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ARRESTS OF JEWS IN RUSSIA REPORTED; CHARGED WITH "ZIONIST ACTIVITIES"

LONDON, June 17. (JTA) -- Jews are again being arrested in the Soviet Union for alleged "Zionist activities" it is reported today in the News Chronicle, one of Britain's leading newspapers, on the basis of reports from Poles repatriated from Kiev, the capital of the Soviet Ukraine.

The repatriates said that Soviet security police searched the homes of the arrested Jews, ripping up floors, pulling apart walls and seizing letters, papers and photographs establishing links between the arrested people and relatives in Israel.

At the same time, the Moscow radio reported today that the newspaper "Izvestia," official organ of the Soviet Government, carries an appeal allegedly issued by Orthodox Jews in Moscow asking that "in the name of God," further atomic bombtests be discontinued. "Izvestia added that the Jews also urged that the manufacture of nuclear weapons be halted and all stockpiles destroyed.

U.S. MUM ON SOVIET DELIVERY OF SUBMARINES TO EGYPT; WATCHES SITUATION

WASHINGTON, June 17. (JTA) -- U.S. naval authorities today declined comment on reports that Soviet Russia has delivered three submarines to Egypt. The reports, received here today, predicted possible efforts to use the submarines to halt Israeli shipping in the Akaba Gulf by blockading the Red Sea approaches.

Skepticism was expressed here in naval quarters that the Egyptian navy had personnel trained and competent to operate the Russian submarines. If facts emerge to show that Russian sailors are manning the submarines, it is expected that Washington's interest will be dramatically intensified.

{The Jerusalem correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph reported today that "Egyptian naval maneuvers in the Red Sea" were being very carefully watched by Israel. The correspondent asserted that Egypt has sent into the Red Sea bigger and faster ships than the two Israeli frigates stationed at Elath. He wrote that the main reason for the maneuvers appeared to be Cairo's desire to react energetically to the efforts of Kings Saud and Hussein to bar Mecca passage by sea, which hits at profits to Egypt and Syria from the pilgrim trade.)

Israel Press Warns on Flow of Soviet Arms to Egypt and Syria

TEL AVIV, June 17. (JTA) -- The continuous flow of Soviet arms to Egypt and Syria, coupled with Soviet fleet exercises in the Eastern Mediterranean will eventually "incite and kindle a fire," the Israeli newspaper Maariv warned today.

The newspaper asserts that the reason for the Soviet fleet exercises is an attempt to regain with the Arab states the prestige it lost when its weapons in the hands of the Egyptians were unable to stop the Israelis and when the United States Sixth Fleet prevented the destruction of Jordan by pro-Soviet Arab states.

Maariv further comments that the Russian moves indicate a policy which is destined to force the Western Powers to include the USSR in deliberations of a Middle Eastern arrangement. To achieve this end, Maariv fears, the Soviet Union will use any means, "even setting fire to the region--only to appear later as the fireman."

ISRAEL CONCERNED OVER SYRIAN PROVOCATIONS; CABINET DISCUSSES SITUATION

JERUSALEM, June 17. (JTA) -- Israel views the latest series of outbreaks along the Syrian border with seriousness, it was learned here following a meeting of the Israel Cabinet yesterday at which the situation along all borders was studied at great length. Premier David Ben Gurion reported on the security and military picture of the border situation, while Foreign Minister Golda Meir reviewed the political aspects.

Informed Israeli circles hold that the incidents along the Syrian demarcation line are not a series of isolated events, but rather a part of an intentional policy. These circles believe that Syria is attempting to roll up the border to provide a diversion from Syria's internal and foreign policy difficulties, and possibly to reverse the isolation of Syria in the Arab world.

PLAN FOR A SECURITY ZONE ALONG ISRAEL-EGYPTIAN BORDER SEEN COLLAPSING

JERUSALEM, June 17. (JTA) -- Reports that United Nations Emergency Force commander Maj. Gen. E.L.M. Burns had promised President Nasser that he would forbid UNEF troops from firing on infiltrators along the Egyptian-Israeli demarcation line have been interpreted here as an indication of the collapse of a Burns plan for establishing a security zone along the border.

Gen. Burns originally came to Israel for its permission to have UNEF troops fire on infiltrators crossing from Israel into Egyptian territory. Israel immediately agreed. However, the Egyptians for their part have stalled on a reply and this new spate of reports is seen here as evidence that Nasser has refused to agree to giving UNEF troops wider authority to fire on Arab infiltrators.

Under the Burns plan, a security zone nearly half a mile wide would be set up on the Egyptian side of the line and in this area UNEF troops would have fuller police powers, including firing on unauthorized border crossings. Up to now, UNEF troops have been under orders to fire only in self-defense. An Arab killed in the Gaza border area this week-end was shot only when a flare revealed him in the act of hurling a hand grenade at a UNEF patrol.

Meanwhile, Gen. Burns visited Jerusalem yesterday for a conference with Col. Byron Leary, acting chief of staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization.

AMERICANS SENT \$700,000,000 IN GIFTS TO ISRAEL SINCE END OF WAR

WASHINGTON, June 17. (JTA) -- Private gifts by Americans to Israel accounted for about \$700,000,000 since the end of the war, it is indicated in a report on American post-war private aid published by the U.S. Department of Commerce. The report said that Israel received the largest amount of private aid given to any individual country.

Most of the gifts to Israel were made through institutions rather than through individuals. The report states that 80 percent of the institutional remittances are made by organizations connected with religious groups.

400,000,000 ISRAEL POUNDS NEEDED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHERN NEGEV

TEL AVIV, June 17. (JTA) -- Some 400,000,000 pounds is needed for the development of the southern Negev and the subsequent settlement of 100,000 persons in the region, Mordecai Bentov, Minister for Development, told a meeting of Haifa businessmen and manufacturers today.

Mr. Bentov told the industrialists that the southern desert region held great promise for the development of giant industry in Israel. He stressed the presence of huge phosphate deposits, a large variety of sands for use in glassmaking and the manufacture of china products, and significant deposits of white marble.

COST OF LIVING JUMPS IN ISRAEL; GOVERNMENT HOPES TO HALT INFLATION

JERUSALEM, June 17. (JTA) -- The cost of living spurted again in May, jumping the price index by five points and insuring an automatic salary increase for Israeli factory, white collar and government employees as of July.

Figures released today revealed that the cost of living index on May 31 stood at 270, a full 20 points higher than it was on January 1. The index is based on September 1950 prices as 100.

The Treasury hopes to halt the inflationary spiral with the reintroduction of subsidies for food items. If the upward climb is not halted or at least slowed, the government payroll alone stands to increase by 20,000,000 pounds.

BEN GURION MEETS WITH ORTHODOX MINISTERS ON RELIGIOUS LEGISLATION

TEL AVIV, June 17. (JTA) -- The first in a series of meetings between Premier David Ben Gurion and his Mapai associates with Ministers of the Religious Bloc in the Cabinet was held today to discuss demands for the enactment of religious legislation. Another meeting will be held later this week.

At the first meeting, which proved inconclusive, Dr. Joseph Burg and Moshe Shapira, both of the Religious Bloc, demanded enactment of a nationwide Sabbath observance law which, they said, had been agreed to in the original agreement on which the present coalition government was based.

They further demanded amendment of the education law which, they asserted, discriminates against schools operated by religious groups. Finally, they insisted that something be done about an alleged campaign along the new immigrants to win their children for non-religious schools.

GERMAN COURT BARS ESTABLISHMENT OF ANTI-SEMITIC, NAZI-TYPE GROUP

BERLIN, June 17. (JTA) -- The Administrative Court handed down a ruling today barring a Nazi-type, anti-Semitic political organization which Otto Strasser, one-time associate of Adolf Hitler, sought to establish.

The court upheld an earlier action of the West Berlin authorities who denied the organization the right to operate in the city on the grounds that it was undemocratic and unconstitutional.

Strasser, a Nazi Party pioneer who later broke with Hitler and set up his own Nazi-type organization, has been trying to create a political movement ever since his return to Germany from Canada two years ago. He established a political party called the "German Social Union" in West Germany last year.

Berlin circles believe that Strasser may now seek to establish a branch of this party in West Berlin since it is doubtful that the local authorities can outlaw a political party and there is no constitutional court in the city to exercise such authority. The Supreme Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe has declined to exercise jurisdiction over West Berlin.

JEWISH CONGRESS URGES FILING OF CLAIMS AGAINST ITALY BEFORE JUNE 28

NEW YORK, June 17. (JTA) -- American citizens who have claims against Italy for losses or damage to property during World War II, on the basis of Article 78 of the Peace Treaty with Italy, must file applications not later than June 28, 1957, the World Jewish Congress advised in a statement issued here today. Claims should be filed directly with the Ministero del Tesoro, Ragionerie dello Stato Ufficio Beni Alleati e Nemici, Rome, Italy.

The WJC said that applications may also be filed by Nazi persecutees who fled to the United States and had their possessions in transit, such as lift vans, impounded by the Italians and then seized by the Nazis at such ports as Trieste and Naples.

POLISH MINISTER TO HEAD DELEGATION TO ISRAEL; EXCHANGE PLANNED

JERUSALEM, June 17. (JTA) -- Dr. A. Stachalski, Minister of Health in Poland, will head a delegation to Israel next month, it was reported today in Al Hamishmar, organ of the left-wing Mapam Party. The visit will be reciprocated by an Israeli delegation to Poland in August, headed by Dr. Israel Barzilai, Israel's Minister of Health, the report said.

The newspaper stressed that the exchange visits--the first on a ministerial level--will demonstrate the friendly relations which are developing between Poland and Israel. They will be followed by a number of other visits to Israel of official Polish delegations, the Mapam organ reported.

HIGHEST GERMAN HONORS CONFERRED UPON JEWISH ACTOR ON 65TH BIRTHDAY

MUNICH, June 17. (JTA) -- The West German Federal Republic has conferred one of its highest honors, the Grand Cross of Merit with Star upon Fritz Kortner, Germany's greatest living actor and stage director, on the occasion of his 65th birthday. Only three other Jews have received this distinction in the eight years of the federal republic.

Dr. Theodor Heuss, the Federal President, made the award which was presented to the actor by Dr. Wilhelm Hoegner, Minister-President of Bavaria. His name is also being inscribed in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund in connection with his birthday. Mr. Kortner is a board member of the United Jewish Appeal in Germany.

WORLD PREMIERE OF SCHOENBERG'S OPERA "MOSES AND ARON" GIVEN IN ZURICH

ZURICH, June 17. (JTA) -- The theatrical world premiere of the late composer Arnold Schoenberg's opera "Moses and Aron" was performed here as high point of the "World Music Festival" sponsored by the International Society for Contemporary Music, with prominent critics from all parts of the world in attendance. The Zurich Council made available a special subsidy of \$40,000 to stage the world premiere which was performed by the Zurich Opera.

Vienna-born Schoenberg, the foremost pioneer of atonal music, was 77 years old when he died at Los Angeles in 1951. Having returned to Judaism in his adulthood, he created this compelling musical opus just before the blight of Hitlerism descended upon Germany's cultural life. Although he wrote the libretto for the entire work, he provided the music and orchestration for but two of the three acts. Only these two acts were performed.

HEAD OF SOVIET RELIGIOUS MISSION RECEIVED BY CHIEF RABBI OF ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, June 17. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog today received Archimandrite Pimen, head of the Soviet Religious Mission to Israel. The Russian clergyman was accompanied by mission secretary Father Nikodim, who recently arrived from Moscow.

STUDY SHOWS LACK OF PREJUDICE BETWEEN JEWISH AND PROTESTANT CHILDREN

TORONTO, June 17. (JTA) -- A report of a McGill University study of prejudice among Jewish and Protestant schoolchildren aged five to ten in a Montreal school was presented here at a meeting of the Canadian Psychological Association.

An "almost total lack of prejudice between Protestant and Jewish children at the age of six years" was found, although "both Protestants and Jews preferred those of their own religious group at the age of six." The report noted that the Protestant children "showed increasing dislike for Jews at age nine" but that Jewish children expressed no dislike for Protestants at any of the ages covered. The study was apparently restricted to Jewish and Protestant children because in Montreal the Catholics attend parochial schools.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST JEWS IN RESORT PLACES HIGH IN MICHIGAN

SOUTH HAVEN, Mich., June 17. (JTA) -- Michigan is the third worst state in the union as far as resort discrimination against Jews is concerned, Irving Fidelman, chairman of the Michigan Regional Advisory Board of the Anti-Defamation League, said here. The first two are Maine and North Carolina.

Citing an ADL survey, Mr. Fidelman said that nearly 49 percent of Michigan resort owners who were polled indicated that they do not accept Jews as guests. He added that there were also frequent cases of Catholic resorts rejecting Protestant guests and Protestant resorts refusing Catholics.

SENATE GETS BILL TO EXEMPT B'NAI B'RITH BUILDING FROM TAXATION

WASHINGTON, June 17. (JTA) -- Chairman Matthew M. Neely, West Virginia Democrat, of the Senate Committee on District of Columbia Affairs today introduced a bill exempting the national headquarters of B'nai B'rith here from real estate taxation.

The bill was co-sponsored by Senators J. Glenn Beall, Maryland, ranking Republican on the committee, and Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican. The Senators expressed hope that the bill will become law. B'nai B'rith headquarters are currently under construction here, and will be ready for occupancy in the fall.

25 AMERICAN YOUTHS RETURN FROM NINE-MONTH STUDY IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 17. (JTA) -- Twenty-five American Jewish youths were given a welcome here last night by Habonim, Labor Zionist youth organization, upon their return from Israel where they completed a nine-month work and study course. They attended the Sixth Youth Workshop in Israel as members of Habonim.

The Youth Workshop in Israel offers high school graduates an opportunity to live in Israel like the Israelis themselves and promises a firsthand acquaintance with the young Jewish state. The greater part of the nine-month program is spent in part-time agricultural work and part-time study at Kibbutz Kfar Blum; the balance of the period is devoted to study seminars, educational trips, and excursions throughout Israel.

TOUROFF PRIZE AWARDED TO ISRAELI EDUCATOR FOR HIS WORKS ON PEDAGOGY

TEL AVIV, June 17. (JTA) -- The annual Dr. Nissou Touroff's Memorial Prize for works in the Hebrew Language in the fields of psychology, education or art was announced here today. The committee of judges, headed by Dr. David Levin, awarded the \$250 prize for 1957 to M. Avigal, who for decades headed and guided the educational system in Israel and enriched the educational literature by many considerable volumes on instruction.

In addition to this annual literary prize, Dr. Nissou Touroff's Memorial Fund maintains an annual lectureship at the Hebrew Teachers College in Boston, with which the fund is associated, and where the late distinguished scholar, writer and educator, Dr. Nissou Touroff was dean for many years. The fund was established by Edmond M. Melton, an American philanthropist.

PRESIDENT OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN STOCKHOLM HONORED BY GOVERNMENT

STOCKHOLM, June 17. (JTA) -- Two Jewish brothers have been honored in the list of distinctions published here in connection with Sweden's National Day. Gunner Josephson, president of the Stockholm Jewish Community, was named a Commander of the Order of Vas. His brother, Dr. Ragnar Josephson, professor of art at Lund University, was appointed Commander of the Order of the North Star.

HAIM ARIAV, DEPUTY SPEAKER OF ISRAEL PARLIAMENT, DIES IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, June 17. (JTA) -- Haim Ariav, General Zionist leader and Deputy Speaker of the Israel Parliament, died here today. He was 62.

Born in Poland, Mr. Ariav settled in Palestine in 1912 and served in the Turkish Army in World War I. Later he served with the World Zionist executive and the Jewish Agency. He was a founder of the daily newspaper Haboker and of the Farmers Loan Bank of Israel. He also served on educational and farm groups, including service as general director of the Israel Farmers Federation.