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BRITISH GOVERNMENT OUTLINES ITS POSITION ON DEFENSIVE ARMS FOR ISRAEL

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- The British Government accepts the principle that Israel should have a sufficient quantity of arms for its own defense, Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd told Commons today on the second day of a major foreign policy debate. But, the Foreign Secretary continued, Britain believes that Israel is currently ina position to defend itself.

The statement that the military balance is in Israel's favor takes into account, he said, its unified command, internal communications, technical skill and training and the capacity to use and maintain the arms it possesses. Asked how these factors could be used against Russian bombers, the Foreign Secretary said: "One has to take into account the fighter resources which may be available to Israel at the time the bombers are capable of offensive capacity. '

He asserted that if United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold is able to procure full compliance with the Arab-Israel armistice agreements, the next step will be to "try to reach an agreement for either the settlement of one or more major problems or to see a comprehensive settlement." He said he believed that it was unwise for Israel to feel that her safety depended on arms alone. He noted, too, that the Tripartite Delcaration of 1950 guaranteed that Israel would be in a position to defend itself.

The Secretary opposed all suggestions for the imposition of a general arms embargo on the Middle East because, among other reasons, Britain had treaty commitments to supply Iraq and Jordan with weapons. "The policy of the government to urge restraint in the delivery of arms to this area is the current one. If it is followed, as I hope it will be followed by other countries, I think it is the best hope for avoiding an arms race.

Conservative Deputy Advocates "Imposed" Solution of Arab-Israel Problem

Labor Party leader Hugh Gaitskell, who made only a passing reference to the Middle East, urged the overwhelming need for discussion of policy for the area by the countries of Western Europe. He also said there was a need for United Nations initiative in the area.

Godfrey Nicholson, a Conservative, called for a solution imposed on Israel and the Arab states by the United Nations. He insisted that the only reasonable settlement was one which would be imposed, despite the fact that neither party would like it.

Mr. Nicholson, who recently toured Israel and Jordan, called on Israel to renew its offer to take back 100,000 Arab refugees and compensate the remainder. He estimated the cost at 200, 000, 000 to 300, 000, 000 pounds sterling, a price heaconsidered reasonable for the Western Powers to raise as an alternative to another world war. He urged the Arabs to accept Israel as a nation, to accept compensation and to assist the UN and Israel in resettling the 100, 000 refugees.

M. Philips Price, a Laborite who often favors the Arab view, expressed the opinion that Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov was not excouraging Arab intransigeance toward Israel. "It looks as if he were giving a hint to the Arab world that it had better regard Israel as something which is here to stay," Mr. Price said.

TWO U. N. OBSERVERS WOUNDED IN MINE EXPLOSION IN MT. SCOPUS AREA

JERUSALEM, July 24. (JTA) -- Two United Nations truce observers and a Jordanian representative on the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission were wounded today. when they hit a mine in the Laraeli-held area of Mt. Scopus.

The two UN officers, both Canadian nation ils, were severely wounded and were removed to Hadassah hospital here. The Jordanian-was only slightly injured and recrossed. the lines to obtain medical treatment.

The UN observers and the Jordanian came in m the Jordan lines to Mt. Scopus in response to a complaint by Israeli authorities that a force of Jordanian troops had invaded a building within the Israeli perimeter and refused to leave. When the team ar----rived near the Israeli lines they were offered an escort, but refused it on the grounds that they were familiar with the territory and would rather go alone.

After the explosion, another team of observers came up to the height and arranged the withdrawal of the Jordanians from the Israeli building. That operation only took half an hour. Commenting on the incident and the accident which followed it, an Israeli Foreign

Ministry spokesman called it 'another demonstration of persistent Jordanian aggression' in the face of efforts by UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold to end hostile incidents.

The Israel Government extended its sympathy to the wounded men, through Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, Canadian chief of the UN truce organization. The two observers are Maj. George A. Flint of Outremont and Maj. Marcel Breault of St. Hyacinthe. Late today they were pronounced out of danger. Blood for transfusions was provided by volunteers from Israel and UN truce headquarters.

NASSER'S FAILURE ON ASWAN DAM HITS PLAN FOR MERGING SYRIA WITH EGYPT

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- A plan for merging Syria with Egypt into a federal union at the expense of Israel's existence, was revealed here today as having been prepared prior to the withdrawal of the American and British offer to assist the regime of President Gamal Abdel Nasser in building the Aswan Dam. This blow to Col. Nasser coupled with the announcement in Moscow that the Soviet Union does not intend to finance the Aswan Dam project will, it is believed, reduce the merger plan to naught since Col. Nasser's prestige has fallen considerably in Syria.

The plan originated with some elements in Syria and, according to reports here, the Syrian parliament had appointed a committee to discuss this project with Egypt. Under this plan, Egypt and Syria were to form a union under which the two countries would relinquish partial sovereignty, and a united foreign policy and diplomatic service would be established. The plan also provided for the formation of a united army, a unified economy, and a joint central bank.

Powerful elements within the Syrian army and among Syrian politicians are reported to have opposed such a merger. Many Syrian army officers fear that the merger would subordinate them to the control of Egyptians. Some of the Syrian politicians favor a merger with Iraq rather than with Egypt, on the grounds that the Syrian economy would be enormously strengthened by oil-rich Fraqi development money.

Israel, United States and Britain Watching Developments

Israel, the United States and Britain, the report here reveals, were aware of the Syrian-Egyptian merger proposal and were watching developments with utmost interest. It was natural for Israel to look with concern upon the projected merger of the two Arab states which have no common frontier and which could secure such a frontier only by invading Israel. A merger between Syria and Iraq does not constitute such a danger for Israel since Syria and Iraq do have a common frontier.

For the United States and Britain, also, the issue is important, since a determined effort by Syria and Egypt to merge themselves in a federal union would almost certainly attract enough opposition to upset the present touchy Middle East situation, which the Western Powers are striving to improve.

According to information received here, President Nasser is awaiting reaction to the proposal from the other Arab countries. While all the Arab countries are united in their opposition to Israel, they look with suspicion upon each other when it comes to territorial, political and economic projects. Iraq, which is long sought a merger with Syria, is certain to oppose any Syrian-Egyptian union. So are the Christians of Lebanon.

King Saud of Saudi Arabia, though united with Egypt in opposition to Iraq, has a special reason to be concerned over an undue strengthening of Egypt, as would occur through the proposed Syrian union. That reason is a suspicion that Saudi Arabian army officers, influenced by their Egyptian colleagues, might try to over hrow their authoritarian King just as Col. Nasser and his "free officers" deposed King F. rouk of Egypt.

For these reasons there are some Arab countries which do not see Col. Nasser's failure to obtain American, British br-Soviet financing for the Aswan dam as such a tragedy. On the contrary, some circles in these countries feel that if the Creat Powers do not cur President Nasser down to size, he may eventually dominate all the Arab countries.

JORDAN DISCRIMINATES AGAINST JEWISH PERSONNEL OF U.N. COUNCIL

NEW YORK, July 24. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today called upon the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO to urge the international agency to refuse to submit to Jordan's demand that UNESCO personnel of the Jewish faith be excluded from that Middle East kingdom.

Judge Justine Wise Polier, chairman of the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress, in a letter to Dr. Willard Givens, chairman of the Commission, noted that UNESCO had reprinted Jordan's demand in an official circular and that "apparently there has been no protest or response to this decision by UNESCO or any UNESCO spokesmen." In her communication to the U.S. Commission, which is an official government agency within the State Department, Judge Polier noted that the restrictions imposed by Jordan apply to all persons of the Jewish faith and are not limited to Israeli citizens.

EISENHOWER NAMES ROUNTREE TO SUCCEED ALLEN IN STATE DEPT. POST

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower nominated today William M. Rountree as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs to replace George V. Allen who was named U.S. Ambassador to Greece.

Mr. Rountree served as administrative officer of the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry on Palestine in 1946. Previously, he served as an official at the Middle East Supply Center in Cairo. This was during World War II. Following a long record of service in the State Department Near Eastern Division, Mr. Rountree became Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs under Mr. Allen.

U.S. MAY ABANDON BASE IN SAUDI ARABIA; DISPLEASED WITH ARAB DEMANDS

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- The United States may adopt a firmer attitude toward Saudi Arabia in connection with negotiations on the renewal of air base rights. it was indicated here today by informed sources.

These sources said that King Saud has displeased the State Department by demands for huge monetary compensation in exchange for the lease. The United States may consider the possibility of using British-controlled territory in the Arabian area for establishment of a new base. This would allow abandonment of the present base at Dharan, in Saudi Arabia.

Earlier this week it was reported by two members of Congress that Secretary of State John Foster Dulles intends to make a statement denouncing Saudi Arabian discrimination against American Jews. The Congressmen-Hugh Scott, Jr., of Pennsylvania and Laurence Curtis of Massachussetts-made the announcement after a conference with Secretary Dulles.

BEN GURION REPORTS ON PENDING LEGISLATION ON MILITARY SERVICE

JERUSALEM, July 24. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion appeared today before the Parliamentary Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, in his capacity as Defense Minister, to discuss pending legislation about military service.

The deputies also questioned him about his recent conversations with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold. Later, the committee heard Dr. Walter Eytan, director general of the Foreign Ministry, in a report on his recent trip to Moscow, Prague and Warsaw.

ISRAEL CABINET APPROVES MEASURE TO PROMOTE EXPORTS AND TOURISM

JERUSALEM, July 24. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet approved today the establishment of an Israeli corporation to hold fairs and exhibitions in Israel and otherwise promote Israeli exports and tourism. The government will be represented in the new company.

The company will organize both local and international fairs in Israel to promote Israeli trade, industry and handicrafts. In addition, it will arrange the participation of Israeli exhibitors in international fairs held abroad.

BRITAIN AND ISRAEL SIGN PACT GUARANTEEING MUTUAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- Israel and Britain have signed a convention guaranteeing each other's citizens national insurance benefits from the other state while residing there, it was announced here today.

Under the arrangement, the first such entered into by the Jewish State, an immigrant from Britain who settles in Israel will be entitled to Israeli benefits for the period he was covered in Britain. The same would hold true for an Israeli who goes to live in England. In certain circumstances an immigrant might be entitled to two pensions, one from each country. Among the rights British citizens living in Israel will receive tree old age assistance, workmen's compensation insurance and maternity benefits.

MOROCCAN LEADER ATTACKS ZIONISM; RULES OUT RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL-

CASABLANCA, July 24. (JTA) - - Zionism is "another form of colonialism," an Istiqlal leader declared in Rabat, the Moroccan capital, today. Istiqlal is the leading nationalist party in this country.

Si Mohamed Lyazyde, secretary of the party, ruled out any possibility of diplomatic relations between Morocco and Israel. He declared that it was the duty of Moslems to fight Zionism "until it is defeated." The Istiqlal Party, he said, is in "step with other" Arab nations on the question of Israel."

GOLDA MYERSON CHANGES HER NAME; ADOPTS HEBREW NAME "MEIR"

JERUSALEM, July 24. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Golda Myerson changed her last name to Meir today, in keeping with the established practice that foreign service personnel Hebraize their names.

The meaning of the new name in Hebrew is "light up." The Foreign Minister has not yet decided on the official rendition of the name into Roman letters.

MEXICAN JEWRY PROTESTS SOVIET LIQUIDATION OF JEWISH CULTURE

MEXICO CITY, July 24. (JTA) -- The Jewish Central Committee here has adopted a resolution of protest against the Soviet Government's liquidation of Jewish culture in the USSR. The resolution condemns the Soviet execution of Jewish writers and cultural leaders.

Speaking on behalf of Mexican Jewry, the Central Committee requested that Jewish culture in the Soviet Union should be restored by the authorities and that exiled or arrested Jewish authors be released and permitted to return to their homes fully reliabilitated

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA POSTPONES ITS NATIONAL CONVENTION

NEW YORK, July 24. (JTA) -- The 59th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, originally set for August 23-27, has been postponed and will convene instead beginning October 4th through October 7, 1956, at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, it was announced today. The postponement was approved by a vote of 187 to 9 in a mail poll of all members of the ZOA Administrative Council, the ruling body of the organization between conventions.

Announcing the new date of the convention, Dr. Harris J. Levine, the irman of the National Administrative Coincil, declared: "In the weeks that followed the riginal decision of the Council to hold the ZOA convention in August insuperable difficulties were encountered in connection with this date, which would seriously affect the success of the convention.

"We have been advised by important leaders in public affairs that the proximity of our convention date in August to those of the Democratic and Republican national conventions made it necessary to hold the ZOA convention at a later date. This obviously also involved a postponement until after the High Holy Days. Moreover, it has been pointed out to us that such a change would be in the best interests of the Zionist movement as a whole.

" "After engaging in the most determined efforts to overcome the aforementioned obstacles so that the convention could take place on the original date, the president of our organization, Mr. Mortimer May, in consultation with fellow-officers, who concurred with him, came to the conclusion that the problem is indeed insoluble and urged most strongly that action be taken to change the convention date," Dr. Levine said.

KOSHER SLAUGHTERING METHODS ACKNOWLEDGED AS HUMANE IN SENATE BILL

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- A bill advancing humane methods of slaughtering cattle--and specifically designating the kosher ritual procedure as one such method-was passed today by the Senate. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, Minnesota Democrat, had sought and incorporated advice from Orthodox Jewish sources into the measure.

The bill provides for no compulsory changes in slaughtering practices but calls for the establishment of an advisory committee. At Sen. Humphrey's request, the advisory committee must include an authority on kosher methods, probably a rabbi. The advisory committee would report back to the Senate in two years on its findings. Sen. Humphreys is seeking wider application of the traditional Jewish concept of merciful slaughtering.

GARDEN CITY JEWISH COMMUNITY WINS-RIGHT TO BUILD SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK, July 24. (JTA) -- A State Supreme Court Justice yesterday upheld the right of the Jewish community of Garden City, a suburb of New York City, to use a house it had purchased in the town for a synagogue and school. The judge's decision reversed a ruling of the Garden City zoning board which refused last May to permit the use of the \$86,000 building for such purposes.

Judge Mareus G. Christ, sitting in the Mineola court, ordered the town to issue a certificate of occupancy to the Jewish center after he had read a 500-page brief and other documents filed by attorneys for the center.

The zoning board had ruled that future expansion of the congregation, currently 60 families, would render the building inadequate and would have a detrimental effect on neighboring property. Garden City has nine houses of worship, none a synagogue.

HOUSE-PASSES BILL TO ADD PHILADELPHIA JEWISH CEMETERY TO PARK SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- The House passed and sent to the Senate last night a bill to designate Mikveh Israel Cemetery in Philadelphia as a unit of the National Park System. The bill authorizes no funds for maintenance or care of the cemetery. The cemetery, established in 1740, contains the graves of a number of revolutionary patriots of the Jewish faith.

SEVEN-DAY CONFERENCE ON JEWISH EDUCATION IN BRAZIL HELD IN RIO

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 24. (JTA) -- A seven-day conference on Jewish education, in which 90 teachers from 30 Jewish schools participated, concluded here with the adoption of a unified teaching plan for all the Jewish schools in the country. The conference was organized by the Zionist organization.