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UNITED STATES BELIEVES U. N. SHOULD REMAIN IN GAZA STRIP, HERTER SAYS

WASHINGTON, March 28. (JTA) -- Under Secretary of State Christian A. Herter said today it is the "firm belief" of the United States "that the United Nations should continue in Gaza. . . in accordance with arrangements envisaged in Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's report of February 22 to the General Assembly." Mr. Herter made known the Department's belief that "the present situation, particularly with regard to Gaza, gives cause for concern."

The Under Secretary expressed himself in a letter to Rep. Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, in response to a letter from Rep. Scott.

Mr. Herter said "it is unfortunate that since the withdrawal matters have not gone as smoothly as we had hoped." He expressed the conviction, however, "that with patience and persistence, this problem will be solved and that we can avoid a return to the status quo ante and perhaps be able to do more."

He expressed the belief that Israel shipping should enjoy the right of passage through both the Strait of Tiran and the Suez Canal.

Mr. Herter said "the situation in Gaza is complicated. We are faced with the problem of trying to reconcile the rights of Egypt under the General Armistice agreement with what we believe to be the broader interests of the United Nations as a whole in the preservation of peace."

"We are very actively concerned with this question and have been in close touch with Secretary General Hammarskjold, with Israel and Egyptian representatives, and with officials of other friendly governments," he said. "It is our firm belief," he added, "that the United Nations should continue in Gaza, in the interests of the peace and security of the area, in accordance with arrangements envisaged in Secretary General Hammarskjold's report of February 22 to the General Assembly."

Consultations on resumption of economic aid to Israel have begun on a working level, Mr. Herter said. He said "we expect that the evacuated technicians and administrators may be able to return to the area in the near future. However, it should be borne in mind that they were evacuated for reasons of security and that we cannot in good conscience authorize their return until conditions permit us to be reasonably sure of their personal safety."

On passport restrictions, he said "as soon as the security situation in the area has improved so that tourist travel there is considered reasonably safe, the restrictions will be lifted."

House Majority Leader John McCormack, of Massachusetts, asked Secretary of State Dulles yesterday to remove immediately the ban on U.S. tourist travel to Israel. He said in a letter to Mr. Dulles that the State Department had imposed restrictions on normal U.S. relations with Israel.

U. S. Delegate Calls Hammarskjold Mission 'Very Useful'

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 28. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's visit to Cairo, from which he returned here early today, was "very useful," according to Henry Cabot Lodge, head of the United States delegation.

Mr. Hammarskjold himself was more cautious in his comment. "I went for exploratory talks," he declared, "and I hope that they were useful. I shall have further conversations here, and I hope they will be useful." Asked about his itinerary, he replied: "I visited Cairo--only Cairo."

Immediately upon his return, the UN chief went into a series of huddles with leading delegations. He saw Mr. Lodge first, then talked to Britain's Sir Pierson Dixon. By noon, Lester B. Pearson, Minister for External Affairs of Canada, had flown down here from Ottawa to confer with him. Mr. Pearson was the author of the General Assembly resolution early in November which established the United Nations Emergency Force.

In Jerusalem, Israeli officials were dubious tonight of the existence of any "gentleman's agreement" between Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser and UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold that Col. Nasser would refrain from aggravating the Middle East situation. Reports of such an "agreement" came from Cairo as Mr. Hammarskjold left after a mission which appeared to be crowned with little success.)

MOSCOW ACCUSES ISRAEL, FRANCE OF PLOTTING NEW WAR ON EGYPT

LONDON, March 28. (JTA) -- Radio Moscow charged tonight that Israel and France were plotting new military action against Egypt and warned that this might touch off a major war.

Quoting a Tass dispatch to the effect that French Premier Guy Mollet's government has promised to support Israel if the latter takes up arms against Egypt, Radio Moscow said: "The French Air Force is ready to take part in an attack against Egypt and will assure aircover for Israel troops."

The Tass dispatch claimed that the U.S. Government "had taken on itself some kind of guarantees to Israel directed against the Arab countries." This was said to have been done in the form of a "gentleman's agreement" between Secretary Dulles and Israel Foreign Minister Golda Meir. Premier David Ben Gurion was accused of making "undisguised" threats against Egypt.

Pineau Says France Will Back Israel on Action against Gaza

PARIS, March 28. (JTA) -- French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau told the National Assembly last night that if Israel re-enters the Gaza Strip as a result of a resumption of fedayeen activities against her territory and citizens, France would support her. He said that under these circumstances, Israel would be completely justified in taking military action.

Speaking at the conclusion of a two-week foreign policy debate in the National Assembly, the Foreign Minister stressed that Paris would not apply sanctions against Israel. He scored the United Nations for its "indefensible" action in letting Egypt resume control of the Gaza Strip.

M. Pineau revealed that France and the United States had agreed to Israel's right to take defensive measures in the event of any further attempt by Egypt to bar the Strait of Tiran or the Gulf of Akaba to Israeli shipping.

However, he said the U.S. and France differed on the Gaza situation, implying that the U.S. had gone back on its pledges to Israel. He expressed France's determination to help Israel find a "just solution" of the Gaza matter.

(French Ambassador Pierre Gilbert, returning to his post in Tel Aviv today from consultations in Paris, told newsmen in Hebrew: "There's hope that everything will be in order." He participated in meetings between Israeli Finance Minister Levi Eshkol and Premier Guy Mollet.)

U.S. AID MISSION IN ISRAEL REHIRS FORTY LOCAL EMPLOYEES

TEL AVIV, March 28. (JTA) -- Some 40 Israeli employees of the United States Operations Mission, who were dismissed last month when it appeared U.S. aid would not be resumed, were rehired today.

Despite the rehiring, the American mission here said it had no instructions from Washington as to when aid operations, suspended when Israel launched the Sinai campaign last October 29, would be resumed.

ISRAEL FISCAL EXPERT ASKS PRICE STABILIZATION IN INFLATION FIGHT

JERUSALEM, March 28. (JTA) -- Israel must fight inflation by holding wages to their present levels and letting prices rise, Aharon Barth, general director of the Bank Leumi L'Israel, the national bank of Israel, declared today. Thus, Mr. Barth asserted, consumption would decrease and the living standard would drop.

This is the only answer to inflation at a time when immigrant costs and defense requirements are mounting, Mr. Barth said. He proposed, specifically, that wages be freed from the cost of living bonus which goes into effect automatically as prices go up.

NORTHERN HALF OF ISRAEL BLACKED OUT IN CIVIL DEFENSE DRILL

TEL AVIV, March 28. (JTA) -- The biggest civil defense exercise held to date in Israel, covering the entire Haifa northern half of the country, was staged last night.

A partial blackout of the Haifa port was accompanied by emergency style operations of the port installations and civil services. Mock attacks of "enemy planes" were met with anti-aircraft fire.

PASSOVER SUPPLIES PLENTIFUL, ISRAELIS TOLD BY GOVERNMENT

TEL AVIV, March 28. (JTA) -- Despite international tensions, the stoppage of American aid, the fuel shortage and other difficulties that have beset Israel since last autumn's Sinai action, Israel will celebrate Passover with a plentitude of holiday supplies, the Ministry of Commerce announced today. White sugar--banned recently for general consumption--will be distributed for Passover, in addition to regular rations of brown sugar.

AGUDISTS PROTEST INTERFERENCE WITH JEWISH EMIGRANTS FROM HUNGARY

LONDON, March 28. (JTA) -- A delegation from the Agudas Israel Organization called today on M. J. Katona, Hungarian Minister to London, to express concern at reports that the Hungarian authorities were taking punitive action against Jews applying to the American and British legations in Budapest for visas.

The delegation, including H. A. Goodman, chairman of the Agudah executive, and Mr. R. Springer, its secretary, said that the Minister had told them that the Budapest regime had no intention of interfering with "legitimate emigration" and that, in fact, Hungarians were already receiving passports enabling them to travel abroad.

A statement issued by the delegation after its meeting with Mr. Katona said that it had also raised the question of the extension of full religious rights to Hungarian Jews, particularly in the matter of Jewish education. The Minister informed the Agudah leaders that their views would be conveyed to his government.

Yeshivoh in Hungary Close as Students Flee Country, Rabbi Says

TEL AVIV, March 28. (JTA) -- Rabbi Yehezkiel Jakobowitz of Sholtvarkert, a recent member of the Rabbis Committee of Budapest, arrived here today with his family to settle in Israel. Rabbi Jakobowitz said that the yeshivoh in Hungary were recently closed because the bulk of their students had fled the country during and after the rebellion.

U. S. S. R. AND POLAND SIGN REPATRIATION PACT COVERING POLISH JEWS

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has signed a new agreement with Poland which will repatriate about 500,000 persons and specifically includes "persons of Jewish nationality who possessed Polish citizenship," according to a Warsaw report in the New York Times today.

Polish Jews had feared that the Russians would use the technicality of Jews using Poland only as a transit point on the way to Israel, and would thus exclude Jews from repatriation. There are many thousands of Jews, the Times said, living in Poland's former eastern territories, annexed by the Russians. These Jews possess documents identifying them only as "Jewish nationals of Polish citizenship."

The Times reported last week that Poland had stopped allowing Jewish repatriates from the USSR to leave immediately for Israel. Today's Times report said there was speculation that "to gain the point" of including Jews in the new agreement the Polish authorities had "stopped the transit through Poland to Israel of Jews coming from the Soviet Union."

JEWISH GROUPS TO CHARGE EGYPT WITH PERSECUTION BEFORE U. N. UNIT

LONDON, March 28. (JTA) -- The United Nations Human Rights Commission, which meets next week at Geneva, will hear formal charges that Egypt has denied human rights to Jews. Jewish leaders who will attend the Geneva session as accredited non-governmental representatives to the United Nations Economic and Social Council met here today and set their plans for bringing up the complaint against Egypt.

Other agenda items to which the Jewish leaders expect to pay special attention concern a study of the right of freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention and exile; right of asylum; a draft declaration on the rights of the child; and the report of the recently concluded sessions, at New York UN Headquarters, of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

J. D. C. CLOSES MUNICH OFFICE, ONCE AMONG BUSIEST IN WORLD

MUNICH, March 28. (JTA) -- The local office of the Joint Distribution Committee, which during the postwar years was one of the busiest JDC offices in the world, was closed today. With the liquidation of the last camp for displaced persons at Foehrenwald, near here, completed, there was no longer a need for the Munich office. German headquarters for JDC are maintained at Frankfurt.

OSE MARKS TENTH ANNIVERSARY IN TUNIS BY OPENING HEALTH CENTER

TUNIS, March 28. (JTA) -- At a brilliant ceremony attended by government officials and Jewish leaders from this country and abroad, OSE today inaugurated a new health center in celebration of the organization's tenth anniversary.

The ceremony was officially under the patronage of the King, who was represented by Prince Chadli Bey, while Prime Minister Habib Bourguiba was the honorary president of the event. Others who participated in the ceremonies were Dr. Mahmoud Materi, Minister of Public Health; the Governor of Tunis; the Ambassadors of Britain, France and the United States; the Grand Rabbi and President of the Jewish Community, and Abel Shaban, executive president of the World OSE.

ARGENTINE JEWS ASK PRESIDENT ARAMBURU TO ADMIT EGYPTIAN JEWS

BUENOS AIRES, March 28. (JTA) -- Representatives of all the leading Jewish organizations in this country, headed by DAIA, central Jewish organization of Argentinian Jewry, had an audience with President Aramburu today and asked him that the government admit expelled Egyptian Jews just as it recently opened its doors to Hungarian refugees. The President told the delegation that, as a result of the visit, he understands the problem fully.

Other subjects discussed between the delegation and the President was support for freedom of passage for Israeli shipping through the Gulf of Akaba and the Suez Canal, and the hope that Argentina will make its influence felt in the United Nations on behalf of ending Egyptian belligerence.

CHILEAN JEWS PLAN TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SANTIAGO, Chile, March 28. (JTA) -- Local Jewry expects to double the number of students in the Jewish schools here during the next year, on the basis of plans perfected in the last three days during a visit by Zalman Shazar, head of the education department of the Jewish Agency. There are now 1,200 children attending the Jewish schools.

Among the plans is early establishment of a Jewish Culture Center with the participation of the Zionist Federation, the Israel Government and the local Jewish community board of education.

NEW YORK FEDERATION DRIVE SEEN SURPASSING PREVIOUS RECORDS

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- The 1956-57 appeal of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York expects to raise a total of \$17,200,000 by the end of the fiscal year. That was revealed here today at its 39th annual meeting of the organization by Salim L. Lewis, president.

One problem facing many of the Federation's 116 member institutions, Mr. Lewis reported, is the need to reduce waiting lists of patients or clients needing the services of the Federation's voluntary medical and social service agencies. Increased financial support from city and state governments, and a program of "joint thinking and action" by government and private philanthropy are needed to reduce that problem, Mr. Lewis declared.

ORT PROVIDING SKILLED TRAINING FOR HUNGARIAN JEWISH REFUGEES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- A number of Jewish refugees from Hungary, newly arrived in this country, are receiving special training in clothing-trade skills at the Bramson Ort Trade School in this city, it was announced today. The school, established 15 years ago, was developed specifically to help train Jewish immigrants, displaced persons and refugees in these skills. More than 11,000 persons have been trained at the school since it opened.

ISRAEL NEWS BRIEFS

ELATH, Israel, March 28. (JTA) -- Stevedore operations in this southern port are going full blast as efforts are made to unload and re-load the 3,400 ton Danish freighter Brigitte Toft before April 4 when the Costa Rican vessel Pandora is due back from East Africa. As matters stand, these two ships plus the Italian Catherine Madre, which sailed yesterday, keep facilities on the port's lone dock completely occupied.

NEW YORK, March 28. (JTA) -- New housing units for Orthodox families will be built at Kiryat Sanz, Natanya, Israel, it was announced here today by Rabbi Samuel Turk, chairman of the Israel Commission of the Rabbinical Alliance. Sixty families have already moved into Natanya project, which had been initiated by the Klausenberg Rebbe as a plan for settling Hassidic families in Israel.

JERUSALEM, March 28. (JTA) -- A number of officers and men serving with the United Nations Emergency Force have asked their command's permission to visit Israel on their days off, but have been refused such permission. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, conceding that the Israel Government was aware of the desire on the part of UNEF personnel to visit Israel, would say only that there would be no objection to such visits on the part of Israel.

TEL AVIV, March 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Jewish Agency, returned here today from a week-long visit to Europe, during which he participated in an all-European "aid to Israel" parley.

JERUSALEM, March 28. (JTA) -- Reports that Alexander Abramov, Russian Ambassador to Israel, was returning to his Israeli post, were confirmed today by the Russian legation at Ramat Gan. Abramov was recalled to Moscow last fall as a Soviet protest against Israel's Sinai campaign.