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## EBAN DISCUSSES SUEZ AND AKABA ISSUES WITH STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, July 25. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban today discussed Suez Canal and Akaba Gulf issues, including the arrest by Egyptian authorities of an Israeli seaman removed this week from a Danish freighter, in a lengthy meeting with Christian A. Herter, Under Secretary of State.

Mr. Eban described today's meeting as a very comprehensive exchange of views on the position in the Middle East. He said it was one of a series of talks and he hoped to see Secretary of State Dulles before departing for Jerusalem for consultations. The Ambassador will leave on August 9 and return in about a month.

Mr. Eban is seeking a complete picture of views on the Middle East and anticipates a discussion with Secretary Dulles not on day-to-day matters but on a broader survey of questions. Today's talk with Mr. Herter included maritime topics and the case of Raphael Eylon, Israel seaman seized aboard the Danish ship *Brigitte Toft* by Egyptian authorities at Port Suez. Ambassador Eban said he considered the removal of his countryman a violation by Egypt of the 1888 Suez convention. Ships of all nations have a right to transit through Suez and therefore all sailors, he argued.

Among matters Mr. Eban will take up in Jerusalem will be plans for the coming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

## SOVIET SUBMARINES ACQUIRED BY EGYPT ARE TRAILING ISRAELI SHIPPING

LONDON, July 25. (JTA) -- The Russian submarines which Egypt recently acquired have been trailing Israeli shipping in the Gulf of Akaba, the Earl of Dundee charged today during a debate in the House of Lords. He said that nothing was being done about the situation.

The Earl offered a motion in the House deploring the decision of the United Nations requiring Israel to withdraw its forces from the Gaza and Akaba areas without any guarantee against future aggression and interference with her shipping. He said that Israel's history was an example of the dangers to peace which may result from trying to base a foreign policy on an international authority. He charged that the principal objective of Soviet policy in the Middle East was to draw its oil into the Soviet orbit by helping the Arabs destroy Israel.

## DENMARK PROTESTS EGYPT'S REMOVAL OF ISRAELI SEAMEN FROM DANISH SHIP

COPENHAGEN, July 25. (JTA) -- The Danish Government has instructed its diplomatic representative in Cairo to submit a formal protest to the Egyptian Foreign Office over the removal of the Israeli seaman Raphael Eylon from the Danish ship *Brigitte Toft*, it was reported here today.

Ove Toft, owner of the ship, asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here to try to obtain the release of Mr. Eylon, an Israeli crewmember of his ship. Mr. Toft denied Egyptian allegations against the Israeli sailor, stating that Mr. Eylon was "regularly signed on and we know absolutely of no foundation of Egyptian charges that he has been photographing canal installations from the ship."

(Mordecai Kidron, deputy chairman of the Israeli delegation here, called on United Nations Secretary General Hammarskjöld yesterday for a discussion of several matters including the Egyptian arrest of Raphael Eylon. He refused to comment after the 45-minute session.)

## BRITISH-ISRAEL RELATIONS COOLING OVER OIL DEVELOPMENTS

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- The Israel Government is not taking as final the initial cold British Government reaction to Israel's request for intervention with the two British oil companies which have decided to end their operations in the Jewish State, it was learned here today.

Nevertheless, British-Israel relations appear headed for the lowest point since the Sinai campaign. It is understood that Britain's first reaction to Israel's request for intervention was that the Foreign Office could not interfere with business decisions of private companies. It is known here that Shell Oil, one of the companies involved, practically never makes an important move without consulting the British Government, while the second company operating in Israel, British Petroleum, is partly owned by the British Government.

PAKISTANI PREMIER RULES OUT HIS MEDIATION IN ARAB-ISRAEL CONFLICT

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., July 25. (JTA) -- Pakistani Prime Minister H. S. Suhrawardy stressed today again the need for a settlement of the Palestine problem, but ruled out any possibility of Pakistani mediation.

Still smarting under the effects of the wave of Arab protests which followed his earlier remarks about the Arab-Israel conflict on a national television program, the Prime Minister, addressing UN correspondents today, took great pains to avoid offending Arab sensibilities. Mr. Suhrawardy made the following points, which at times sounded contradictory:

1. Pakistan supports the Arab refusal to recognize Israel. 2. It regards the creation of Israel a "mistake" which has caused unfortunate tensions, but "Israel is there" and therefore a solution is necessary. 3. Pakistan believes the UN to be the best forum for reaching decisions on Palestine and supports the Arabs' position that a settlement must be based on previous UN resolutions.

4. While sees no reason "why Arabs cannot make a settlement themselves," he doubts the practicability of direct negotiations. 5. Any mediator would burn his hands. He believes, however, that nevertheless some nations "who command respect and confidence" could explore the grounds and attempt mediation.

Mr. Suhrawardy refused to reveal whether during his Washington talks he championed the Arab viewpoint regarding Akaba. Asked by an Arab correspondent if the presence of Israeli warships constituted a threat to Moslem pilgrimages, he replied: "Are there any there, I didn't know?"

DIRECT ARAB-ISRAEL TALKS UNDER U. N. AUSPICES SUGGESTED BY AFGHANISTAN

MILWAUKEE, Wisc., July 25. (JTA) -- Direct negotiations for Arab-Israel peace were urged here by a spokesman for the Government of Afghanistan at a Middle East Institute sponsored by Marquette University. Afghan Embassy Attache Mohammed Shah Sulaiman spoke on behalf of Ambassador Dr. Najib Ullah and read from a text prepared by the Ambassador.

He suggested an informal approach by a committee of small neutral countries designated by the United Nations. He thought this might open a way for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations under UN auspices.

In the Ambassador's view "there is no doubt that a lot of mistakes have been committed on the question of Israel... we are today in a mess. But what is done is done and we are realizing today a fact and it is of no use to accuse each other and to stick to recriminations and lamentations." According to the Afghan Ambassador, "today we must find a solution and we must try to establish peace and security for both sides on the basis of numerous resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations."

U. N. CHIEF OPPOSES ARMISTICE COMMISSION ACTION ON ISRAEL COMPLAINT

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold opposes the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission considering Israel's complaint of aggressive action and belligerent threats, it was learned in diplomatic circles here today. On the other hand, these sources said, there is an important body of opinion at UN headquarters in Jerusalem which holds the opposite point of view.

The Acting Chief of Staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization, Col. Byron V. Leary, is reported to have consulted with Mr. Hammarskjold after Israel complained of Syrian hostility. It is understood that the Secretary General expressed the opinion that neither the MAC nor Col. Leary could deal effectively with matters of "principle;" as he interpreted the question of aggressive threats, but should confine itself to small, technical matters.

The other view, held by UN officers here, is that such an interpretation will further inactivate the truce set-up and acknowledge the UN's failure in this sphere. They point out that for all practical purposes the Israel-Egyptian and Israel-Jordan MAC's are dead, while the Israel-Syrian MAC has been inactive and if now further stymied will follow the other two.

ISRAEL STUDIES POSSIBILITY OF JOINING COMMON EUROPEAN MARKET

TEL AVIV, July 25. (JTA) -- The Israel Government has set up a special committee to study Israel's future economic relations with the countries which are banding together in the common European market plan, Foreign Minister Golda Meir announced in Parliament today. She added that the committee may recommend Israel's joining the common market, if it proves feasible.

Replying to a Communist demand for a debate on her recent conversations with French Government figures, Mrs. Meir said she had not negotiated on the question of the common market. But, she continued, since all the countries in the plan are friendly to Israel and in view of Israel's own interests which may be involved, the Jewish State cannot sit back and fail to explore the matter.

## INDUS TRIALISTS REJECT BEN GURION AS ARBITRATOR FOR TEXTILE STRIKE

TEL AVI V, July 25. (JTA) -- The management of ATA, Israel's largest textile manufacturing plant, reversed itself last night and rejected Premier David Ben Gurion as an arbitrator of the 11-week-old strike of its 1,700 employees.

The management's action came after Mr. Ben Gurion had openly committed himself to the Haifa Labor Council on two major points at issue in the dispute. He pledged that he would recommend fulfillment of Labor Minister Mordecai Namir's earlier proposals which generally favor the workers and that he would recommend adherence by ATA to the dismissal patterns established in national Histadrut-industry contracts. This point, too, favored the workers.

When ATA management objected to Mr. Ben Gurion's action, he gave it the choice of withdrawing its earlier consent to his serving as arbitrator. When ATA reversed itself, the Premier announced that henceforth he would not involve himself further in the entire situation. This effectively threw the strike situation back into its long deadlock.

## GERMAN RESTITUTION LAW BECOMES EFFECTIVE; CLAIMS DEADLINE SET

BONN, July 25. (JTA) -- After many years of delay, the last major piece of West German legislation concerned with compensation for Nazi victims, the \$360,000,000 Federal Restitution Law, entered into force today through publication of the text in the Federal Gazette.

The law, which deals with identifiable Jewish property confiscated by the former German Reich during the Nazi era in either West Germany or in Berlin, prescribes that claims must be submitted by April 1, 1958, and in certain cases within the following year.

Compensation will be paid for Jewish belongings "Aryanized" by the German Reich or by the former Prussian state, by the German state railways and by the state postal system. Mainly affected, in addition to real estate, are securities confiscated during the war, or else "sold" by the Jews of Germany and Austria to pay the billion-mark "fine" exacted by the Hitler Government in November 1938, after the Paris assassination of German Embassy attache von Rath.

The jewelry, silver and gold that had to be delivered up for almost nothing at the same time is, as a rule, also within the scope of the law. Its provisions also apply to furniture, household effects or luggage shipped abroad by emigrants from Germany and, due to the German invasion of neighboring countries, later intercepted en route by the Nazis. Works of art and machinery seized in non-German countries by organs of the German state fall under the law if it can be shown that the looted objects were brought to Germany itself.

The law stipulates that all payments are to be completed before 1963. Amounts up to \$4,750 are due by the spring of 1959. Of claims running to higher figures, half the sum is payable before 1961. The second half of these larger claims will be scaled down in such fashion that the total expenditure for the West German treasury does not exceed \$357,000,000, the level to which the Federal Republic has restricted its overall liability. A few million dollars more have been allotted to a "hardship fund," from which awards can be made available to applicants who, because of technical reasons, are ineligible under the terms of the new law.

No claims can be submitted with respect to Jewish property confiscated in East Germany, the Saar, the areas now under Polish or Soviet administration and in the countries overrun by Hitler Germany. Nor does the law apply to "Aryanizations" whose beneficiaries were German individuals, corporations or municipalities. If such Nazi-era transactions were concluded under duress, they fall under restitution legislation imposed by the Western Allies nearly ten years ago, which compels the return of formerly Jewish-owned real estate, businesses, furniture, art objects, etc., either to the original owner, to his heirs or to a heirless-property organization.

This earlier restitution program encompassing all "Aryanized" Jewish property, with the exception of assets sequestered by the German Reich itself, has already been completed to the extent of better than 90 percent in West Germany and of about 65 percent in West Berlin, where the machinery was set in motion at a later date. Some 475,000 restitution claims were filed by Jews and other Nazi victims and all but a few thousand have been settled.

## U. N. COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES TO CONTINUE WORK FOR FIVE YEARS

GENEVA, July 25. (JTA) -- The United Nations Economic and Social Council, now meeting here today unanimously adopted a resolution considering that the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees should be continued for five years from January 1, 1959 and that the General Assembly should review no later than in 1962 whether the office should be further continued.

The resolution, which was sponsored jointly by Canada, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States. It included a Greek amendment authorizing the High Commissioner to make an appeal to member states of the United Nations or the specialized agencies with a view to the closing down of refugee camps.

BRITISH GROUP HIT FOR SHOWING "MERCHANT OF VENICE" TO ARABS

LONDON, July 25. (JTA) -- The Daily Express reported today that the British Council--which has the task of spreading British culture abroad--has sponsored a production of "The Merchant of Venice," in the Arab state of Lebanon.

Describing the Shakespeare drama as "a play that harshly caricatures Jews," the Express says the production is being staged by the Old Vic Company but the British Council has guaranteed to pay part of the financial loss expected during its two-week tour in Lebanon.

In an editorial, the Express asks: "Is there no limit to the fantastic folly of the British Council?... This monstrous error of judgment must convey to the Arabs the impression that the British Government is hostile to Jews. It is bound to add to the difficulties of beleaguered Israel.

"In its day," the paper continued, "the British Council has been guilty of waste and incompetence and stupidity. But never before has it committed such a political blunder." The Express concluded: "An organization responsible for so crass a decision no longer has any excuse for existence."

WORLD CONGRESS ON JEWISH STUDIES OPENS SUNDAY; 22 LANDS PARTICIPATE

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- Over 100 scholars from 22 countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain will attend the Second World Congress on Bible and Jewish Studies opening here on Sunday, the Hebrew University announced today. About 25 percent of the participants will be non-Jews, chiefly Bible students. Premier David Ben Gurion and President Itzhak Ben Zvi will present the opening lectures to the congress, which will be held on the University campus.

A number of professors from Poland, Rumania, and Bulgaria will represent Eastern Europe, but Soviet scholars will not attend. Several pleaded prior commitments. The largest contingent will be the 38 people from the United States, followed by 18 from Britain and seven from France. Other countries to be represented at the congress include Holland, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, Greece, Australia, Morocco, Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Finland, Denmark, Canada and Sweden.

JEWISH ARCHITECT WINS PRIZE FOR PLAN OF NEW KNESSET BUILDING

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- Jerusalem architect Joseph Klarwein was awarded first prize today in a competition for the construction of a new Knesset building, for which the late Baron James de Rothschild donated 6,000,000 pounds of the cash assets of the Palestine Colonization Association of which he was president.

Mr. Klarwein's plans were chosen from among 40 submitted to a special committee comprising six experts and seven members of Israel's Parliament. He received a prize of 7,500 pounds while 15 others got awards ranging from 1,100 to 1,300 pounds.

ROCKER RECEIVED BY BEN GURION; DISCUSS J. T. A. DEVELOPMENTS

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- Israel Premier David Ben Gurion today received Louis P. Rocker, president of the board of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Mr. Rocker outlined to the Premier the developments in the JTA work.

ISRAELI STUDENTS LEAVE FOR FRANCE AS GUESTS OF ALLIANCE ISRAELITE

JERUSALEM, July 25. (JTA) -- A party of 33 prize-winning Israeli high school students left today for a three-week visit to France as guests of the Alliance Israelite Universelle. The students are seniors in Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel Aviv high schools.

SEPHARDIC CHIEF RABBI OF LONDON VISITS BRAZIL; HONORED IN SAO PAULO

SAO PAULO, Brazil, July 25. (JTA) -- The Sephardic Chief Rabbi, Dr. Salomon Gaon, of London, spent a few days here as part of a current mission to organize, consolidate and coordinate Sephardic communities on the American continent. A reception was given in his honor by Samuel del Giglio, president of the Sephardic community in this city. It was attended by Leon Feffer, Israel Consul, and leaders of the Jewish community.

SAMUEL BLUM, YIDDISH AUTHOR, DEAD; SPENT LAST YEARS AS A FARMER

LAKEWOOD, N. J., July 25. (JTA) -- Samuel Blum, Yiddish author and former member of the editorial staff of the Jewish Morning Journal, died here today. He was 65 years old. Born in Russia, he came to the United States in 1909 and studied agriculture at Cornell University. He spent his last years as a farmer in New Jersey.

ARON LERNER, EX-PRESIDENT OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN PERU, DEAD

LIMA, July 25. (JTA) -- Aron Lerner, former president of the Ashkenazi Jewish Community in Peru, died here. He was a co-founder and first president of the Credit Cooperative in this city.