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EBAN REPORTS TO CABINET SESSION ON ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Ambassador Abba S. Eban reported to the Israel Cabinet today on problems of United States-Israel relations, on recent developments in American Middle East policy and on problems relating to Israel which will arise in the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly.

Although Mr. Eban left Washington before the Syrian crisis came to a head and therefore had not had direct talks with top American policy-makers on this specific question, it was presumed that he gave the Cabinet an analysis of the lines of the American reaction to the situation based on his appreciation of reports from Washington during the past week.

Israel circles were closely watching developments for indication of United States policy, particularly in view of reports from Washington that certain circles there were again considering the idea of trying to win President Nasser of Egypt over to the West. Israelis in official circles, however, said they were confident Washington had learned its lesson and would not be taken in by Egyptian propaganda. They referred to the violently anti-American speech made by Nasser on July 26 which, they said, had shocked Washington.

Following the Cabinet meeting today, a round of consultations started in the Foreign Ministry under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Golda Meir. Under discussion were the issues and questions scheduled to arise in the General Assembly involving Israel or on which Israel would have to take a stand. Participating in these talks were the two members of the Knesset, David Ha'Cohen and Izhar Harari, who were named to serve on the Israel delegation to the Assembly.

ISRAEL PROTESTS EGYPTIAN INTERFERENCE WITH SHIPPING AT SUEZ CANAL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The United Nations Security Council had on file today a protest "in the strongest terms" from Israel against the "illegal" detention in the Suez Canal by Egypt of the Israeli-chartered Norwegian freighter, the S. S. Mars.

The protest was made by Mordecai R. Kidron, deputy head of the Israel delegation to the UN, who said in a letter that the Mars was three days late in arriving at Haifa on August 21 because of Egypt's "high-handed and arbitrary behavior" at Port Suez, the southern entrance to the canal.

Kidron said the ship's captain informed Israeli authorities he had been unable to obtain from Egyptian authorities any reason for the delay, other than that "authority" for the Mars to join a convoy through the Canal had not been received from Cairo.

Kidron declared Israel considered the case of the Mars "a gross violation of the principle of free passage for shipping of all nations through the canal."

DRUZES DEMAND REPRISALS AGAINST JORDAN FOR DOUBLE SLAYING

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Druze notables, grimly preparing funeral rites for two Druze watchmen slain Friday near Beit Jubrin, north of Beersheba, said today they planned to ask Prime Minister David Ben Gurion to order a reprisal raid against Jordan to prove again that "Druze blood is not cheap."

Leaders of Israel's most loyal minority group cited the retaliatory raid last year against a Jordanian police station following the murder of two Druze watchmen south of the Dead Sea.

Israeli officials, reporting on results of an initial investigation of the latest killings, said that the Jordanian infiltrators came purely on a mission to kill, a deduction the investigators based on the fact that the killers took only the rifles of their victims leaving untouched several hundred Israeli pounds. Tracks of the killers led to the Jordanian border.

The victims, who had been guarding a water installation, were brothers, 40 and 30 years old.

ISRAEL REPORTEDLY PLANNING ACQUISITION OF SEVEN GIANT TANKERS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Israel Government was reported today to have reached the decision to order construction of seven 50,000-ton supertankers for the Israel merchant fleet. This fleet of tankers would make Israel independent of the big oil firms and carriers in the transportation of oil for the country's requirements. The decision to acquire the tankers was reportedly influenced by the action of British Petroleum and Shell Oil in withdrawing from sales operations in Israel.

It was understood here that orders for four of the huge vessels would be placed immediately, with three more to be placed on order at a later date. Cost of the vessels was estimated at ten million dollars each. The construction orders would be given to those shipyards in various countries which could make quickest delivery. It was recalled here that the Japanese shipbuilding industry was interested in building tankers for Israel and had been prepared to extend the required dollar credits.

Israel has, for some months, been moving crude oil into the country, for refining in the Haifa refineries, in chartered American tankers.

New Oil Strike South of Heletz Field

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A new oil gusher erupted Saturday in the Brur 3 drilling south of the Heletz field. The new strike was the second found in this area which is considered an extension of the Heletz field. The new field is owned jointly by Lapidot and Israel Oil Prospectors, an American firm.

PRODUCTION RESUMED AT ATA TEXTILE PLANT AFTER NEW DISPUTE

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Production was resumed today in the giant Ata textile plant, shut down for 100 days in Israel's longest and costliest strike, after settlement of a final hitch in the return-to-work agreement.

The final obstacle was a dispute over the refusal of the firm to permit two workers, accused of attacking J. Abramov, the plant manager, to return to their jobs. When the strikers responded with a threat of a renewed walk-out, the Histadrut executive reopened talks with Ata management and agreement was reached on an arbitration formula.

When representatives of the strikers and management appeared Friday for arbitration, Histadrut officials made a surprise announcement that the two workers had agreed to resign "to prevent further suffering by the workers and to remove any obstacles to resumption of work."

The Ata workers were then called back to work by the Histadrut executive, which had moved into the strike deadlock at the insistence of Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, taking negotiations away from the Haifa Labor Council in the process.

Histadrut executive officials issued a formal condemnation of an Ata worker's committee, which had demanded renewal of the strike over the barring of the two accused strikers. The Histadrut called "irresponsible" a statement by the workers committee that the workers would "not accept conclusion" by arbitration "which is not to our taste."

CONGRESS APPROVES DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTERPART FUNDS IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- An appropriations measure releasing \$3,516, -667 in Israel currency for distribution to organizations and institutions in Israel was awaiting President Eisenhower's signature today. Both houses of Congress had accepted an amendment holding that this action should not constitute a precedent in the disbursement of counterpart funds accumulated abroad under the Informational Media Guaranty program.

AUSTRALIAN LEADER WARNS ON PREMATURE BOYCOTT OF SHELL

SYDNEY, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry warned today against a retaliatory boycott of Shell Oil Company for its projected withdrawal from sales operations in Israel.

Sydney Einfeld, in urging caution, said that a boycott effort would be undesirable as long as "the door is not closed" on Shell re-consideration of its contemplated withdrawal. He added a boycott could always be considered if the company could not be persuaded to cancel withdrawal plans.

It was learned, meanwhile, that several large Jewish-owned firms in Sydney had started an informal boycott by ending business relations with Shell, with one such firm advertising that action in an open letter in the Australian Jewish News.

(In New York, Benjamin H. Chasin, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of America, said September 15 had been set tentatively as the date for a meeting of the JWV policy committee to consider a JWV boycott against the Shell Oil Company.)

DEDICATE NEW SYNAGOGUE FOR ANCIENT JEWISH COMMUNITY OF TREVES

TRIER, Germany, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A tiny synagogue was dedicated here this week-end for the handful of survivors of what was considered one of the oldest and most important Jewish communities in Germany, the existence of which has been traced back to 1066.

The new edifice replaced a synagogue erected in 1859 and destroyed by fire by the Nazis during the pogrom of November, 1938. The square sandstone edifice, with a seating capacity of 100, was built with a grant from the Rhineland-Palatinate State Government out of indemnification funds, and a \$20,000 grant from the Trier City Council.

All the 800 Jews residing in Trier (Treves) in 1933 when Hitler came to power were subsequently exterminated or dispersed. None were in the city in 1943. Today, the Jewish community numbers about 50 souls and is the only congregation in the Rhineland-Palatinate large enough to conduct regular Friday evening services. The community planned Sabbath morning services with the participation of American and French Jewish soldiers garrisoned in the area.

INDICT GESTAPO MEN FOR MURDER OF 5,500 LITHUANIAN JEWS

STUTTGART, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Three former Gestapo officials, including the head of an "extermination" unit in Tilsit who allegedly boasted that he had "disposed of" 132,000 Jews, have been indicted for the murder of 5,502 Lithuanian Jews in 1941, the district attorney here disclosed this week. Seven other lesser Gestapo agents were also indicted as accomplices. The trial date has not yet been set.

The principal defendant in the proceedings is 53-year-old Bernhard Fischer-Schweder, former Nazi police chief of Tilsit, in East Prussia. During the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 he supervised an "extermination" unit which, according to a report it submitted to Gestapo headquarters in October that year, had claimed 132,000 Jewish victims.

The district attorney said that documentation for the deaths of 5,502 Lithuanian Jews was available, and that he had gathered depositions from 119 witnesses.

Evidence against Fischer-Schweder had been introduced at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, but he could not be found at the time. Under an assumed name, he had obtained work in a refugee camp at Ulm, and had risen to the post of director there. His superiors were said to have known his Gestapo past but did not expose him until he sued them in a salary dispute. In retaliation, they revealed his wartime career with the Nazis. As a result, the district attorney here investigated the case and brought about the indictment.

CHARGE SOVIET OFFICIALS USE 'OBVIOUS ANTI-SEMITISM' IN UKRAINE

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The American Committee for Liberation reported today that the Soviet authorities were conducting a personal propaganda attack in the Ukraine against "old Bolshevik" Lazar Kaganovich which was "obvious anti-Semitism." It said that its Radio Liberation transmitters were beaming an analysis of the propaganda campaign to the Ukraine and warning Ukrainians that the anti-Kaganovich campaign was a "vile plot" to compromise the Ukrainian people abroad.

A statement by the organization said "that the standard Kremlin practice to launch campaigns of slander against those who lose out in fights for power is well known. The fact, however, that in the Ukraine, Kaganovich, whose Jewish origin is no secret, is being singled out for bitter attack to the exclusion of others with whom he was purged, is significant."

The World Jewish Congress announced publication today of a 40-page booklet, Poland After 'October,' which accused Stalinist elements in Poland of using anti-Semitism as a weapon with which to discredit the Gomulka regime. The booklet contains reports and opinions on developments in Poland written by newspapermen and other observers.

REPORT 44 PERCENT REDUCTION OF POLISH JEWISH POPULATION IN YEAR

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The number of Jews living in Poland has been reduced almost one-half since the last census in 1956, according to Polish government estimates made public by the official Polish News Agency. According to these estimates, the Jewish population in Poland has fallen from 95,000 in December 1956, when the last official census was taken, to 40,000, a decrease of 44 percent.

The Polish Jews, who had ranked second among national minorities in that land, are now in fourth place, preceded by 200,000 Ukrainians, 120,000 White Russians, and 65,000 Germans.

ACTIONS COMMITTEE SESSION CLARIFIED MANY PROBLEMS, MRS. HALPRIN SAYS

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Zionist Actions Committee sessions held recently in Jerusalem were "very productive and clarified many aspects of the complex tasks which confront the Jewish Agency at this time," Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, acting chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, reported here today following her return from a six-week stay in Israel.

She described the week-long International Jewish Ideological Conference which she attended, as "a first attempt to formulate problems rather than to advance conclusions." She said it had been "highly stimulating and had served its purpose extremely well."

PROPOSE ONE-YEAR ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUNG AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Formation of a national committee of Zionist and Jewish leaders to sponsor special scholarships for young American Jews for a year of work and study in Israel was announced today by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America.

The ZOA program is being inaugurated as part of the ZOA youth and aliyah program and is designed to familiarize Zionists aged 21-30 with all aspects of life in Israel by enabling them to spend a year in orientation courses and to pursue their professions under conditions approximating those in the United States.

PLAN ANNUAL ISRAEL PILGRIMAGES FOR AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Plans for an annual American youth "pilgrimage" to Israel were announced today by Samuel Rothberg, chairman of the board of the American Jewish League for Israel, as a move to "attract our youth to the cause of Israel."

He said that the League hoped to enable hundreds of American Jewish high school youth "to see with their own eyes the creative reality of life in Israel." The League will launch this program in 1958, he announced. The League's action followed a report that only 64 American high school youths were participating in summer institute programs in Israel.

WHEELING YOUTH WINS ALEPH ZEDEK ALEPH ORATORY COMPETITION

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Myron Gessner, 17, of Wheeling, W. Va., yesterday won the 1957 Aleph Zedek Aleph International Oratory contest here over a field of seven regional finalists. Howard Denis, 17, of Silver Springs, Md., was runner-up. The contest was one of the events of the 34th international convention of the boy's division of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

RICHARD COHN MAKES \$425,000 BEQUEST TO WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

DETROIT, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A bequest of \$425,000 to Wayne State University by the late Richard Cohn, Detroit advertising man and publisher, will enable the university to construct a building to house its college of nursing and graduate school. The building will bear the name of the donor and will permit an appreciable increase in the present nursing school enrolment of 600. Mr. Cohn died in 1956. He was a large contributor to public institutions and Jewish causes.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN HONORED FOR SERVICES TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Conductor Leonard Bernstein, who will be in Tel Aviv October 2 as guest conductor of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, was honored last night on his 39th birthday by the District of Columbia Women's Division of the Israel Bonds campaign.

The conductor, who will direct the Israel orchestra in a dedication concert for its new home, the Frederic Mann Auditorium, received a plaque for his cultural contributions to Israel.

SAFAD RABBI ARCHAEOLOGIST DIES FROM SNAKE BITE

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Jews of Safed mourned today the sudden death of Rabbi Dov Ber Silberman, son of the late Chief Rabbi of Safed, who was bitten by a snake while busy with his life work of discovering and preserving Jewish holy places.

Rabbi Silverman, who had discovered more than 100 such places, most of them the burial sites of the sacred Tanaim, was bitten while visiting the remnants of an ancient synagogue near Tagbha, north of Lake Tiberias.

The 49-year-old rabbi tried to reach a nearby road but collapsed before doing so. His body was found by workers the following day.