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## U. S. EXPORT-IMPORT BANK MISSION LEAVES FOR ISRAEL TODAY; LOAN EXPECTED

WASHINGTON, July 9. (JTA) -- A mission from the U. S. Export-Import Bank will leave tomorrow for Israel to carry out technical and economic surveys of existing projects assisted by bank loans in that country and to study plans and resources for further Israeli development proposals.

Israel has requested an additional \$75,000,000 loan to finance purchases in the United States of equipment to assist in further irrigation and agricultural settlement programs. Upon the mission's return, and based upon its findings, the Export-Import Bank will give final consideration to the question of financing under the pending Israeli loan request.

The bank loaned Israel \$135,000,000 in 1949 to finance purchases within the United States required for irrigation and agricultural settlement, industrial projects, and transport designed to contribute to the country's economic development and eventual self-support. Repayments on these loans commenced in 1954 and total \$21,900,000 to date.

Bank representatives have not visited Israel since 1953. The present mission is composed of Lynn U. Stambaugh, first vice president and vice chairman of the board of directors; William G. Welk, an economist of the bank; Frank Kimball, an engineer, and Oliver J. Scherer, a ground water geologist serving as a consultant.

## SYRIANS OPEN MORTAR FIRE ON ISRAELI VILLAGE; INCIDENT CONSIDERED GRAVE

JERUSALEM, July 9. (JTA) -- The Israeli village of Gonan, in the Huleh area, was brought under mortar and machine gun fire today and one Israeli civilian was killed and seven Israeli border patrolmen were wounded in the most serious outbreak along the Israel-Syrian border in recent months.

Firing, which began at noon from Syrian positions, continued throughout the day despite three United Nations cease-fire demands and, as night fell here, it became known that the Syrians had heeded a fourth cease-fire call timed at 9:45 PM local time.

The matter was considered by the Israel Cabinet, which was in session at the time the incident began. Col. Byron Leary, acting chief of staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization, who was in Damascus today, was informed of developments and contacted the Syrian Government to ask for a cease-fire. Later, he was summoned to Jerusalem for urgent talks with Dr. Walter Eytan, director-general of the Foreign Ministry. He arrived this evening.

An Israeli army spokesman said that firing began at noon when a Syrian machine gun unit opened on an Israeli border patrol. One Israeli was hit immediately. The patrol returned the fire and the Syrians resorted to mortars. Israeli reinforcements were brought up to extricate the patrol. UN sources said that the Syrians entrenched on a ridge overlooking the Israeli positions, had also suffered casualties. The first UN cease-fire demand came at 2:45 PM, the second at 6:30, the third at 7:30 and the fourth at 9:45--all issued by Col. J. Moe, chairman of the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

A military spokesman today announced that an Israeli chemical spraying plane, fired upon by Jordanian gunners at Geshar near the Jordan border yesterday, was damaged but its pilot was able to complete his spraying assignment before crash-landing the plane. The pilot was not hurt. One wing of the plane, owned by the Agro-Chemical Company, was damaged. Daniel Agronsky, son of Mayor Gershon Agron of Jerusalem, who was wounded last month during spray preparations near the Gaza Strip border, is a director of the company.

## U. N. Chief Worried Over Syrian Attack; Terms Situation "Very Serious"

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., July 9. (JTA) -- The acting chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine is understood to have reported to UN headquarters here that the clash along the Israel-Syrian border in the Huleh area today is "very serious."

This was learned here today after a meeting between Mordecai Kidron, acting head of the Israel delegation here, and Andrew Cordier, executive assistant to Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold.

## ISRAEL STARTS RELAXING RESTRICTIONS ON ARAB RESIDENTS IN GALILEE

TEL AVIV, July 9. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion's promise to relax restrictions on Arab residents was partly implemented today when the Arabs of Galilee were told that they were free to move into the towns of Acre and Nazareth, previously closed to them. The order excludes only tribesmen along the Lebanese border and the inhabitants of two southern Galilee villages.

The Israeli press this evening gave considerable prominence to stories that Joshua Palmon, head of the Foreign Ministry's Middle East Division, was returning to Europe presumably to renew contacts with representatives of the Arab refugees. However, well informed political circles asserted that Mr. Palmon's trip, while connected with his official duties, had nothing to do with Arab refugee contacts.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said tonight that while Israel officials have been having contacts with Arabs during the past nine years, nothing has happened lately which can be described as an unusual development. Contacts continue, the spokesman declared. It is understood that all such contacts concern unofficial approaches to ascertain under what conditions and what kind of compensation would best facilitate the absorption of refugees in the host countries.

## ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE STARTS SESSION IN JERUSALEM TODAY

JERUSALEM, July 9. (JTA) -- The Zionist Actions Committee, supreme world Zionist body between Zionist Congresses, starts meeting tomorrow to discuss problems of increased immigration to Israel, of establishing Zionist territorial federations and of expanding the Jewish Agency by coopting non-Zionist members into its executive. American members of the Actions Committee are expected to play an important role in the deliberations.

A report issued here today on the eve of the opening of the Actions Committee session states that over 63,000 immigrants arrived in Israel between April 1, 1956 and March 31, 1957, the year immediately after the last World Zionist Congress. The report points out that shortly after the Zionist Congress decided to make an all-out effort to admit Moroccan Jews, emergency situations developed in Hungary and Egypt and some 10,000 persons from both countries were forced to seek haven in Israel.

The report establishes that in the first three months of 1957 some 10,000 European Jews came to Israel, more than 20 times as many as had come in the same period of 1956. This indicates a renewed trend of migration from Europe; the more recent immigration having been overwhelmingly from North African or Asian countries. However, in the 12-month period under review, North African immigrants were still predominant: 28,637 Moroccan Jews, 6,072 Tunisian Jews and 1,062 Algerian Jews came to Israel as compared to 15,271 from various European countries. Emigration from Israel declined to 5,400 during the year in question.

### 200 European Physicians, 164 Engineers Entered Israel in Six Months

The renewal of European immigration has brought 600 professionals to Israel during the second half of the 1956-1957 fiscal year, the report says. Among these experts were nearly 200 doctors, 164 engineers, 62 economists, 35 chemists, 22 research scientists, as well as a number of lecturers, journalists and similar specialists.

The Jewish Agency maintains 48 "Ulpan" courses for intensive instruction in Hebrew for immigrants for whom Hebrew language facility is basic to their work. A total of 4,800 immigrants, including 2,000 with academic education, are now studying in these courses, according to the report.

The report also disclosed that despite the great increase in immigration, the number of immigrants in temporary housing declined. At the end of March, 1956, 135,000 immigrants lived in such housing, including 46,000 in the maabarot. One year later, by March 1957, the total in temporary dwellings was 125,000, including only 32,000 in the maabarot, the flimsiest type of temporary housing.

Fifty percent of the total newcomers during the past year were initially housed in makeshift dwellings, 17 percent received housing with relatives or by their own efforts, 13 percent were permanently settled in agriculture and the remainder received public housing.

## EL AL GETS FIRST TURBOPROP BRISTOL BRITANNIA PASSENGER PLANE

TEL AVIV, July 9. (JTA) -- El Al, the Israel national airline, took delivery today on the first of a new fleet of Bristol Britannias, huge British-built turboprop passenger planes which will be the backbone of the line's expansion program. Two more are due for delivery by October.

The first plane, No. 310, piloted by Capt. Tom Jones of El Al, landed at Lydda seven hours and ten minutes after it took to the air near Bristol. The new airliner was greeted at Lydda by El Al officials and a party of Israel Air Force officers, led by their commander. Col. Dan Tolkowski.

### ISRAEL CABINET HOLDS SPECIAL SESSION ON TALKS WITH FRENCH GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, July 9. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet held an extraordinary, unscheduled session today. The subject under discussion was the government's position on a number of questions which will be discussed in Paris this week by Foreign Minister Gold Meir and French ministers. Mrs. Meir was due to arrive in Paris today.

(In Paris, a French Government spokesman said today that the latest credit grant of \$15,000,000 which France will make to Israel, in addition to the previously granted \$30,000,000, will be used basically for the construction of a deep water port at Elath and for the building of a rail line between Elath and Beersheba and then on to Ashdod where a new Mediterranean port and industrial center is to be located.)

### AUSTRIAN COURT SENTENCES EDITOR FOR PUBLISHING ANTI-SEMITIC ARTICLE

VIENNA, July 9. (JA) -- An Austrian court today sentenced Otto Braun, 25-year-old editor of the weekly "Nordische Rundschau" for having published an anti-Semitic article. He was sentenced to eight months in prison.

The article was condemned for having incited the Austrian people against the Jews as a nationality and against the Jewish religion. Braun has praised Hitler's treatment of the Jews and actively sells Hitler's "Mein Kampf."

### GERMAN COURT DISPOSES OF CASE INSTIGATED BY PRO-ARAB LOBBYIST

BONN, July 9. (JTA) -- A court case that threatened to stir up an embarrassing hubbub about reparations to Israel was quietly disposed of here by invoking the 1954 amnesty. At issue was the second appeal of State Secretary Dr. Theodor Sonnemann against the \$350 fine imposed upon him some years ago for allegedly slandering Joachim Hertslet, an import-export promoter regarded as the top German coordinator of the Arab campaign against the 1952 ratification of the reparations pact with Israel.

Dr. Sonnemann, who is State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, was convicted because he had at that time referred to Hertslet as a "traitor" and a "noxious element." This, he indicated in the earlier trials, was done upon instructions from West German Chancellor Dr. Konrad Adenauer.

The Chancellor had reportedly instructed his Cabinet to desist from dealing with Hertslet, a former Nazi specialist in international trade and propaganda who had grown wealthy in postwar Bonn as an influence peddler obtaining hard-to-get government import licenses on behalf of his clients. When he returned from the Middle East in 1952 and behind the scenes took charge of the anti-reparations drive, he nearly succeeded in thwarting the parliamentary passage of the Reparations Agreement.

It was his pro-Arab lobbying which irked Chancellor Adenauer and eventually evoked a warning against doing business with Hertslet. The latter saw his earnings dwindle and initiated a series of judicial maneuvers aimed at compelling the Federal Government to back down. He asked the courts to award him \$120,000 in damages and brought a variety of suits not only against State Secretary Sonnemann, but also against State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Walter Hallstein and against Chancellor Adenauer.

Democratic and Jewish circles here considered most unfortunate the line of questioning which Hertslet was expected to pursue with respect to the complex antecedents of the reparations pact. This the District Court obviated two weeks ago by ruling that the lower court was mistaken in declaring the 1954 amnesty to be inapplicable.

### ITALIAN GOVT. ASKS COMPENSATION FROM EGYPT FOR JEWISH PROPERTY

ROME, July 9. (JTA) -- The Union of Italian Jewish Communities informed Jews of Italian nationality exiled by Egypt that the first step in recovery of property and assets frozen in Egypt must be the granting of a power of attorney to an Egyptian resident. The Italian and Egyptian Governments continue their negotiations on Italy's request that her nationals' property be returned.

### MAXWELL ABBELL, AMERICAN JEWISH LEADER, DEAD; WAS CLOSE TO EISENHOWER

CHICAGO, July 9. (JTA) -- Maxwell Abbell, Chicago Jewish communal leader, active member of the Conservative religious movement and until recently chairman of President Eisenhower's watchdog committee on discrimination in government employment, died today. He was 55.

Mr. Abbell, a native of Poland, came to this country when he was three. An attorney and accountant, Mr. Abbell had careers in both business and social work, serving as assistant executive director of the Jewish Charities of Chicago. An active Zionist, Mr. Abbell was also a director of the Jewish Theological Seminary and between 1950 and 1953 was president of the United Synagogue of America, central body of Conservative Judaism.

A prominent supporter of President Eisenhower in both the 1952 and 1956 election campaigns, he was appointed chairman of the President's Committee on Government Contracts in 1955, a position he relinquished only recently.

### SEGREGATIONIST ATTEMPTS TO BAR JEWISH JURORS AT HIS TRIAL

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., July 9. (JTA) -- Frederick John Kasper, racial segregationist who went on trial yesterday in a Federal court here charged with disregarding a Federal injunction against interfering with school integration in Clinton, Tenn., told newsmen that he had instructed his counsel to oppose the inclusion of any Jews on the jury. "I'd have a better chance with a Negro than a Jew," Kasper said.

Four jurors were chosen by the end of yesterday's court session. Kasper, a Northern resident, has been active in the formation of White Citizens Councils in the South.

### U.S. CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH EDUCATORS TO STUDY ISRAEL'S INSTITUTIONS

NEW YORK, July 9. (JTA) -- Two groups of American educators are proceeding to Israel for the summer to observe and to study Israel's cultural and educational institutions as well as their pedagogic methods and progress, the Jewish Agency announced today.

The first party consists of a group of Christian scholars who teach the Bible, religious education and philosophy at American institutions of higher learning in various parts of the United States. The second party comprises a group of Jewish educators from various cities of the United States and Canada including New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Boston, Newark, Providence and Canada.

"The Christian professors and teachers will be given the opportunity to study the latest archaeological excavations and data in Israel and to meet Israeli Biblical scholars and archaeologists in seminars and discussions. In addition they will be able to observe at first hand the way of life of the people in Israel including the Christian communities," the Jewish Agency's statement declared.

Among the scholars participating in this project are Dr. Thomas L. Henry, president, Eastern Illinois Convention of Christian Churches; Dr. R. L. Smith, Professor of Bible, Southwestern Baptist Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. Stuart Schimpf, Professor of Bible at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas; Dr. John Rosentratez, Professor of Philosophy, Nebraska University at Lincoln, Nebraska; Dr. Leon L. Nickolson, Professor of Religious Education, Asbury College, Liberty Center, Indiana; and Miss Ritta Lee Hackett of George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee.

### WORLD CONVENTION OF LIBERAL JUDAISM DISCUSSES RELIGION IN ISRAEL

AMSTERDAM, July 9. (JTA) -- The longing for religion in Israel is widespread and any description of the Jewish State as one divided into "an Orthodox minority and a majority of those outside the synagogue" is a false one, Dr. Hugo Bergman, Israeli scholar, told the World Union for Progressive Judaism convention here today.

The longing for religion "has not as yet found its way toward fulfillment," he told delegates to the international gathering. "Maybe this longing will not lead into the synagogue in the near future," he added, "but to my mind this does not matter much."

He asserted that religion must be tested by life "and Israel is the place for Judaism to be put to the test before us and before the world. Here we manifest what Jewish belief really is, in politics, in relation to our minorities, in the kibbutzim, in our relationship with one another, in our relationship with Jews in countries outside of Israel, and with mankind as a whole."

Israel expects the Jews in other countries to understand that your problem, the problem of the Jewish community as a whole, is decided in Israel," he asserted. Jews outside of Israel, for that reason, should not regard their ties with Israel "as a concern of welfare work which can be 'settled' by giving money," Dr. Bergman said. "You should identify yourselves critically--I stress critically--with religious life in Israel."

### WESTERN REFORM RABBIS OPPOSE TEACHING OF RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LOS ANGELES, July 9. (JTA) -- The Western Association of Reform Rabbis today urged American Christians and Jews to "intensify programs of religious education in their churches and synagogues rather than to extend their energies to make the public schools an adjunct of the church and synagogue." The association is composed of 75 rabbis who primarily serve congregations affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The resolution credited the public schools with contributions to the development of moral and spiritual qualities in the people of America among all races and creeds but added a warning that school entrance into religious teaching might "seriously endanger the rights of all Americans to a personal choice" in religious beliefs.

### ISRAEL GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO HAVE MEZUZAH'S AFFIXED

JERUSALEM, July 9. (JTA) -- Mezuzahs will be affixed to the door posts of all Israel Government educational institutions, Education Minister Zalman Arrane promised the Knesset today. He was responding to criticism from Orthodox deputies.