright that the two weighty points raised by Mr. Ben Gurion are outside his Security Council mandate which is "concerned primarily with the state of compliance with the armistice agreements relevant to the situation which had developed along the demarcation lines, in the demilitarized zones, and in the defensive areas." Mr. Hammarskjold conceded that other questions "outside my formal mandate" could be considered by him in his capacity as Secretary General.

Saturday, Mr. Sharett personally handed the UN Secretary General, at Lydda airport, a second letter which declared that Egypt's acceptance of the key clause in the armistice agreement "cannot be regarded as genuine and unconditional if interpreted as leaving it open for Egypt to engage in such hostile acts as she may deem fit." Mr. Sharett's letter denounced Egyptian interference with Israeli shipping as "a hostile act" and also insisted that the wording of the Security Council resolution, which is Mr. Hammarskjold's present mandate, "entitles the governments concerned to raise with you, under your terms of reference, the question of any existing infringement of the provisions of the existing general armistice agreement."

#### U. S. REJECTS FRENCH REQUEST FOR "BIG THREE" PARLEY ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE

WASHINGTON, April 16: (JTA) -- The United States has rejected a French request for a meeting of tripartite foreign ministers on the Arab-Israel issue prior to the May 4 session in Paris of the NATO Council.

State Department spokesman Lincoln White told the press today that the American decision against the requested tripartite parley has been communicated to the French authorities here and in Paris. Mr. White said a possibility existed that the Middle East question might be discussed by the American, British and French foreign ministers at a side-meeting when the NATO group convenes in Paris.

State Department sources said the United States did not desire a "Big Three" meeting on the Arab-Israel issue before the NATO session because of a view that such a meeting 1. Would not serve any useful purpose; and 2. Might interfere in some way with the current "peace mission" of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold.

French Ambassador Couve de Murville last week called personally on Secretary of State Dulles to urge a "Big-Three" Middle East conference prior to the Paris NATO gathering. Subsequently, the State Department made known it decided against the Ambassador's request. The French Ambassador, reportedly, sought clarification of the U. S. responsibilities under the tripartite declaration for maintenance of a balance of power in the Middle East.

France and England seem to be anxious that the United States respond to Israel's arms application in view of the continued heavy flow of Russian munitions to Egypt. From Paris it was reported that French Premier Guy Mollet was scheduled to meet with Israel Ambassador Jacob Tsur today to discuss additional shipments of Mystere jet fighters and other munitions to Israel. The French Government yesterday confirmed reports that 12 Mystere IV fighters have been delivered to Israel.

## STALIN REPORTED TO HAVE PLANNED HERDING SOVIET JEWS INTO A "PALE"

LONDON, April 16. (JTA) -- The Times of London reported today a "curious story" to the effect that Stalin was planning to assemble all the Soviet Jews in a ghetto area just before he died. The Times says that the story is circulating among Communist Party members in Eastern Europe.

According to this tale, Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet Party chief, is said to have told a small party meeting--after his famous anti-Stalin address at the 20th Communist Party Congress--that Stalin became more and more inflamed against the Jews after the fabrication of the "doctors' plot" of 1953. On the day before his stroke in March, 1953, he told a meeting of Soviet leaders of his plan for removing all Soviet Jews to a new "pale" in the northern region of the USSR.

His listeners were aghast, the Times story said, and Anastasias Mikoyan and V. M. Molotov protested, asserting that this would cause indignation abroad. Marshal Klement Vorshilov is said to have called the proposal criminal and the kind of an outrage that aroused the world against Hitlerism. The story adds that Stalin worked himself into a rage as a result of this opposition to his plan and suffered a stroke the next day.

## NEW JEWISH MEMBER NAMED TO TUNISIAN CABINET; JEWS FACE PROBLEMS

TUNIS, April 16. (JTA) -- Andre Barouch, Tunisian Jew, editor and nationalist leader, was today named to the new Tunisian Cabinet under Habib Bourguiba, thus replacing Albert Bessis as the Jewish member of the Cabinet. He will hold the portfolio of Urban Development.

M. Barouch, editor of the Neo-Destour Party French-language "Le Petit Matin," was once banished from Tunis for his nationalist activities. At 48, M. Barouch is a well known figure in both the Jewish community and the nationalist movement. He was elected to the National Assembly from a Tunis district last month.

Tunisian Jews are still unsure of their status under the new Tunisian state despite the language of the new constitution which guarantees them liberty of conscience and the fact that the government is headed by Habib Bourguiba, moderate nationalist leader who has repeatedly affirmed his friendly attitude toward the Jews.

Although the constitution recognizes that the official religion of Tunis is Islam, it does guarantee freedom of worship to citizens of other faiths. However, there has been considerable pressure from the professors of the Arab University at Zitouna, seat of Islamic learning and religion, for the state to restrict religion in Tunisia to the Islamic religion alone.

Premier Bourguiba and his associates in the government defend the more liberal Neo-Destour line, although they have made no precise statement of this view. M. Bourguiba is standing by his original proclamation of earlier this year in which he guaranteed full rights of citizenship to Tunisian Jews.

Another source of concern to Jews is the criticism of Jewish emigration and talk of a ban on further departures for Israel. A number of Neo-Destour newspapers have published articles on Jewish emigration and even M. Bourguiba's official paper, "L'Action," has criticized Jews who leave. At the same time, however, it praised the "patriotism" of the greater part of the Tunisian Jewish population.

## REMAINS OF 200 JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS DISCOVERED; ARE REBURIED

VIENNA, April 16. (JTA) -- The remains of about 200 Polish Jews who were killed in 1943 during the Nazi occupation of Poland have been found by Polish workmen clearing the debris of the former ghetto of Czenstochowa, it was reported here this week-end. The bodies were reburied in a Jewish cemetery. It is believed that the site of the uncovered graves had served as a hideout for a military underground movement, where hundreds of Jews died fighting the Nazis.

Eighty Polish Jews today crossed Austria on their way to Israel. The group includes men, women and children, of all ages up to 70. The immigrants had received emigration visas from their government and permission to take along their personal belongings.

## FORTY YOUNGSTERS ATTEND COURSE FOR JEWISH YOUTH LEADERS IN GERMANY

FRANKFURT, April 16. (JTA) -- Forty Jewish youngsters from all parts of Germany are now attending a youth leadership course at the Rottland rural estate sponsored by the Youth Department of the Central Welfare Agency of the Jews in Germany.

The course is the second of its kind to be held in postwar Germany. Topics include Jewish literature, modern history and current events, social ethics, Hebrew, theatricals and songs. Among the lecturers are Meir Gartner of Carmel College in Oxford, England, and Bundestag deputy Jeanette Wolff.

## CONVENTION OF JEWISH CONGRESS ASKS REVISION OF IMMIGRATION LAW

NEW YORK, April 16, (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress, at the closing session of its national convention last night, adopted a resolution stressing its long-standing demand for revision of the present immigration laws and welcoming President Eisenhower's recent statement that the national origins quota system must be replaced.

"We regret, however," the resolution said, "that the President has not called for immediate elimination of the system and has, in fact, accepted continuation of its evils as part of his proposals for immediate action. Those proposals, while in most respects desirable as far as they go, are marred by the fact that they would in many respects leave untouched provisions shaped in the spirit of bigotry and racism in which the McCarran-Walter Act was conceived."

The delegates urged that "the national origins quota system and all other provisions making the standard for admission of immigrants turn on race, ancestry or place of birth should be replaced by a standard based on the needs of our country, individual worth and humanitarian considerations." Declaring that the evils of the present immigration law "are generally recognized and have been proclaimed by both President Truman and President Eisenhower," the convention called on Mr. Eisenhower immediately to "fulfill his pledges to work for a just immigration and nationality code and to place the full weight of his power and prestige in support of a complete revision of the McCarran-Walter Act."

(Attorney General Herbert Brownell asked Congress this week-end to re-examine the national origins quota system with a view toward establishing a new basic immigration policy as called for by President Eisenhower in his recommendations to change the McCarran-Walter Act.)

## NEW YORK U. J. A. RAISES \$12, 700, 000; IS \$4, 600, 000 AHEAD OF LAST YEAR

NEW YORK, April 16, (JTA) -- The sum of \$12, 700, 000 has been raised so far in pledges by the United Jewish Appeal of New York toward the 1956 UJA drive and the Special Survival Fund, it was announced here today by Monroe Goldwater, president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. This is \$4, 600, 000 more than was raised last year at the same time, he pointed out.

The announcement was made by Mr. Goldwater at a UJA gathering at which Mayor Robert Wagner of New York proclaimed a "Survival Month" on behalf of the UJA. Israel Ambassador Abba Eban was one of the principal speakers. The gathering was one of the hundreds of observances held in communities throughout the United States to mark the eighth anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel.

"I feel a keen sense of urgency," the Mayor said, "in proclaiming the month ahead as 'Survival Month' for the UJA because I feel that in a very real sense the fate of the Jews of North Africa, who are seeking entry to Israel, and the ability of Israel's people to survive their present emergency will depend on the kind of assistance provided by this campaign." The thirty days ahead are a crucial period in the regular 1956 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and its effort to raise the local share of the Special Survival Fund set up by the nationwide United Jewish Appeal.

## Delegates Bring \$935, 000 in Cash to U. J. A. Conference in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 16, (JTA) -- The sum of \$935, 000 in cash was presented here yesterday to the United Jewish Appeal as a birthday gift to the people of Israel by 800 Jewish community leaders who attended a regional UJA conference.

The conference was addressed by Senator John J. Sparkman of Alabama, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and former U. S. delegate to the United Nations, who criticized the State Department's policy of refusing arms to Israel. Another speaker at the conference was General Yigal Allon of Israel.

## WORLD ACADEMY OF JERUSALEM PRESENTS NEW YORK MAYOR WITH AWARD

NEW YORK, April 16, (JTA) -- Mayor Robert F. Wagner was presented with the first "Light of the World" Award last night by the World Academy of Jerusalem. The presentation was made at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, chairman of the board of the Academy. More than 1, 000 persons attended the award dinner.

## FREDERICK BORCHARDT, UNITED HIAS DIRECTOR, DIES; LEFT NAZI GERMANY

NEW YORK, April 16, (JTA) -- Frederick W. Borchardt, leader in a number of Jewish organizations, died here yesterday at the age of 54. Mr. Borchardt was a vice-president of the Jewish Restitution Committee and a director of the United Hias Service and of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe. Born in Berlin, he came to this country 20 years ago after the Nazis came to power in Germany.

## LOUIS FITCH, VETERAN ZIONIST LEADER, DIES IN CANADA; WAS 68

MONTREAL, April 16, (JTA) -- Louis Fitch, veteran Zionist and dean of the Montreal bar, died here this morning. He was 68. Born in Quebec, Mr. Fitch became the first Jewish leader to join the French Canadian Union National Party.