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EISENHOWER EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER SECURITY OF MIDDLE EAST NATIONS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today issued a declaration of "deep concern" for the security of Communist-threatened nations of the Middle East as he dispatched Secretary of State Dulles to the area.

Mr. Dulles expressed concern to newsmen that Russia is now trying to add the Middle East to the Communist bloc. An official statement issued here denounced as "totally false" a Soviet charge that Mr. Dulles is going to the Middle East to establish U.S. missile bases in Baghdad Pact countries. The statement said:

"The purpose of the Secretary's trip is to show U.S. sympathy and support for the security and independence of Russia's southern neighbors who now are, and for long have been, menaced by the imperialistic aggressive designs of their powerful neighbor to the north.

Intensified Soviet activity in the Middle East has caused acceleration of economic planning here, connected mainly with additional aid to the Baghdad Pact nations, but pending assistance to Israel is also being actively considered. It is thought in informed circles that a long-delayed Israeli application for a \$75,000,000 Export-Import Bank loan may be acted upon soon after the coming Baghdad Pact Council meeting.

According to reliable sources here, the United States did not consider it wise to announce a loan to Israel that might antagonize Moslem anti-Israel elements prior to the important Baghdad Pact meeting which Secretary of State Dulles will attend. Attention is focused on the meeting by both America and the Soviet Union in the emerging struggle for the Middle East. The \$75,000,000 Israeli application covers irrigation and other agricultural developments.

SECURITY COUNCIL REFERS JORDAN-ISRAEL DISPUTE TO U.N. TRUCE CHIEF

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Obviously motivated by a desire to halt Jordan's four and a half month campaign of carping against Israel on the petty issue of trees in the no-man's land area south of Jerusalem, the Security Council today adopted unanimously a resolution tossing the entire dispute into the lap of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization and the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Britain and the United States, was seen as transgressing, at some points, on the provisions of the 1949 armistice agreement between Israel and Jordan. However, Israel gave clear notice here just prior to adoption of the resolution that it will not consider today's action as affecting the armistice pact in the slightest degree.

The resolution orders the UNTSO chief of staff to regulate activities within the disputed zone, make a survey of property records in the area with a view to determining ownership, and prohibits both Israel and Jordan from using the lands of each other's nationals. It also orders the suspension of Israel's afforestation project, a step which Israel anticipated two and a half months ago.

Prior to the adoption of the resolution, Dr. Yusuf Haikal of Jordan delivered a speech to the Council reiterating earlier allegations that Israel was violating the armistice agreement in this instance. However, Mordecai R. Kidron, deputy representative for Israel, briefly but pungently tore apart the Jordanian arguments that had been voiced on this issue for the last several months.

The entire "unfounded complaint" regarding the afforestation project, Mr. Kidron told the Council, is "trivial, petty, and more suited to the attentions of a rural constable than the Security Council of the United Nations." He pointed out that from the very beginning of this case, Jordan has only been trying to demonstrate to other Arab states "her devotion to the cause of hostility to Israel," and the present grievance "is an abuse of the Security Council."

Pointing out that only last week Dr. Francisco Urrutia of Colombia, Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's personal representative in the Mt. Scopus dispute, succeeded in getting agreement from both Jordan and Israel on this matter, Mr. Kidron said that now "Jordan is doing its best to foul and complicate" the situation. Mr. Kidron, on behalf of

his government, expressed "appreciation of the broad vision, sincerity and diplomatic skill" demonstrated by Dr. Urrutia.

Mr. Kidron reminded the Council that Israel has already suspended work on the project in question. As to the resolution before the Council, he said, its terms "in no way affect, add to, or derogate from the binding force" of the legal relationships between Israel and Jordan which are based on the 1949 armistice agreement. Mr. Kidron made it clear Israel considers itself bound by the armistice agreement only, and that Israel will accept no change of the agreement except "by the joint consent of its signatories."

Henry Cabot Lodge, American delegate, and Sir Pierson Dixon, the British representative, spoke in behalf of their resolution. Pierre de Vauclles, deputy chairman of the French delegation, expressed regret that the resolution failed to mention that actually Israel has already suspended its tree planting project in the controversial zone. However, M. de Vauclles said, he would vote for the resolution.

EGYPT RELEASES SIX-MAN CREW OF DETAINED ISRAELI FISHING VESSEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold advised the Israel Government tonight that he was informed by Egypt that the six-man crew of the detained Israel fishing trawler, Doron, was being released. The cable from the Egyptian Government to Mr. Hammarskjold, as relayed to Israel, read: "We are releasing the Doron crew and will hand them over immediately." The Doron and its crew has been held by Egypt since last September. The fate of the ship is still pending.

Earlier today, Israel Foreign Minister Mrs. Golda Meir expressed regret in the Knesset that the fishermen, including the ship's Italian captain, and the 70-ton trawler remained in Egyptian custody. She cited the refusal of Egypt to permit visits to the fishermen by International Red Cross representatives until six weeks after the seizure and then only in the presence of Egyptian officials. She said both conditions violated the Geneva convention.

Mrs. Meir recalled a personal talk with Mr. Hammarskjold during her visit to the United States for the General Assembly last October. Mr. Hammarskjold's talks with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and herself in December in Israel, and Mr. Hammarskjold's expressed hope that release would take place before last Christmas. She said that Mr. Hammarskjold had promised direct personal intervention if the fishermen were not released. There was a "complete identity" of views between the UN official and Israel on the injustice of the arrests, she reported.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT SUBMITS BUDGET OF 1,163,000,000 POUNDS TO KNESSET

JERUSALEM, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The Israel Government submitted to Parliament today its over-all budget of 1,163,000,000 pounds for the 1958-59 fiscal year. It represents an increase of 90,000,000 pounds over last year's expenditures.

The overall document includes a regular budget for 717,000,000 pounds and several lesser budgets for development and other matters, totalling 436,000,000 pounds. The largest two items are for defense and for education.

For defense purposes the government asks 195,000,000 pounds and the right to draw against a 69,000,000 pound reserve. The largest absolute and proportional increase is in the education budget which went from 62,000,000 pounds last year to 73,000,000.

Housing expenditures will drop from 98,000,000 pounds to 55,000,000, the most dramatic slash of all, while funds for the development of electric power and oil drilling will go up.

Income from German reparations is expected to remain unchanged at 72,000,000 pounds, while counterpart funds from the United States will drop from 92,000,000 to 74,000,000 pounds. Foreign loans are expected to rise from 86,000,000 pounds in the current budget to 128,000,000 in the next fiscal year.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR ASSURES DR. GOLDMANN ON PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION

BONN, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Chancellor Konrad Adenauer yesterday assured Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, that the West German Government would continue to implement the restitutions laws without any change.

Dr. Goldmann was said to have told the Chancellor that Nazi victims were concerned over statements made recently by the Bonn Minister of Justice, Dr. Fritz Schaeffer, who proposed changes in the compensation laws. Dr. Schaeffer had alleged fears that full payment of compensation claims may undermine the stability of the German currency.

The Central Council of Jews of Germany expressed gratification over the Chancellor's assurances to Dr. Goldmann. After conferring with Chancellor Adenauer, Dr. Goldmann left for Rome where the Jewish Claims Conference is opening a three-day annual meeting tomorrow to decide on 1958 allocations.

JEWISH CONGRESS ASKS U.N. TO ACT ON ANTI-JEWISH BIAS IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today submitted a note to the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination which is currently considering a draft report on a study of discrimination in religious rights and practices.

The WJC note cited discrimination against Jewish religion in the Soviet Union and in Saudi Arabia. It pointed out that in contrast to other Islamic lands, Saudi Arabia totally prohibited observance of Judaism and limited the practice of other religions.

Emphasizing that this was irreconcilable with obligations assumed under the UN Charter, the WJC said that the United States, as a result of direct association with Saudi Arabia, "finds itself in the embarrassing position of applying Saudian doctrines of discrimination in the selection of American personnel, military and civil, for missions which are dispatched to Saudi Arabia."

Charging that in comparison with other groups, the religious Jew in Russia is "a victim of special discrimination," the WJC said that for an estimated Jewish population of three million, "there are only isolated synagogues, the sole survivors of the once complex organizational life of Russian Jewry, and each is compelled to fend for itself." While other denominational groups are allowed national organizations, representative bodies with periodicals, religious literature and theological seminaries, "no such facilities are afforded the Jewish religious community."

There had been some "minor concessions" recently--a small theological seminary was opened last year in Moscow, and a prayerbook was reproduced. But this was wholly inadequate for the urgent needs of the Jewish population, the WJC argued. To the Soviet assertion that the Jews have not asked for facilities similar to other religious communities, the WJC declared this was an answer that could scarcely be expected to carry conviction in relation to a state where "deviations from official policy can carry severe penalties."

With the destruction in 1948 of organized Jewish cultural life and the disappearance of Jewish cultural leaders, "the failure of a leaderless Jewry to demand the redress of the wrongs they have suffered is hardly surprising," the WJC noted. It stressed the fact that not a single Jewish leader eliminated in the Stalin era had been publicly rehabilitated in the post-Stalin period.

Pointing to the existence of Jewish religious bodies in Yugoslavia, Poland and Hungary, the WJC said its appeal to the Soviet authorities to grant religious Jewry the same facilities as other religious bodies was not motivated by any desire to criticize general Russian policies.

JEWS IN RED CHINA PERMITTED TO PRACTICE RELIGION; SYNAGOGUES OPEN

LONDON, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Religious activities are being carried on steadily in the small Jewish communities which remained in China after the Communist took over, the Jewish Community Council of Shanghai, which coordinates such work throughout China, reported to the Agudas Israel executive here.

The Council's report, made public today, said four Jewish cemeteries in Shanghai were under care of the Council which also made arrangements to supply matzot for Passover with full cooperation of the Chinese Government. In the towns of Harbin and Tientsin, matzot also are baked for local needs. The report added that services are held daily in the synagogues of the three cities.

The Council revealed in its report that it was issuing "ghetto certificates" to Central European Jews who were imprisoned in Shanghai during the Japanese occupation. These certificates will enable the Jewish recipients to apply for restitution from Austria and West Germany. The certificates include 290 death certificates of internees who died during the Japanese occupation.

RABBINICAL PARLEY IN NEW YORK URGES LIBERALIZATION OF DIVORCE LAWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- Liberalization of the current divorce laws was urged today by the New York Board of Rabbis in a resolution adopted at its 77th annual meeting here. The resolution deplored the New York Statelaw which grants divorce only on grounds of adultery. "Its effect has not been the discouragement of divorce, but the encouragement of 'framed' cases, perjury, and divorces in out of state 'divorce mills,'" the resolution said. The meeting also expressed opposition to religious instruction in the public schools.

In another resolution, the rabbis urged the United States to "make it clear that Israel's existence will be defended and her borders remain inviolate." The resolution warned "against an isolation of Israel from the political, military and economic planning for the Middle East by the Western world" and stressed that such isolation "can only sharpen the conflict and delay any solution" of the Middle East problem.

The resolution drew the attention of the American authorities to the fact that Arab foreign students who entered the United States on visas for study purposes are engaged in disseminating propaganda "hostile to American policy and interests and favorable to the Soviet Union." It pointed out that the Organization of Arab Students now has branches on 30 college or university campuses.

JEWISH CONGRESS PROTESTS TAKING RELIGIOUS CENSUS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress here has submitted a complaint to the New Jersey State Commissioner of Education protesting the conducting of a religious census in the public schools. The Commissioner was asked to prohibit this practice on the grounds that the use of schools for a religious enumeration violates constitutional provisions separating state and church.

"The religious census is an improper lending of school facilities for religious purposes," the protest said. "The mandate of neutrality forbids moral and psychological assistance as well as monetary assistance. The conscious and intended stamp of approval placed upon the religious census by its integration into the regular operation of the school system constitutes aid to religion far more valuable than any financial allocation."

The AJC asserted that the introduction of religious distinctions into the public school classroom, through a religious census must have deep adverse effects. "What could be more natural and inevitable but that schoolchildren upon returning with their cards properly filled out should compare their answers, and, perhaps, for the first time, should come to think of each other not merely as classmates, but as Protestants, Jews or Catholics," the Congress stressed.

AMERICAN TECHNION SOCIETY ANNOUNCES PLAN TO AID ISRAEL'S INDUSTRY

NEW YORK Jan. 22. (JTA) -- A plan to provide new and established industries in Israel with top-notch American consulting services was announced today by the American Technion Society which sponsors and supports the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa.

The Society has formed a nationwide panel of leading American engineers, scientists, industrialists and technical experts in a wide variety of fields. These experts, the Society said, will donate 100 hours of their professional time annually to the advancement of Israel's industrial enterprises by providing consultative services, via correspondence, to the directors of the Israel plants.

"To date, nearly 1,000 American authorities have joined the panel," the announcement said. "Their skills range from expert knowledge in the erection of steel plants to authorities in the processing of food products. Many of them are outstanding leaders in their own fields of endeavors." Under the plan, the managers of the Israel industries receiving professional advice from the American panel will pay for these services, in Israel funds, to the Technion.

\$6,000,000 DRIVE PLANNED FOR BUILDING 12 NEW JEWISH CENTERS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The formation of the Associated YM-YWHAs of Greater New York through the merger of three scattered Jewish community center groups in various parts of the city, was announced here today. The new organization will launch a \$6,000,000 campaign with the aid of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, to build 12 new centers and create center services for hitherto unserved neighborhoods of the city.

For the immediate future, the Associated YM-YWHAs will continue to operate in 11 community centers, five nursery or day centers and two country camps which currently serve 18,000 members. The first president of the new organization is Salim L. Lewis, former president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, and chairman of the board is Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, another former Federation president.

The institutions which merged into the new group were: Jewish Association for Neighborhood Centers, East Tremont YM-YWHA, and Jewish Community Center of the Rockaways and the Shorefront Jewish Community Center.

TWO NEW JEWISH CENTERS, COSTING \$1,740,000, TO BE BUILT IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The new Jewish Community Center buildings--one costing \$1,504,500 and the other to cost \$250,000--are to be built in Chicago from the proceeds of a \$7,350,000 United Building Fund campaign launched by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. It was reported today.

The \$1,504,500 center will be erected in the West Rogers Park area. The smaller one will be built on the far South Side. The Federation's \$7,350,000 campaign will provide for additional buildings, additions and remodeling of seven of the 12 medical and social welfare institutions affiliated with Federation.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE TO BUILD \$500,000 DORMITORY AT JEWISH SEMINARY

NEW YORK, Jan. 22. (JTA) -- The launching of a three-year campaign to raise \$500,000 for the construction of a dormitory for women at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America was announced here today at the 40th anniversary celebration of the National Woman's League of the United Synagogue of America. The dormitory would be named after Mathilde Schechter, founder of the League.