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## ISRAEL TO PRESENT ITS VIEWS TO PARTICIPANTS OF SUEZ CANAL CONFERENCE

LONDON, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- Although Israel is not among the nations invited to participate in the international conference on the Suez Canal which opens here on Thursday, Israel's views on the issue will be known to the governments represented at the conference.

Israel diplomatic representatives, it was learned here today, will maintain constant touch with conference participants. They will outline the Israel Government stand on the Egyptian blockade against Israel shipping, which has been maintained since the establishment of the Jewish State. At the same time, they will insist that Israel's interests should not be overlooked in any decision which the conference takes.

Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath, who was due to proceed to Jerusalem for consultations, is remaining in London for the period of the conference. The Israel Government is also sending to London Dr. Emil Najjar, head of the West European Department of Israel's Foreign Office.

It was announced here today that all sessions of the London conference will be held in camera. The representatives of the 22 nations which accepted the invitation to attend the parley will meet at Lancaster House where simultaneous translation equipment is being installed. Although Egypt and Greece refused to attend the conference, seats will be reserved for them at the conference table. The conference will be presided over by British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd who will, in his opening statement, set out the Western plans for international control of the Suez Canal.

## SUEZ SITUATION MAY PRECIPITATE "READJUSTMENTS" IN ISRAEL'S POLICY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- Israel will make certain "readjustments" in its foreign policy in the light of the present situation precipitated by Egypt's internationalization of the Suez Canal, it was indicated here today following a meeting of the Cabinet.

It is understood that the meeting was devoted to the examination of Israel's foreign policy in the light of events leading to and following Egypt's seizure of the Suez Canal. A terse announcement of the meeting did not reveal the nature of the discussion.

In Washington a State Department spokesman refused to comment today on whether U.S. plans for finding an international means to insure free and open passage to all nations through the Suez Canal would include assurances to Israeli ships and ships bound for Israel in their use of the canal.)

At a press conference today, Menahem Beigin, leader of the rightist Herut Party, said his organization believes that Israel must use all means at her disposal in relation to the Suez Canal dispute, utilizing the present conflict between the West and Egypt. At the same time, he declared that his party opposes Israel's granting military bases to any nation.

Mr. Beigin claimed that Israel cannot remain passive since Egypt is Israel's most dangerous foe. He said that the nationalization of the Suez Canal actually turns the canal into an Egyptian inner waterway through which no Israeli shipping will be allowed to pass. He predicted that if Egyptian President Nasser succeeds in remaining in sole control of the Suez Canal, his next move will be to attack Israel.

## EGYPT WOULD NOT OPPOSE BUILDING CANAL IN ISRAEL, CAIRO SAYS

LONDON, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- The Cairo Radio, in a Hebrew-language broadcast, said today that Egypt would not oppose the building of a canal in Israel parallel to the Suez Canal, but warned that such a project "would turn Israel into a colony of many foreign states."

An earlier broadcast on the Egyptian Hebrew-language service had accused "Zionist extremists" of trying to make common cause with the West against Egypt. The commentator expressed confidence however, that Israelis were too intelligent to be taken in by "Zionist warmongering of this kind."

## JERUSALEM TO HAVE REFORM SYNAGOGUE; MUNICIPALITY FACES CRISIS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13 (JTA) -- The Jerusalem municipal council was today facing a crisis following an announcement by the religious parties participating in the coalition municipal administration of the city that they were breaking away from the coalition.

The announcement came after the municipal council approved a building permit for the American School of Archeology in Jerusalem, in which students will hold Reform services. The services will be held in the library of the institution, which will be sponsored by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the American Reform seminary.

The Orthodox members of the municipal council, opposed the project for weeks on the ground that it introduces the Reform movement in Jerusalem. A vote was finally forced last night by Mayor Gershon Agron, a Mapai leader who was elected mayor with the support of the Orthodox councillors.

In the vote last night, six Mapai councillors were joined by two Progressives, one Achdut Avodah and one representative of the WIZO to approve the application for the building. Opposing were four members of the Mizrachi, Hapoel Hamizrachi and Agudah. Four abstained, including three Herut members and one General Zionist.

Mayor Agron opened debate on the building application by asking the councillors to restrict themselves to the issues involved and not to bring in extraneous matters. He stressed that the Reform services would be held exclusively for students of the school in the library, and noted that except for some minor differences in the services, all other traditional practices would be observed, including reading the prayers in Hebrew, praying with covered heads and not having an organ in the room.

The Mayor noted that there were differences in religious services conducted by Jews from various countries, including those from Yemen and Aden and from the Western countries. Finally, he charged that the religious block members found financial contributions from Reform sources "kosher" but Reform Jews themselves "not kosher," although they had become Zionist adherents.

Religious councillors attacked the Reform movement as a form of assimilation and insisted that a "temple" in Jerusalem would divide the people of Israel. Citing the religious character of the city's student population, they said the councillors must look beyond the technical problems and see the possibility of disturbances of the peace created by the presence of Reform adherents. They insisted that Premier David Ben-Gurion's dictum that American Jews might contribute to Israel but must not interfere in its internal politics, held true for religious matters, too.

## BULGARIA PROMISES EARLY REPLY TO ISRAEL'S \$2,500,000 CLAIM

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- Bulgaria has promised an early reply to Israel's claims for \$2,650,000 in compensation for an El Al four engine Constellation plane and Israelis among 58 crewmen and passengers killed when Bulgarian fighters shot down the aircraft last summer.

This was revealed here today by an official Foreign Ministry statement which gave a progress report on the negotiations in Sofia in which Shabetai Rosenne, of the Foreign Ministry, and Dr. J. Wagenheim, of El Al, pressed Israel's claims.

## U. S. RABBI PRESENTS OPTIMISTIC REPORT ON JEWISH LIFE IN RUMANIA

NEW YORK Aug. 13. (JTA) -- "Judaism is alive in Rumania" and is "capable of reproduction", an American rabbi who visited the Soviet Union and three other Communist states in Eastern Europe said today in an article in the New York Journal American. The rabbi, Samuel Adelman, contrasted religious freedom and a rich religious life in Rumania with the barrenness of Judaism in the USSR.

Rabbi Adelman reported that his party of Orthodox rabbis found 48 synagogues serving Bucharest's 90,000 Jews, and that they found a rabbinical seminary in Arad. "Every city has at least one Talmud Torah and Bucharest has three," he wrote. He added that the government helped promote religious education and that a surprisingly large number of Jewish children attend yeshivas.

"The Kosher butcher shops, the prayer shawl factory, the Kosher wine, the Matzo bakery, the ritualariums, the Rabbis, the Cantors, the Shoptim (ritual slaughterers), the Yiddish theaters in Jassy and Bucharest, the Jewish library in the capital city--all gave concrete evidence that Judaism is alive in Romania. And that it was still capable of reproduction", Rabbi Adelman said.

In Czechoslovakia, Rabbi Adelman wrote, "we were depressed by an almost complete absence of religious education except for one hour a week of instruction modelled after the release-time program in New York schools. It seemed to us that the Jewish religious museums and relics of the past we found in Prague were symbolic of a Jewish community whose glorious history held little promise for the future."

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## AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM PRESENTS PLEA TO REPUBLICAN PARTY

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism, which was rebuked by the Democrats in Chicago, today presented a statement to Republican Convention here declaring that "an important and significant number of Americans of Jewish faith do not -- as Jews -- have any special policy to recommend for the conduct of the United States Middle Eastern affairs."

The memorandum, presented by George L. Levison, vice-president of the American Council for Judaism, says that "the religious faith of American Jews is, in no sense whatsoever, committed to the political sovereignty of the Middle East nation in Israel". It rejects the "Zionist thesis" that all people of Jewish faith, by virtue of being Jews, hold a common Jewish nationality.

"Prevalent theories that the Judaism of American Jews includes special political attitudes toward the foreign State of Israel are a slander of the national integrity of American Jews," the ACJ memorandum states: "To give political status or dignity to something called a 'Jewish' vote is to do violence to the deep-seated American tradition which abhors either political privilege or discrimination based upon religious conviction."

Anticipating that the Republican Convention will make special mention of the Middle East in its foreign policy declaration, the American Council for Judaism expresses the hope that the exhortations of Zionist special-pleaders for Israeli national interests will be "evaluated for exactly what they are and not as reflective of the attitude of Americans of Jewish faith who want no national or political relationship between themselves and the State of Israel that is different from the relationships of their fellow citizens of other faiths."

### Wants to "Reduce Zionist Claims;" Admits Arab Discrimination

Declaring that there is no "Jewish" vote which can be controlled or delivered by any agency or institution of Jews, the memorandum states: "It is therefore a callous and unwarranted defamation of American Jews and a serious disservice to their enjoyment of America's freedom to represent them as a religious bloc with unified, political predilections, particularly when these political predilections have to do with the national welfare of a foreign country from which most of them certainly never came and to which, just as certainly, most of them have no intention of going."

"We believe most American Jews desire a status of American nationality uncomplicated by any implication that because they are Jews they are special pleaders for, or unusually involved in, the national interests of the State of Israel," the ACJ continues. "This effort to reduce Zionist claims to size and make it clear that American Jews are, in terms of our country's foreign policy commitments, not to be segregated out for special patronage to a foreign nationalism because of their faith, has received the gratifying favorable approval of the Secretary of State, the Honorable John Foster Dulles," the ACJ claims.

At the same time, the ACJ draws the attention of the Republican Convention to the fact that in many Arab nations of the Middle East the United States passport of an American of Jewish faith will not be honored for visa purposes although Americans of other faiths experience no such difficulty. Also that in Saudi Arabia and certain of the North African territories or nations where the United States has military bases, United States personnel of Jewish faith are not permitted to serve in the armed forces of the United States.

"We earnestly look to our own Government to afford the requisite, legal protection safeguarding the integrity of our national status and our faith from the gratuitous bestowal upon us, because of our faith, of an unwelcome and unwarranted identification with the nationality of the citizens of Israel. Similarly we look to our Government to defend our rights, as Americans, to have our American passports honored by the Arab states in the same manner as they honor the United States passports of Americans of other faiths," the ACJ memorandum states.

### DEAD SEA SCROLL TRACED TO JEW WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE 70 YEARS AGO

LONDON, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- A Jerusalem Jew who committed suicide more than 70 years ago because he was accused of forging an ancient manuscript akin to the famed Dead Sea Scrolls, may have had an authentic scroll, it was stated here yesterday by Prof. Menahem Mansoor, chairman of the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies at the University of Wisconsin.

Prof. Mansoor, who has been touring Europe recording opinions about the Dead Sea Scrolls, revealed that M. W. Shapira, a Jerusalem antique dealer of Polish Jewish ancestry, obtained embalmers' leather strips on which was written what Mr. Shapira believed to be a "short unorthodox book of the last speech of Moses in the Plains of Moab."

The fragment was offered for sale to the British Museum, but scholars who inspected it thought it a forgery. Mr. Shapira's appeals to the British Museum to have other scholars study it were rejected and shortly thereafter, he killed himself.

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS PROPOSED

MUNICH, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- A committee preparatory to the creation of an international organization of Jewish social workers was set up at a reception tendered by the Central Welfare Agency of the Jews in Germany for the Jewish delegates to the Eighth International Conference for Social Work that is now in progress here.

The idea was warmly welcomed by the Israel delegate to the conference, Mrs. Charlotte Karfiol of Israel's Ministry of Social Welfare. Dr. George W. Rabinoff, of the non-sectarian U.S. National Social Welfare Assembly, who was instrumental in making the arrangements for the American delegation to the conference; Dr. Henry Selver, director of the Paul Baerwald School of Jewish Social Work, which is sponsored in Paris by the Joint Distribution Committee; and Dr. Berthold Simonsohn, head of the Central Welfare Agency of the Jews in Germany. Other committee members are yet to be named, notably from Great Britain, North Africa and, if possible, Eastern Europe.

In welcoming the gathering, Dr. Simonsohn recalled that in 1932, just before the advent of Hitlerism, the then Central Welfare Agency of German Jews had given a similar reception for Jewish delegates to the Second International Conference for Social Work, which was held in Frankfurt. Plans to establish an international professional organization were mooted at that time already, the speaker explained, but they were thwarted by the Nazi holocaust which, before it ran its course, had completely upset the structure, composition and social needs of European Jewry. The new situation had merely enhanced the desirability of an international professional forum, Dr. Simonsohn said, and expressed the hope that the gathering might lead to its formation.

The preliminary committee decided at its initial meeting to ask all Jewish welfare organizations throughout the world for their ideas about the possibilities of setting up such an international body.

## FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO BOYCOTT HOTELS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST JEWS

MIAMI, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- The office of Governor LeRoy Collins has advised the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith that future official conventions would not be held at hotels which discriminate against Jews in their admissions policies.

The Southern Governors Conference on Nuclear Energy was recently held at the Tides Hotel in St. Petersburg. The Tides Hotel has a history of anti-Jewish discrimination. The Governor's office wrote that upon ADL notification of the un-American policy of the Tides Hotel his staff sought other facilities for the convention. The imminent date of the convention, however, and inadequate facilities in the area made a change in convention sites impractical.

The Governor's office advised the ADL that Governor Jim Folsom of Alabama had also expressed concern over the selection of the Tides Hotel as a site for an official function. Governor Collins informed the League that its alertness "served a very valuable purpose" and gave his assurances that the situation would not recur.

## SECRETARY OF ISRAEL'S CHIEF RABBINATE LEAVES ON MISSION TO U. S.

TEL AVIV, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- Rabbi A. Volgerenter, general secretary of the Israel Chief Rabbinate, left for the United States to stimulate closer religious relations between American congregations and Israel and to increase the purchase of Israeli religious items by Americans.

Rabbi Volgerenter will attempt to get congregations to purchase Israeli marble for new synagogues which they erect. He will press for greater purchases of Israeli ethroгим, 30,000 of which were sold to the U. S. this season. He is carrying with him a declaration from the Israel rabbinate urging American rabbis to prepare for a pilgrimage movement to Israel.

## UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS FROM 12 STATES IN U. S. VISIT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion today received a party of American university professors visiting Israel. The party, which includes professors from twelve states, is led by Professor A. Katch of New York, and is visiting under auspices of New York University's Professional Workshops.

## WILLIAM CARMEN ELECTED JEWISH WAR VETERANS' NATIONAL COMMANDER

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- William Carmen of Newton, Mass., was elected national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, at the closing session last night of the organization's 61st annual convention.

## ALEX ROTHENBERG, U. S. A. CONTROLLER, DIES; WAS ACTIVE ZIONIST

NEW YORK, Aug. 13. (JTA) -- Alex Rothenberg, controller of the United Jewish Appeal since its founding in 1937, died this weekend at the age of 77. Born in Dorpat, Estonia, Mr. Rothenberg came to this country as a boy. He was also active in the Keren Hayesod, fund-raising arm of the Jewish Agency.