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SOVIET SUBMARINES REPORTED REACHING GULF OF AKABA; MENACING ISRAEL

LONDON, June 24. (JTA) -- Soviet submarines delivered last week to Egypt may have already slipped through the Suez Canal into the Red Sea to menace Israel shipping through the Gulf of Akaba, reports cabled here today from Beirut, capital of Lebanon, said.

Another report originating with the Middle East News Agency in Cairo claimed that American ships "regularly" call at the Israeli port of Elath, at the head of the Gulf of Akaba. The Arab news agency alleged that two Israeli destroyers and two torpedo boats maintain "round-the-clock" watches between Elath and the Tiran Straits.

(From Jerusalem it was reported to the JTA today that political observers there believe that the Soviet submarine transfer and the dispatch of Russian vessels to the Mediterranean Sea were basically anti-American moves to back up Syria and to convince the West that no matter how many Soviet notes it rejects the USSR is in fact a Middle East Power. Nevertheless, informed Israeli quarters feel that while Moscow may have anti-American aims, Egypt's President Nasser will use the submarines and this new demonstration of Soviet support as anti-Israel weapons, the cable stated.)

ISRAEL WELCOMES U.S. AFFIRMATION OF FREE PASSAGE THROUGH AKABA GULF

JERUSALEM, June 24. (JTA) -- The United States affirmation of the right of "free and innocent passage" of ships through the Gulf of Akaba, and the notice given by the U.S. to captains of American ships reminding them that any interference with this right should be reported to the nearest American diplomatic mission, was warmly welcomed by an Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman today. However, he expressed regret that the United States Government had not taken this opportunity to declare its opposition to Arab League boycott regulations as far as the gulf was concerned.

The advice regarding the gulf and the Strait of Tiran leading to it has again placed the authority of the United States on the de facto situation in the gulf, the spokesman said, pointing out that ships of many nations now use the gulf. The spokesman further noted that the State Department advisory had left to shippers' discretion whether they complied with a long standing Egyptian demand that Alexandria or Port Said be notified 72 hours in advance of a contemplated entrance through the strait.

"While I would not interpret this as an encouragement to submit to illegal practices of the boycott office, we rather expected the United States to take on this occasion, too, a firm stand against the Arab League's economic warfare," the spokesman said. Israeli sources, meanwhile, said that American, Dutch, Italian, Panamanian and Venezuelan vessels have arrived at Elath since the Sinai campaign.

U.S. TERMS REPORTS OF "SECRET" ARAB-ISRAEL TALKS EGYPTIAN PROPAGANDA

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- Egyptian reports of secret Israeli talks with Arab states friendly to the United States were described today by State Department spokesman Lincoln White as "self-serving propaganda which has no basis in fact."

Cairo reports had alleged that the United States is acting as mediator in talks between Israel and Arab states opposed to Egypt and Syria. The purported talks were about "re-settlement of Arab refugees in Iraq." Mr. White said today the United States knows of no such talks. He noted, however, that the United States favors all peaceful efforts to resolve Arab-Israel problems including direct conversations.

State Department sources said Egypt and Syria are attempting to inflame the Arab masses against the anti-Nasser leaders of other Arab states by alleging that a plot is underway in collusion with Israel and the United States against the interests of Arab refugees now living in Jordan.

(Both Israeli and Jordan sources denied an earlier Egyptian-inspired report that negotiations were being held in Rome between Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq on re-settlement of the Arab refugees. Shimon Peress, Director General of the Israeli Defense Ministry said he questioned authenticity of the report and labeled it the product of the internal Arabian conflict by which Egypt was seeking to smear Jordan in the Arab world. The Jordan legation in Rome flatly called the report untrue.)

ESHKOL CONFERS WITH DULLES; OUTLINES ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

WASHINGTON, June 24. (JTA) -- Israel's Finance Minister Levi Eshkol today was afforded "a very good opportunity" to explain the background of economic problems of Israel to Secretary of State Dulles. Israel Ambassador Abba Eban made this known after a State Department meeting that lasted almost an hour.

Mr. Eshkol called on Secretary Dulles to provide a full survey of economic problems which Israel faces, especially those arising from the increased flow of immigrants. The Israel Finance Minister met again today with officials of the U. S. Export-Import Bank. Plans are going forward for a bank team to leave for Israel in July to consider Israel's application for a \$75, 000, 000 irrigation development loan. Specific programs have been discussed by Mr. Eshkol in meeting with other government agencies including the Department of Agriculture and the International Cooperation Administration.

U. N. SURVEYS ISRAEL'S AND EGYPT'S LOSSES FROM SINAI CAMPAIGN

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 24. (JTA) -- The losses sustained by Israel and Egypt as an aftermath of the Sinai campaign are dealt with in a report issued today by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs reviewing economic developments in the Middle East.

The report says that "direct material losses were incurred wholly by Egypt." As for Israel, the report states: "Preparation for the campaign by purchases of arms, the slow-down in production owing to extensive mobilization for a period of weeks, the cost of the campaign itself, the consequent suspension of United States aid and the fall in receipts from tourists--all these factors strained Israel's foreign exchange position and generally reduced output in the last two months of 1956. In consequence, the inflationary pressures within the economy appear to have increased and prices showed a tendency to rise."

SAUDI ARABIA SUBMITS ANOTHER COMPLAINT AGAINST ISRAEL TO SECURITY COUNCIL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 24. (JTA) -- In another letter to the Secretary General and to the president of the Security Council Saudi Arabia presented today another complaint charging violation of its territorial waters in the Gulf of Akaba by Israel but failed to ask for any action.

The letter charged that on June 13 "an Israeli destroyer sailed from Elath and violated Saudi Arabian territorial waters in the coastal town of Al-Barij. The destroyer laid anchor in that locality for several hours before it was replaced by another Israeli naval unit." Saudi Arabia restated its position that "the Akaba Gulf is Arab territorial waters" and reiterated its "determination to uphold its rights and interests in the face of such Israeli provocative acts."

ISRAELI NEWSPAPERMEN DEMAND EASING OF CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

TEL AVIV, June 24. (JTA) -- Israeli newspapermen demanded today the easing of censorship regulations and the opening of more government sources to newsmen. At its annual convention here, the Israel Journalists Association adopted a resolution calling for the limiting of censorship only to the national security sphere.

FATE OF JEWS IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IS MAJOR PROBLEM, GOLDMANN SAYS

PARIS, June 24. (JTA) -- A major problem facing world Jewry today is the fate of an estimated 3, 500, 000 East European Jews, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, told a meeting of the General Assembly of the WJC here last night.

"We must be realistic," Dr. Goldmann said "we know that we cannot ask the regime to become non-Communist just because of the Jews under that regime. But when the Jews' spiritual life is condemned to death, the time has come for Jewry to begin to make its demands on the Soviet Union publicly known."

The WJC leader asserted that "we want beside the protection of their legal position, respect for Jewish life." Dr. Goldmann expressed the belief that this is the time to seek such action because the Soviet leaders are beginning to realize that they have solved many problems in their country but not the Jewish problem.

Turning to the situation in North Africa, Dr. Goldmann said the World Jewish Congress must remain outside the dispute between the French and the nationalists because the WJC is a world movement which cannot take a position on a local French matter. However, he pointed out, this does not prevent individual affiliated chapters of the WJC, like the French and Algerian sections, from taking a position. The Congress he stressed, could only involve itself if Jewish rights were threatened in Algeria, which is not the case.

NAZIS DEPORTED 91, 000 JEWS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, PRAGUE PAPER REPORTS

VIENNA, June 24. (JTA) -- Some 76, 000 adult Jews and 15, 000 Jewish children were deported by the Nazis during the occupation of Czechoslovakia, it was reported today in the Prague newspaper "Svobodne Slovo," which has just arrived here. Only 6, 500 men and women and 28 of the children survived, the newspaper said.

FUTURE OF JEWISH LIFE IN U.S. DISCUSSED AT N.C.R.A.C. CONFERENCE

CLEVELAND, June 24. (JTA) -- The prediction that distinctive forms of Jewish life in the United States will disappear within the next 25 years was made here today by Professor Philip M. Hauser, chairman of the Sociology Department of the University of Chicago, in an address before the plenary session of the National Community Relations Advisory Council which represents six national Jewish organizations and 38 local Jewish Community Councils throughout the country.

"With the mobility of social, economic and geographic trends, it will be increasingly difficult for the Jewish group to maintain its identity in the coming generations," Dr. Hauser said. The Chicago sociologist cautioned his listeners that Jewish insistence upon the maintenance of distinctive Jewish values and culture patterns could lead to the creation of a new form of ghettoization.

Sidney Z. Vincent, assistant executive director of the Cleveland Jewish Community Federation, challenged Dr. Hauser sharply. Mr. Vincent pointed out that the demographers had been completely wrong in their estimates a generation ago. Similarly, he said, repeated predictions since 1920 on the inevitable dwindling of a distinctive Jewish life in America had been upset by the continuing and increasing vigor of Jewish community life.

"Despite the great drives toward conformity," Mr. Vincent said, "Jewish life in America has grown in depth and vitality." He pointed to the increased stress on Jewish education, the maturing of Jewish community structures, the adaptability of Jewish agencies of all kinds to new problems, and the continued clustering of the Jewish population in support of his opinion.

A major function of the Jewish community relations agencies, including those represented in the NCRAC, Mr. Vincent said, was to help assure that the Jewish community did not become isolated from the mainstream of American life and that it would grow in spiritual distinctiveness as part of the plural culture of America.

Dr. Hauser in speaking of discrimination against minorities in this country said that much of what has been called "anti-Semitism" is not anti-Semitism at all. The use of this term to describe certain specific types of prejudice that Jews have faced in America is "unwarranted and unfounded," he said. He conceded that Jews perhaps occupy a certain special place as scapegoats, but he contended that the pattern of prejudice aimed at Jews is the same as that aimed by the "oldsters" in American communities against all newcomers.

CONVENTION OF REFORM RABBIS OPENS WITH PLEA FOR RABBINICAL COOPERATION

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., June 24. (JTA) -- The 69th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, representing the Reform rabbinate in this country, opened here today with a plea for cooperation among all American rabbinic bodies to make Jewish learning more accessible to American Jewry.

The plea was voiced by Dr. Israel Bettan, president of the CCAR, in his presidential message. He called upon his colleagues to form a committee on cooperation with other rabbinical bodies to seek the creation of popular literature designed to satisfy "the greatest need of the American Jew: knowledge and love of Torah."

Rabbi Bettan proposed that the conference committee "should meet with representatives of the other associations for the purpose of forming a joint commission on cooperation." In offering his recommendation, Dr. Bettan, retiring professor of homiletics at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, asserted that there is nothing unusual or alarming about the existence of differing points of view within the American Jewish community, but that, despite such divergence, common aims might be pursued.

Dr. Bettan denied that "classical Reform Judaism" was opposed to ceremonialism. The pioneers of the Reform movement "only sought to purge religion of its dross," he said, but they neither minimized the importance of ritual nor discarded the use of helpful religious ceremonies. "In the prayerbook prepared by Isaac M. Wise, in his 'Minhag America,' which is surely of classical vintage, there is hardly any departure from the common practices in synagogue and home," he pointed out. "Grace, before and after meals, is there; the Kiddush ceremony is there; the blessings over the Hanukah lights are there; the blessings before and after the reading of the Megillah on Purim are there; a special morning prayer and elaborate private meditations before retiring at night are there. Even the Havdalah ceremony is there. We have barely caught up with 'Minhag America.'"

B'NAI B'RITH CONVENTION DISCUSSES DEFECTS IN JEWISH YOUTH PROGRAMS

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., June 24. (JTA) -- The survival of American Jewry as "a positive community" is threatened by the defects in its youth programs, B'nai B'rith president Philip M. Klutznick said last night. Keynoting the three-day convention of B'nai B'rith's District 5, Mr. Klutznick said that the post-war neglect of the burgeoning youth population in America "is reflected in the Jewish community where a lack of understanding of the needs of Jewish education and youth guidance can mean defaulting on the promise of a golden era of Jewish aspirations which the history of our times has opened to us."

150 U. S. JEWS TO SETTLE PERMANENTLY IN ISRAEL, JEWISH AGENCY REPORTS

NEW YORK, June 24. (JTA) -- One hundred and fifty Americans, registered with the Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency for settlement in Israel, are leaving for that country within the next several weeks, according to an announcement issued by the Jewish Agency here today. They come from every section of the United States; a few hail from Canada, Mexico and Costa Rica.

"These men and women may be divided into several categories depending on their motivation for settling in Israel," the announcement stated. "One is a party of young people who have trained here under various pioneering agencies to become members of kibbutzim, cooperative agricultural settlements with specific social or religious ideologies. They all have one common purpose--to build a social order wherein freedom, equality and cooperation are central."

Another party consists of professional people, engineers, pharmacists, mechanics, journalists, musicians, and teachers. A third segment consists of 24 people of various ages, including two teen-agers who desire to learn to speak Hebrew fluently before they tackle their regular tasks. Hence they plan to study for a period of 5-6 months at Ulpanim, especially established adult schools to teach the Hebrew language to newcomers. There is also a group of 12 retired elderly people. They expect to maintain themselves in Israel from their income or social security pensions. They want to spend their last years in the Holy Land.

Prompted by the desire to participate personally in the economic development of the country a group of middle class individuals and families are planning to invest their savings in various industrial and business enterprises, the Jewish Agency reported. "There are an ever increasing number of people in America who feel that they are duty-bound to help in person in the development of the State," it said. "The Jewish Agency, through its Aliyah Department, is receiving manifold enquiries about possibilities for settling in Israel from every section of the United States as well as other American countries. The Agency is prepared to counsel and to help every case. Israel is capturing the imagination of the young generation because it is a pioneering country, and of the older people because it is the land of the Bible and Messianic association," the Jewish Agency explained.

YOUNG ISRAEL CONVENTION HEARS REPORT ON RELIGION IN ISRAEL

GREENFIELD PARK, N. Y., June 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Samuel Kahane, director of the Ministry of Religion in Israel, today told the 800 delegates attending their 45th annual convention of the National Council of Young Israel, "that Israel's religious denominations enjoy complete freedom of religion. The Arabs and Christians of Israel are accorded every opportunity by the Government of Israel to practice their religious rituals and rites."

"The Government of Israel," Dr. Kahane reported, "is expending large sums of money to assist the Christian-Arab minority populations in acquiring and maintaining such facilities as schools, religious courts and ecclesiastical institutions. The Arabs of Israel are enjoying a higher standard of economic, cultural and social living than their Arab brethren in neighboring countries. Arab illiteracy has been considerably reduced through the constant striving of the Israeli Government."

The convention adopted a resolution calling upon President Eisenhower to effectuate round-table peace conferences between Israeli and Arab leaders in Washington. The resolution stated that the Eisenhower Doctrine would be ineffectual without the resumption of peaceful relations between Israel and her Arab neighbors.

1,500 JEWISH LEADERS PLEDGE MAXIMUM AID TO U. J. A. CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, June 24. (JTA) -- Fifteen hundred leaders of the Council of Organizations of the United Jewish Appeal, representing a million New York Jews solemnly pledged to mobilize all their resources behind the UJA's 1957 relief and survival campaign and its special \$100,000,000 Emergency Rescue Fund. The pledge was made at the Council's 18th annual Officers Luncheon following an address by Levi Eshkol, Finance Minister for Israel.

The Israel Minister declared that Israel's most fervent wish is for peace in the Middle East "so that we as well as our Arab neighbors can devote ourselves entirely to constructive projects and economic and cultural development." Other speakers at the Luncheon included Jack D. Weiler, general chairman of the UJA's New York campaign and, Louis Segal, secretary general of the Labor Zionist Organization of America.

RUBIN ACADEMY OF MUSIC OPENED IN JERUSALEM; NAMED FOR U. S. LEADER

JERUSALEM, June 24. (JTA) -- Schocken House, a Jerusalem landmark, was converted today into the Rubin Academy of Music at a ceremony attended by Mayor Gershon Agron, members of the Israel Government and guests from all walks of Israel cultural life.

The Academy was launched with a \$325,000 contribution from the American-Israel Cultural Foundation. It is named for Samuel Rubin, president of the foundation, who contributed \$250,000 as an expression of confidence in Israel's peaceful future and its cultural activity. The Jerusalem municipality provided 100,000 pounds for furniture and equipment to serve the 1,000 students who will be using the Academy next Spring.