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AMBASSADOR RICHARDS REFUSES TO STATE HIS VIEWS ON ISRAEL'S FUTURE

WASHINGTON, June 5. (JTA) -- Ambassador James P. Richards, President Eisenhower's special envoy to Middle East countries on the Eisenhower Doctrine, today refused to state his views of Israel's "realistic prospects" for the future. He said the "State Department fellows would have a fit" if he answered that question. He appeared before a question-and-answer session at the National Press Club.

Mr. Richards said Middle Eastern nations tried to involve him in intra-area disputes including the Akaba Gulf, Suez, Arab refugee, and other issues. He wished to avoid involving the Eisenhower Doctrine with such disputes, he said, holding that they might be solved by international agencies. But he was "afraid" that some of the intra-area disputes would be solved "in our time."

Mr. Richards added that the United Nations organization had proven itself able to handle intra-area disturbances. The Communists want continued chaos, confusion, and conflict in the Near East, he stated.

ARAB BLOCKADE AGAINST ISRAEL MAY AFFECT SHIPPERS OF OTHER NATIONS

HAIFA, June 5. (JTA) -- International shipping lines were warned here today by N. Widra, president of the Israel Chamber of Shipping, that indifference to Egypt's blockade of the Suez Canal against Israel might interfere with shippers of other nations.

Many shipping lines, he said, have "yielded to the Arab boycott against Israel," by not permitting their ships to call at Israeli ports, but these same shippers may learn that the weapon of boycott might be turned by Egypt against them.

Mr. Widra stated that Israel's merchant fleet now consists of 33 most modern ships, while 36 other ships are under construction or in the planning stage.

Arab League Announces Intensified Boycott Against Israel

LONDON, June 5. (JTA) -- The Arab League announced yesterday new plans for intensifying its nine-year-old economic boycott of Israel, according to a dispatch received here today.

The League's economic committee recommended that the Arab states blacklist all firms which provide Israel with any goods or services. It further asked that a unified boycott system be established to insure that no Arab goods reach Israel or Israeli products be accepted in the Arab states through third parties.

(In an editorial comment on the suggestions for intensification of the Arab boycott, the New York Times today urged the Arabs to go slow. If not, it declared, "it would seem time for the United Nations to rouse itself and take action which it should have taken a long time ago to enforce respect for its principles and its decisions.")

SAUDI ARABIA CHARGES ISRAEL WITH BOMBARDING AKABA COASTAL POSITIONS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 5. (JTA) -- Saudi Arabia accused Israel today of bombarding Saudi Arabian coastal positions along the Gulf of Akaba three times within the last ten days.

In identical letters to the Security Council and to Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, Sheik Abdullah al-Khayyal, permanent representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, alleged that two additional "flagrant violations and provocations" were committed by the Israel navy in the Gulf of Akaba between May 27 and June 1.

Implying a threat of replying to the purported actions, Sheik al-Khayyal stated in his letter that the Saudi Arabian Government "reiterates its rights to undertake the necessary measures to safeguard its rights and interests."

According to the Saudi Arabian complaint, elements of the Israel navy, sailing from Elath, bombarded coastal positions near Taba "with light and heavy fire" on May 27. The following day, the Arabian letter declared, Israeli destroyers bombarded Saudi Arabian positions in the Al-Tur area for over an hour. An area adjoining Al-Tur was allegedly brought under "light and heavy fire" on May 29. The two remaining instances in the Saudi Arabian grievance include allegations that Israel destroyers and gun boats came too close to the Saudi Arabian coast.

JERUSALEM POLICE ABSOLVED IN DEATH OF ULTRA-ORTHODOX DEMONSTRATOR

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA) -- This city's police department was absolved from blame today for the death in a riot last September of a member of a crowd demonstrating against "desecration of the Sabbath." It was established that the dead man had suffered a stroke during the demonstration.

The dead man was Pinhas Segalov, a member of "Neturei Karta," a small group of religious extremists who, for weeks every Saturday, until the fatal riot in September, staged demonstrations against persons riding in buses or automobiles on the Sabbath. Various religious groups charged that the Jerusalem policemen were brutal in stamping out the riot which, on that day, had attracted thousands of demonstrators and counter-demonstrators.

Judge Eliahu Mani, chairman of the Special Inquiry Commission, recommended in his report that full protection be given all citizens, and called on all elements in the city to cooperate to keep the peace. Two secular members of the Commission called for a law prohibiting Saturday motor traffic, especially in parts of the city where 75 percent of the residents object to such traffic. Two religious members of the Commission called for a law barring all motor traffic in the country "in order to preserve the sacred character of the Sabbath."

Both of the latter groups in the Commission found that there was a lack of religious men on the Jerusalem police force. They recommended that the police department and the religious groups establish closer liaison.

Members of the Commission charged that "Neturei Karta" constituted "a fanatic religious group" which exploited the Sabbath demonstrations "to combat the state and undermine authority through extreme activities which went beyond peaceful manifestation." The Commission members also criticized counter-demonstrators whose activities, "if countenanced by the authorities, would lead to riots."

SHAVUOS CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT ISRAEL; CHILDREN'S PARADES HELD

TEL AVIV, June 5. (JTA) -- Shavuot, the "Feast of the Harvest," was celebrated throughout the country today. Kindergarten and school children, dressed in white, their heads crowned with flowers, paraded through the streets of cities and settlements, offering the traditional "first fruits" of the season.

Special celebration were held in centers established for newly-arrived immigrants, the most colorful of these observances being conducted at Lachish, Kibbutzim and other agricultural settlements where the harvest had been gathered reported excellent crops this year.

BILL PROVIDING FOR ADMISSION OF JEWS FROM EGYPT INTRODUCED IN SENATE

WASHINGTON, June 5. (JTA) -- Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts introduced in the Senate today a bill to admit 89,000 emergency immigration cases, including 5,000 persons--Jews and others--expelled from Egypt.

In a statement to a luncheon of the American Jewish Committee yesterday, Sen. Kennedy expressed the hope that Congress would examine the entire immigration policy "to adapt it to the needs of our present role of world leadership." He said a new policy should "shape immigration to foreign policy." He called for "some measure of flexibility to take care of sudden developments like the expulsion of Jews from Egypt or the revolt in Hungary."

The Senator said he regards as "inadequate" the reasons given by the Attorney General for failing to offer Egyptian Jewish refugees the same emergency parole entry facilities provided to Hungarian refugees. Sen. Kennedy said the Executive Branch possesses "a legal measure of flexibility now in the parole provision." He said "it has been used only in the case of the Hungarian escapees; and the Attorney General has declined for what I consider to be inadequate reasons to apply it equally to the Middle East."

SOVIET JEWS RAISE 100,000 RUBLES FOR RENOVATION OF MOSCOW SYNAGOGUE

LONDON, June 5. (JTA) -- The sum of 100,000 rubles for renovation of the Great Synagogue in Moscow was raised this week at a meeting of 600 members of the congregation, according to a report received here today from a representative of the Agudath Avodah, a Jewish religious group in London, who is now visiting the Soviet Union.

A gift sent by the Agudah to the Jewish theological seminary in Moscow was accepted by the new Chief Rabbi, J. L. Levine, who, however, told the representative from London that Russian Jews are capable of financing their own Jewish seminary. The report from Moscow stated that 35 young Jews were observed at their studies in the seminary; most of the rabbinical students were from Georgia, the home of the late Joseph Stalin.

JEWISH CONFERENCE IN POLAND HEARS REPORTS ON MALTREATMENT OF JEWS

VIENNA, June 5. (JTA) -- Details about the maltreatment of Jews in Poland who have recently been repatriated by the Soviet Union were voiced last week at a special conference of district secretaries of the Lower Silesian Association of Jewish Cultural Organizations, held in Wroclaw (formerly Breslau), Poland.

A report about the conference was received here today from Warsaw. Lower Silesia, former German territory now under Polish jurisdiction, is one of the principal areas designated by the present Polish Government for settlement of Jewish repatriates sent back from the Soviet Union.

One of the speakers at the conference, M. Yakubovitch, of Walbzych, reported that, of 30 families of Jewish repatriates sent to his town, only three families have been assigned dwellings. He criticized the government's Council on National Minorities and the leadership of the Polish Communist Party for "leaving much to be desired" in their attitude toward the Jewish repatriates.

Another local secretary, H. Rutenberg, of Lignicz, told the conference that there was no housing problem for the Jewish repatriates in his district, but that, on the other hand, they are finding it difficult to find jobs. "Of 400 repatriated Jewish families in Lignicz," he declared, "only a small handful have found work."

The housing condition in Wroclaw itself was described as very grave. The capital of the entire Lower Silesian province, Wroclaw has, according to the reports, attracted more than 400 repatriated Jewish families, "but only one Jewish family has been able to get a home in Wroclaw. The situation in Wroclaw is very serious," the conference was told, and the fault was laid squarely by the local secretary at the door of the local government Council on National Minorities.

JEWISH CONGRESS LEADER RETURNS FROM POLAND; REPORTS ON JEWISH SITUATION

TEL AVIV, June 5. (JTA) -- Despite all Polish Government efforts to check anti-Semitism, it continues to increase, Dr. Arieh Tartakower, chairman of the Israel executive of the World Jewish Congress, reported here today following his return from a visit to Warsaw. The chief sufferers from the new wave of Polish anti-Semitism, he declared, are the schoolchildren.

Dr. Tartakower, who was in Poland on behalf of the WJC, praised the Polish authorities for their "liberal attitude" toward Jewish values and culture. He reported that the Jewish Cultural and Literary League has decided to introduce Hebrew in the curriculum of the seven Jewish schools in the country. He said the Polish Jewish literary publication "Bleter" is now publishing works by Russian Jews which otherwise would not be printed because there are no Jewish publications in the USSR.

Polish Jewry, approximately 50,000 strong, he revealed, will shortly affiliate with the Congress. The WJC leader said that 25,000 more Polish Jews are expected to be repatriated from the USSR, with the assistance of Jewish organizations in Poland.

JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES DEADLINE FOR 1957 APPLICATIONS

NEW YORK, June 5. (JTA) -- The deadline date for the filing of applications to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany by organizations, institutions and communities seeking the allocation of funds for the year 1958 is June 30, 1957, the Conference announced today.

Applications should be submitted in ten copies; for activities outside of Israel they should be forwarded to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany in New York, and for activities in Israel to the Jewish Agency headquarters in Jerusalem. The applications should contain a detailed description of the activities for which funds are requested.

The organizations submitting applications should also include precise budgetary data and information on other sources of income which may be available to the applicant for the projects in question. The Claims Conference, by the terms of the agreement it had concluded with the Federal Republic of Germany, is able to allocate funds only for those activities which contribute to the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution, in accordance with the urgency of need, the announcement emphasized.

JEWS IN TURKEY LAUDED FOR ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE

ISTANBUL, June 5. (JTA) -- The Turkish press in this city was unanimous today in its praise for a Jewish communal contribution to assist the victims of a recent earthquake which devastated the Western Turkish town of Fethiye. A delegation headed by Chief Rabbi Raphael Saban called on Istanbul Governor F. H. Gokay and handed him a check for the equivalent of \$6,700.

EISENHOWER ANXIOUS FOR SPEEDY ACTION ON CHANGES IN IMMIGRATION LAW

WASHINGTON, June 5. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower was today described by Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland as anxious for speedy action by Congress on the President's previously recommended changes in immigration law. Sen. Knowland reported the President's request after a talk with him at the White House on Congressional business before adjournment.

The present total quota is 154,847 a year. The President would raise the total immigration to 190,000 a year and pool quotas so visas not used by persons from some countries could be received by those from countries that had exhausted their quotas. The President made his formal proposals January 31. They have not yet undergone committee hearings.

COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN SUPPORTS EISENHOWER'S FOREIGN AID POLICY

WASHINGTON, June 5. (JTA) -- Mrs. Moise S. Cahn, president of the 107,000-member National Council of Jewish Women, testified today in favor of the President's foreign aid budget. Speaking at a hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mrs. Cahn said:

"We in Council believe that a foreign economic aid program true to its humanitarian character is in the best interest of the United States. Indeed, what is the essential nature of our democracy which sets it so defiantly in opposition to communism? It is our belief in the worth of the individual and our determination to see that he has freedom and a share of the good things of life. We seek these values not only for our own families, our own communities or even only for our own country. Let us not be afraid to say that we seek them for all men everywhere. This, we believe, is the essence of our democratic heritage."

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS REJECTS "JEWISH VOTE" APPEALS IN ELECTIONS

MONTREAL, June 5. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress has rejected on principle all political appeals by candidates in the forthcoming national and local elections which are based on religious or racial grounds.

Noting that Jewish citizens participate in the elections as citizens of Canada enjoying common rights and interest with all other citizens, the CJC condemned any appeal designed "to give the impression that there is an ethnic or religious bloc such as 'the Jewish vote,' and which is aimed at attracting votes by favoring or discriminating against any group in the electorate."

The Joint Public Relations Committee of B'nai B'rith and the Congress has reported the absence of any serious attempts to inject racial or religious issues into the campaigns. It has, meanwhile, appealed to all Jewish citizens to vote in the elections as a matter of exercising an important right of citizenship.

CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE AWARDS 10 PRIZES FOR BEST YIDDISH WORKS

NEW YORK, June 5. (JTA) -- Ten prizes for the best literary works of the year published in Yiddish were awarded here this week by the Congress for Jewish Culture. The awards ranging from \$100 to \$500 came from special funds set up for such prizes. They include the Adolf Neumann Fund in Geneva, the Hoffer-Leib Fund in Buenos Aires, the Boris Surovitch Fund, the Fishl Bimko Fund and the Rebecca Pat Fund, all of New York.

The winner of the \$500 Hoffer-Leib prize was N. B. Minkoff for his three-volume "Pioneers in Jewish Poetry in America." The other winners were L. Chen-Shimoni, novelist; Dr. Shlomo Bickl, essayist; Kohos Kliger, poet; S. Berlinsky, novelist; Chaim Erenreich, for a book of travel impressions; Abraham Zack, novelist; Rachel Korn, short story writer; A. M. Fuchs, short story writer; C. S. Kazhdan, educator. Berlinsky, Chen-Shimoni and Fuchs live in Israel, Kliger and Zack reside in Argentina.

The Congress for Jewish Culture also presented Jacob Pat with a citation for his book "The Teacher, Esther" in which he immortalized the Jewish teachers annihilated by the Nazis in Eastern Europe. The citation, presented by Z. Yefroikin, educational director of the Workmen's Circle, stressed the literary value of Mr. Pat's book which evoked considerable praise in Jewish cultural circles in many countries.

Z. O. A. URGED TO ERECT STATUE IN HAIFA HARBOR WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS

HARTFORD, Conn., June 5. (JTA) -- A proposal for the erection of a statue in the Haifa harbor to welcome new immigrants, similar to the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor, has been approved by the Connecticut Zionist region for action by the next convention of the Zionist Organization of America.

Delegates to the state Zionist convention urged the ZOA to conduct a nationwide fund drive to finance the proposed statue as a gift from the American people to Israel. A preliminary sketch of the statue exhibited at the state convention showed a tablet of the ten commandments mounted on a Star of David as central theme.