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SYRIANS GUN ISRAEL SETTLEMENT; ISRAEL-SYRIAN COMMISSION TO MEET TODAY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Syrian gun positions opened fire today on the Shaar Yashuv settlement in Upper Galilee. There were no casualties and the Israelis did not return the Syrian fire.

The Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission will meet tomorrow in emergency session to study a complaint by Israel that Syrian troops firing on Israeli workers in the demilitarized zone, on Israeli soil, killed one policeman and wounded a civilian two weeks ago. The Syrians are reported to have put a complaint of their own on the MAC agenda.

The unit was to have met on the complaint last week, but the Syrians called off the meeting on the grounds their chief delegate was ill. It is suspected here that the illness was diplomatic in origin and that the Syrians preferred not having Israel's complaint aired while United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold was in the Middle East.

STATE DEPARTMENT CRITICAL OF ITALIAN PLAN FOR MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- State Department officials indicated today opposition to a plan proposed this week-end by Italy that the United States and Western Europe join in a program of economic development for the Middle East, using contributions based on a Marshall Plan formula.

Under the plan the United States would contribute repayments on its Marshall Plan loans to the proposed Middle Eastern Fund. Each European country owing money to the United States on the Marshall Plan would contribute an amount equal to 20 percent of its annual repayment to Washington which is scheduled to start in 1958. European countries without Marshall Plan loans would make contributions on a different basis. A tentative estimate was that the first year's contributions would give the fund a starting capital of about \$100,000,000.

The Italian memorandum presented to Secretary of State Dulles by Italian Foreign Minister Giuseppe Pella, in effect proposed that the West cooperate in a bold economic initiative for the Middle East to offset Soviet economic penetration. The Italian proposal would by-pass both NATO and the Bagdad Pact and use the Organization for European Economic Cooperation as the parent organization. The Italian memorandum made no reference to the Israel-Arab conflict. However, it was taken for granted that Israel would probably benefit under this plan.

(From Tel Aviv it was reported today that the Italian proposal for a Middle Eastern development fund was received "favorably" in Israel, but officials were reluctant to comment pending a study of details. "It was noted, however, that the basic premises of the proposal were consistent with Israel's policy," a New York Times report said. On the other hand, the New York Times reported from Cairo that the Italian plan was received by the Nasser government "with considerable suspicion.")

U.S. officials said privately today that the plan involves a default by European nations on their scheduled repayments for Marshall Plan loans. The repayments are scheduled to begin next year. In the view of these officials the multi-national financial agency would actually be financed by the United States. This country does not want to be linked financially or otherwise in any approach to the Arab world with former colonial powers.

Officials here believe that any pooled Western effort is bound to be regarded in the Middle East as an extension of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which is in bad color through much of the region. They believe this would be the case despite Italian proposals designed to dilute the influence of the so-called "colonial" powers in the fund's operations. The fear is that a Western pool would alienate some Arab nationalist leaders from the outset and lead to another policy fiasco for the West.

The State Department seems to be reluctant to see its Middle Eastern policy formally linked with the policies of the European powers with a "colonial" tradition. For these reasons, the opinion at the State Department today was that European participation in Middle Eastern development ventures was a sound principle but that it should be undertaken individually rather than through a Western organization.

U. S. GOVERNMENT URGED TO ASSURE ISRAEL'S SECURITY AGAINST AGGRESSION

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America, concluding today a two-day meeting of its National Executive Council, unanimously hailed Israel's reaffirmation of its adherence "to the cause of the free world" and called upon the United States Government to reciprocate Israel's action by fulfilling its "moral commitments to assure Israel's security against aggression."

It also urged the government to utilize the occasion of the forthcoming NATO Conference in Paris for the purpose of "extending fullest and widest international support to the democratically oriented countries of the Middle East." The meeting approved a statement of policy to this effect presented by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZCA president, following his review of the current developments affecting Israel and the Middle East.

Zionist leaders from all parts of the country attended the meeting which was presided over by Abraham Goodman, chairman of the Council. The two-day meeting was also addressed by Mayor Chaim Levanon of Tel Aviv and Joseph Serlin, General Zionist member of the Knesset and former Israeli Minister of Health. Mr. Goodman announced at the meeting that the ZOA has undertaken the sponsorship of Herzliah Hebrew High School and Hebrew Teachers' Institute in New York City, in keeping with the organization's program for the furtherance of Hebrew education and the encouragement of Hebrew day schools.

The statement of policy, unanimously approved by the National Executive Council, follows:

"We have followed with deep interest the recent discussions in Israel of proposals for a change of foreign policy and orientation. The emergence of such proposals must be viewed against the background of increasing Soviet penetration of the Middle East, the massive shipments of Soviet arms, the growth of Russian power in the area, and the mounting threat to Israel. We have withheld comment pending conclusion of the foreign policy debate by Israel's Parliament. The debate having ended, we note that Israel's Prime Minister and the Knesset have rejected the concept of neutralism thus reaffirming Israel's adherence to the cause of the Free World.

"As Americans, we welcome every demonstration of Israel's attachment to the principles and ideals which we share with all nations dedicated to democracy; but we are mindful of the doubts and anxieties produced among the people of Israel by the shortcomings of Western policy and the failure to offer firm international assurances and adequate provision for Israel's defense in the face of the growing peril to her very existence. We are therefore fully cognizant of the grave character of Israel's decision as well as its international significance.

"We call upon our government to reciprocate Israel's staunch devotion to the democratic cause, with policies that will vindicate her faith in America and in America's moral commitments to assure her security against aggression. Failure to do so may lead to renewed calls for an agonizing reappraisal on Israel's part and to further demands that she abandon her traditional position--an outcome which our government must bend every effort to avert in our own national interest. If Israel's role as bulwark and bastion of the Free World in the Middle East is to be maintained, we must be forewarned and act now to provide firm guarantees for her security.

"Since the forthcoming NATO Conference must consider the Middle East crisis and its relevance to the problem of European defenses, we urge our government to utilize the occasion for the purpose of extending fullest and widest international support to the democratically oriented countries of the Middle East."

HAMMARSKJOLD RETURNS FROM MID-EAST; SAYS HE HANDLED LIMITED PROBLEMS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 8. (JTA) -- UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold said yesterday on his return from the Middle East that he had made his trip to handle a number of limited problems which required careful and immediate handling.

Asked if he felt that peace in the Middle East was now a little more certain as a result of his visits to Jordan, Israel, Syria and Lebanon, he said that peace was a much bigger question and he was concerned only with the immediate problems for which he made his trip. He said he would name a special representative to handle the agreement reached between Israel and Jordan on the Mount Scopus convoy controversy but he did not say when he would make the appointment.

Asked about Col. Byron Leary, acting chief of staff of the UN Truce Supervisory organization whom the Jordanians charged with pro-Israel bias in the convoy controversy, the Secretary General said he saw no reason to go into that at this moment and that he had put his full confidence in Col. Leary in writing. He said full inspection of Mount Scopus convoys was necessary to make sure the Israel-Jordan agreement would be fulfilled.

U. N. APPROVES URGENT APPEAL FOR RELIEF FUNDS FOR ARAB REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Special Committee of the General Assembly approved this week-end an urgent appeal for funds to operate the United Nations Relief and Works Agency program for Arab refugees next year. The vote was 49 to zero. The Soviet bloc and many Asian countries were among the 21 which abstained.

JEWISH AGENCY ANNOUNCES BAN ON TWO-YEAR CASH GOALS DRIVE IN U. S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A spokesman of the Jewish Agency stated today that the Committee on Control and Authorization of Campaigns has not authorized any public fund-raising campaigns for Israel with a cash goal covering two years of operations.

This statement was made in response to inquiries regarding an announcement by the National Committee for Labor Israel that it was launching a two-year drive for \$10,000,000.

The Jewish Agency committee, which includes representatives of the United Jewish Appeal, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and the Consulate General of Israel, will meet shortly to consider all projected campaigns for Israel in 1958 and will issue its list of authorized agencies during the month of January, the spokesman said.

EL AL PLANE MAKES NEW YORK-LONDON FLIGHT IN 8 HOURS; SETS NEW RECORD

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A brand new El Al Bristol Britannia set a new transatlantic crossing record for commercial aircraft this week-end covering 3,507 miles in eight hours and three minutes, the line announced here last night. The previous record, set by a DC-7C of the British Overseas Airways Corporations last summer was eight hours and 26 minutes.

The El Al plane, one of four purchased by the Israeli national airline, averaged 430 miles an hour in a New York to London run. The flight was the third of four familiarization runs carried out in advance of the inauguration of El Al's Britannia flights between New York and London beginning December 23.

The plane was handled by Capt. Tom Jones, El Al's flight superintendent, and Capt. Zvi Tohar, chief pilot of the line. Capt. Jones said after the flight that the plane could have travelled much faster.

BEN GURION SEEKS MORE AID FOR ISRAEL IN TELEPHONE TALKS TO U. S. JEWS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Ben Gurion of Israel today called for increased economic aid to help strengthen Israel in a recorded address which was relayed across the country by means of a telephone hookup.

Israel's Premier, together with Foreign Minister Golda Meir and Minister of Finance Levi Eshkol, spoke to Jewish community leaders in key cities on behalf of the State of Israel Bond drive, which today conducted a one-day house-to-house campaign to promote Israel's economic development. Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization, presided at the telephone conference.

Emphasizing the key importance of Israel bonds to buttress Israel's economy in the present period of Middle East tension, Prime Minister Ben Gurion said: "With the supply of arms to the Arabs by both the East and the West, our very existence as a democratic nation is assured by our strength on all fronts, and particularly by the vigor of our economy."

Mr. Ben Gurion said that when he helped to launch the Israel Bond drive more than six years ago, he believed then, as he does now, that its great strength would rest on the support of the large masses of American Jews. In all of Israel's economic achievement, the Prime Minister stressed, Israel bonds have "played their considerable share." He added that the bonds will continue to play an important role in the future growth of Israel.

AMERICAN CATHOLIC BUSINESS LEADER BUYS \$30,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Thomas R. Mullen, a Roman Catholic industrialist, president of the Lehigh Structural Steel Company and one of Allentown's outstanding civic and business leaders, has purchased \$30,000 in Israel bonds to "help strengthen Israel as a center of democracy in the Middle East." Mr. Mullen presented a check for his purchase to Israel Ambassador Abba Eban at a conference in New York. He stated that he made the purchase in the belief that all Americans, regardless of religion, should participate in the upbuilding of Israel.

In acknowledging Mr. Mullen's purchase, Ambassador Eban said: "This action reflects the close bond of understanding and cooperation between the people of America and the people of Israel. It is a source of great encouragement to us that non-Jews are participating in the economic development of our country through their Israel Bond purchases. We are confident that their faith in us will be confirmed."

JEWISH EAGLE, DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CANADA, CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

MONTREAL, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Daily Eagle, oldest Jewish daily newspaper in Canada, celebrated its 50th anniversary with the publication of a jubilee edition of 122 pages in Yiddish, English and French. Israel Rabinowitch, distinguished publicist and musicologist, is editor of the paper. Max Wolofsky is publisher.

Established fifty years ago by Hersch Wolofsky, late father of the present publisher, the Jewish Daily Eagle has played an important role in stimulating Jewish communal activities in Montreal. It has aided the development of Jewish institutions and has had many important Jewish writers on its staff. The jubilee edition carries numerous articles reflecting the growth of the Jewish community in Montreal during the last half century.

JEWISH CHEMIST ELECTED MAYOR OF CANADIAN CITY; HAD THREE OPPONENTS

TORONTO, Dec. 8. (JTA).-- Harold Paikan, a Jewish chemist, has been elected Mayor of Waterloo, a city of 17, 000 in Central Ontario. Mr. Paikan won out over three opponents in an area where a major part of the population is of German descent.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY TO SPEND \$753, 825 FOR 2, 680 SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University will spend a record total of \$753, 825 during the 1957-58 academic year to provide scholarship aid for 84 percent of its student body, Dr. Samuel Belkin, president, announced today. He revealed that 2, 680 students are receiving tuition, dormitory and maintenance scholarships. He pointed out that the scholarship assistance program represents more than 25 percent of the institution's maintenance budget of \$3, 000, 000.

Dr. Belkin stressed that Yeshiva University, in addition to training young people for positions of civic responsibility, is the largest institution in the world preparing personnel for positions of leadership in Jewish communities as rabbis, teachers, community executives and social workers. He said that 1, 700 students will receive financial assistance towards their tuition either as full or partial scholarships. The total cost to the University of tuition scholarships amounts to \$604, 382. In addition to tuition scholarships, students will be receiving dormitory scholarships amounting to \$80, 825. Maintenance aid in the form of weekly allotments for food and other sundries will cost \$68, 618.

"Although the University has made a concerted effort to limit student aid in view of rising expenses, the total cost of scholarship aid is now at its highest peak in the institution's history," Dr. Belkin stated. He said that while the increased number of corporate sponsored scholarships has been encouraging, "these are too few and far between to make a significant dent" in any institution's scholarship program. "Only a broader increase in industry and individual-sponsored scholarships, particularly of an unrestricted nature, will really prove beneficial to institutions of higher learning," he asserted.

PROF. KALLEN HONORED ON 75TH ANNIVERSARY; RECEIVES EDUCATION AWARD

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Prof. Horace M. Kallen, distinguished scholar and Jewish leader, was honored tonight on the occasion of his 75th birthday at the 18th anniversary dinner of the American Association for Jewish Education. The dinner, held at the Waldorf-Astoria, was attended by prominent personalities in Jewish life and by scholars and communal leaders in all fields of endeavor.

Prof. Kallen was presented with the Mark Eisner Education Award for his interest in the cause of Jewish education. He has been active in recent years in the American Association for Jewish Education, a national agency of which he is vice president. Philip W. Lown, president of the American Association for Jewish Education, expressed the gratification of his co-workers in Jewish education that the Association was privileged to sponsor this tribute to Prof. Kallen. The dinner was arranged by a sponsors committee of which Ben Touster, Jewish communal leader and former president of Hias, was chairman.

Prof. Kallen has been actively associated with Jewish communal work throughout his fruitful career as scholar and teacher. He was a close friend and collaborator of the late Justice Louis D. Brandeis while Mr. Brandeis spearheaded the Zionist movement. Together with the late Dr. Stephen S. Wise he helped to convene the historic sessions of the American Jewish Congress at the close of World War I, and has been active in the AJC ever since.

He is the author of many books and articles dealing with philosophy and sociology and with various aspects of Jewish life. As chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Psychology of the New School for Social Research he has helped to mould many outstanding personalities in the academic world. He previously taught at Princeton, Harvard, and the University of Wisconsin.

BEN TOUSTER, JEWISH COMMUNAL LEADER, ELECTED TREASURER OF CARE

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Ben Touster, widely-known leader in Jewish philanthropies and former president of United Hias Service has been elected treasurer of CARE, it was announced today by the board of directors of that global relief agency. He has been a member of the CARE board of directors since United Hias joined the organization and has been a vice president of CARE since 1953.

Mr. Touster has, in recent years, made repeated trips abroad, including visits to Europe, the Middle East and Far East, where he studied the refugee and relief operations of voluntary agencies, such as CARE and United Hias. He recently visited Hong Kong, and other areas of the Orient and expects to survey the situation in Latin America in the near future.

A New York industrialist and communal leader, Mr. Touster is presently president of the HIAS Immigrant Bank, and serves on the executive committee of United Hias. He is also a member of the executive committee of the American Jewish Committee and the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.