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EISENHOWER WANTS SUEZ CANAL OPEN FOR FREE USE BY ALL NATIONS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower made it clear today that it was the desire of the United States to insure unrestricted use of the Suez Canal. He emphasized at his press conference that the U.S. is faced with a great issue that might be important not only to maritime nations but to the whole world.

Rep. Emanuel Celler, in a statement issued here today, urged that the Western Powers build an alternate canal route through Israel as an answer to Egypt's seizure of the Suez Canal. He said that economic and military reprisals against Egypt would be the least satisfactory approach to the crisis.

Congressman Celler recommended blasting a canal from the Gulf of Akaba across the Negev to the Mediterranean. He thought that "little government cost" would be involved. He predicted that bonds could be sold and the cost would be "kept down to $150 million." He said the "very preparation and original digging would reduce Nasser to size."

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT ADOPTS A "WAIT AND SEE" POLICY ON SUEZ ISSUE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Israel's policy in reference to the Suez Canal nationalization is one of "wait and see," Foreign Minister Golda Meir reportedly told the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Security Committee today.

Mrs. Meir is said to have told the deputies that Israel will not take the initiative in this situation and will be most cautious in making sure that a race for strategic airfields in Israel is not precipitated. She is also reported to have expressed the opinion that there is now a more receptive attitude in the West toward Israel's arms requests.

After Mrs. Meir left the committee chamber she met with Peter Westlake, British Charge d'Affaires, at his request. The meeting has raised a good deal of speculation here. One report had it that Mr. Westlake sounded out the Foreign Minister on whether she would be willing to go to London for talks on the situation. The Israel Foreign Ministry refused to comment on this report.

SUEZ CONFLICT WILL NOT INFLUENCE BRITISH POLICY ON ARMS TO ISRAEL

LONDON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The British Government will not alter its arms policy in relation to Israel because the nationalization of the Suez Canal is "not related" to the Israel-Arab question, Lord John Hope, Joint Foreign Under Secretary, declared in Commons today.

The question was raised by Sir Robert Boothby, Conservative, who asked whether in view of Egypt's aggressive policy the Eden government would not reconsider its decision and allow Israel to purchase those weapons it needed for defense.

Lord Hope replied that the British Government "policy on arms supplied to Middle East countries is based on the Tripartite Declaration which relates to the Arab-Israel dispute. Nationalization of the Suez Canal is not related to that dispute. The government, therefore, sees no reason to change their policy as regards the supply of arms to the Middle East as a whole."

Sir Robert responded by asking: "Do you really mean to tell us that in the light of the present situation the government is going to make no change in its policy of refusing certain classes of modern arms to Israel at Israel's request and that the government does not recognize any difficulties in the situation that has arisen in the last few days?"

"No sir," said Lord Hope. "I have tried to tell you what the government's policy is with regard to this matter--the Arab-Israel dispute--and on that we stand at present."

This did not satisfy other critics of the government and Emanuel Shinwell, Labor, who charged that if the government had listened to Members of Parliament of all parties who had requested that a proper balance of arms be maintained in the Middle East and if Israel had been supplied with arms, "we might have been able to avoid the present impasse in Egypt."

Lord Hope attempted to explain, in the midst of shouts from the Opposition benches, that the government believed that a balance existed. He insisted that this is exactly what

the British Government, in concert with the other Tripartite Declaration signatories, had attempted to do.

At this point, another Conservative, Walter Elliot, drew attention to the fact that the Foreign Ministers of the Tripartite powers were currently meeting in London on the Suez Canal issue and asked whether it would not be appropriate for them to consider whether new circumstances had not arisen that might affect their agreement. Lord Hope merely promised a statement on the three-power meeting "in due course."

Laborite John Strachey said that the government policy amounted to arming its enemies and punishing its friends. Conservative Kenneth Thomson was refused an answer to what was happening to the two Egyptian destroyers being readied in Portsmouth harbor to sail for Alexandria. Laborite Sidney Silverman also felt that if the government had taken a "firm" attitude when Egypt first blockaded the Suez Canal against Israeli shipping it would now be in a much stronger position.

The Manchester Guardian called today for the sale to Israel of the weapons it requires to defend itself, thus creating a stabilizing force in the unstable Middle East. The Guardian carefully points out that Nasser's speech on the canal nationalization was as violent against Israel as against the West and that Nasser has been using the canal to blockade Israel. The best way of deterring Nasser "from going on from one nationalist stroke to another is to see that Israel's demands for defensive weapons are attended to," the newspaper declared.

The Times of London today opposed a proposal in the House of Lords by Lord Hore-Belisha, Jewish ex-Minister of War, that Britain consider cutting a canal from the Gulf of Akaba through Israel to the Mediterranean coast as an alternative to the Suez Canal. The Times said the engineering problem and the costs involved would be "daunting" and that such a canal could be cut off by Egyptian and Saudi Arabian shore batteries commanding the narrow entrance to the Gulf of Akaba.

A cable from Cairo said today that Egypt scoffed at the suggestion for a new canal through the Negev desert of Israel. Egyptian officials were reported stating that the Negev belonged to the Arabs under terms of the United Nations resolution partitioning Palestine.

ARMISTICE COMMISSION CONDEMNS JORDAN FOR ATTACKING ISRAELI FARMERS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- The Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission condemned Jordan today for an attack on an Israeli party of farmers in the Jerusalem area last Wednesday. At the same time, the MAC censured Israel for returning the fire and wounding five Jordanian national guardsmen.

After the seven-hour meeting, the MAC issued a statement "deploring the fact that information issued by Jordanian officers was contrary to the findings" of UN observers. The MAC found that Jordanians had fired on two UN observers and an Israeli liaison officer who was accompanying them to investigate the border clash.

Meanwhile, the Israel Foreign Ministry, commenting on the censure of Israel for replying to Jordan fire, said that Israel regards self-defense as an "inalienable right" recognized by the UN Charter and affirmed in the recent cease-fire agreements negotiated during Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's visit last April.

CANADIAN MINISTER SAYS ISRAEL-ARAB SITUATION NOT DETERIORATING

OTTAWA, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Lester B. Pearson, Canada's Minister for External Affairs, expressed the view today that the Arab-Israel situation has not grown worse since the beginning of the year.

Reviewing Canadian foreign policy in Commons, Mr. Pearson said he thought that Israel-Arab border incidents were likely to continue to occur. He praised the "patient and very efficient" work done by Canadian Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, United Nations truce chief. He also expressed Canada's preference for international control of the Suez Canal through the United Nations.

ISRAEL OFFICIAL LEAVES FOR BULGARIA TO PRESS CLAIMS FOR DOWNED PLANE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Shabettai Rosenne, Foreign Ministry official, left today for Sofia to press Israel's claims for compensation from the Bulgarian Government for the shooting down of an Israel passenger plane by Bulgarian fighters a year ago. The El Al Constellation carried 58 crewmen and passengers, all of whom were killed in the disaster.

GIDEON RAFAEL NAMED ISRAEL MINISTER TO TURKEY; WAS U.N. DELEGATE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Gideon Rafael, counsellor at the Foreign Ministry, was named today Israel Minister to Turkey. Mr. Rafael, 43, was born in Germany and came to Palestine in 1934. He served on the Israel delegation to the United Nations from 1948 to 1953.

STATUS OF U. N. TRUCE CHIEF TO BE CLARIFIED TODAY; HIS RECALL NOT ASKED

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 1. (JTA)-- There has been no demand from any of the Arab governments for the recall of Maj. Gen. E.L.M. Burns, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, and none of the Arab delegations here--not even the Jordanian group--has any instructions to make such a demand.

Gen. Burns' status for the rest of this year at least is quite certain to be clarified tomorrow when Secretary Dag Hammarskjold is scheduled to submit to questioning by correspondents on this issue, among others. It is certain that Mr. Hammarskjold had offered Gen. Burns the opportunity to continue in his post for the time being, perhaps until the end of 1956, but it is not certain whether such a contract has been made. However, no delegation here seems to be trying to have him dismissed and reports from Amman that such a demand would be made have not been confirmed here by any delegation.

Syria's delegation chief Rafik Asha and Egypt's Omar Loutfi today held separate talks with Mr. Hammarskjold, as did representatives of Greece and France. While the subject of the conversations was not disclosed, it was stated definitely they had nothing to do with Gen. Burns' status.

16 GOVERNMENTS READY TO EASE FORMALITIES FOR STATELESS PERSONS

LONDON, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Sixteen governments have indicated willingness to participate in an international conference for the drafting of an international convention to reduce or eliminate future statelessness, the Agudas Israel World Organization was informed today. Among the 16 nations which would come to the parley, whose site and opening date would be set by this year's United Nations General Assembly, are Israel, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands and Spain.

The Agudah, which has long been concerned about the problem of statelessness, has also been informed that West Germany has advised the Council of Europe that it is prepared to waive unilaterally visa requirements for persons holding refugee travel documents.

The Agudah has asked the Council of Europe that similar facilities be afforded by all member states of the Council. This would give stateless persons and refugees with resident status in one country or another, the same right to travel without a visa between those countries which do not require travel documents of each others' nationals.

NOTED ACTOR CANCELS PERFORMANCE IN VIENNA TO PROTEST ANTI-SEMITISM

VIENNA, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Fritz Kortner, a dedicated Jew who is considered by many to be the greatest living actor and director of the German stage, has notified local theatrical manager Ernst Haeussermann that he cannot appear in "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," the Tennessee Williams play, "until such time as the intellectual, representative and official circles of Vienna have dissociated themselves" from recent anti-Semitic episodes.

Kortner, who was in Hollywood during the War, is presently directing Shakespeare's "Henry IV" in Munich. He had been looking forward to his first postwar appearance in his native Vienna, he points out in his communication to Haeussermann, but does not care to do so, as long as Vienna fails to repudiate those responsible for certain "hideous anti-Semitic occurrences."

The incidents that led to Kortner's action involve German actress Kaethe Dorsch, who now appears in this city's famed Burgtheater, prominent Austrian film director Franz Antel and Vienna Jewish drama critic Hans Weigel. When the latter published an unflattering account of a performance by Miss Dorsch, she beat him and shattered his glasses.

Munich's "Sueddeutsche Zeitung," the most important daily in South Germany, insists that Miss Dorsch was influenced by neo-Nazi motivation in selecting Jewish critic Weigel for her assault. At any rate, the cast of the Burgtheater backed her up in extraordinary fashion, with veteran actor Raoul Aslan demanding that Vienna-born Weigel be expelled from the country. Antel followed up the Dorsch uproar by publicly jeering at Weigel as a "repulsive Jew." When challenged, he blustered defiantly that he was proud of being an "old Nazi."

(In New York, Variety, show-business trade newspaper, reported that Republic Pictures has Antel's picture, "The Congress Dances," for release. The report noted that Antel was still active in both Austrian and German film production.)

Kortner's protest was directed against this climate of heedlessness and brought to a head the indignation voiced in some sections of the German press. In consequence, Antel has now been compelled to tender a full apology to Weigel, which the latter has accepted.

JEWISH CEMETERY DESECRATED IN VIENNA SUBURB; TOMBSTONES UPROOTED

Aug. 1. (JTA) -- In the Viennese suburb of Floridsdorf, eight tombstones were found overturned today in the Jewish cemetery. Police have so far been unable to apprehend the hooligans.

"BEAST OF BUCHENWALD" FOUND FIT TO MARRY; AVOIDED TRIAL AS SICK MAN

NUREMBERG, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Martin Sommer, the infamous "Beast of Buchenwald" who killed hundreds of Jews in the Buchenwald concentration camp, and was set free last year on the basis of a German medical finding that he is "unable to stand trial," has just been married after securing another medical finding that entitles him to a lengthy "honeymoon leave" from the veterans hospital where he resides. Proceedings against him were quashed in March of 1955, when German physicians pronounced him "physically unfit to stand trial."

As a first sergeant in the SS, the former agricultural laborer was for many years in charge of the Buchenwald guardhouse. A large number of Jews were his victims. The files of the Bayreuth District Attorney contain sworn affidavits giving the names and dates of 67 murders he committed within and 11 he perpetrated outside the camp, as well as exact data on several hundred assaults, mostly against sick prisoners, that resulted in death. Documented instances of manslaughter and aggravated assault are too numerous to have been counted.

These crimes, testified to by 400 witnesses, are only a small fraction of the killings Sommer is believed guilty of. Memoirs by former Buchenwald inmates, such as Eugen Kogon's "The SS State," recount how his sadism stood out even in the hell of the camp. He is described as "so terrible that Ilse Koch, the 'Bitch of Buchenwald,' looks like an angel by comparison."

When General Eisenhower visited Buchenwald shortly after its liberation by United States troops in April of 1945, the name of Martin Sommer was on the lips of the 50,000 inmates as the most hated of the SS guards. If he could have been located at the time, he would almost certainly have been sentenced to death by a U.S. war crimes court.

Yet, while the search for him went on, he was in American hands and under his own name. He had been sent to Bavaria as an SS tank driver at the tail-end of the war and was captured by U.S. troops after his vehicle was hit by an artillery shell that blew off his left leg and shredded his body with bits of steel. GI's took him to a PW hospital, where Jewish army doctors saved his life by dint of 30 surgical operations. Later, he was transferred to a leading German-run veterans hospital. His identity as the "Beast of Buchenwald" was learned only when his first wife filed suit for divorce in 1950. "No one bothered to ask me before," he told interrogators.

U.S. PRO-ARAB GROUP TO APPEAL TO DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS

NEW YORK, Aug. 1. (JTA) – The National Committee for Security and Justice in the Middle East, a pro-Arab organization, will appeal to the platform committees of the Democratic and Republican parties to adopt planks at their forthcoming national conventions urging Presidential candidates "to take the Middle East out of domestic politics," it was announced here today by Alfred M. Lilienthal, leader of the Committee and active member of the American Council for Judaism.

Mr. Lilienthal characterized Western reaction to Egypt's nationalization of the Suez Canal as "hysteria." He insisted that the Anglo-American withdrawal of the offer to finance the Aswan Dam "forced Nasser to seek new revenue for this (Aswan) project and to save face with his people."

BIAS AGAINST JEWS IN EMPLOYMENT STILL STRONG IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 1. (JTA) -- Fifteen percent of all employment cases received by the Commission on Human Relations between June, 1948 and September, 1955 involved Jews, according to the Commission's report submitted to Mayor Richardson Dilworth here. Discrimination against Jews was charged or implied in 111 cases involving unlawful application forms and advertisements in which discrimination against Jewish applicants was alleged or implied. In addition, there were 98 instances of charges of other forms of bias against Jews.

About two-thirds of the cases involving Jews concerned refusal to employ, while 28 percent of Jewish complainants alleged dismissal from employment. Only 4 percent of the Jewish complaints charged discriminatory conditions of employment. Complaints against insurance and financial establishments were three times greater among Jews than among the total of all cases. The Commission's report also revealed that about nine out of every ten cases alleging discriminatory application forms or advertisements resulted in the finding and adjustment of biased practices. In the other categories, however, about 70 percent of all cases ended with no finding of an unlawful practice.

ISRAEL ENVOY IN MEXICO STARTS ON TRIP TO CENTRAL AMERICAN LANDS

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 1. (JTA) – Brigadier General David Shealtiel, Israel's Ambassador to Mexico, today left for Cuba and other Central American countries to which he is accredited as Israel's envoy. He will present his credentials in these countries. His trip will take him away from Mexico for several weeks.