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U. J. A. LAUNCHES ITS 1958 DRIVE; GETS \$18,400,000 AT MIAMI CONFERENCE

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., March 2. (JTA) -- Initial individual contributions to the United Jewish Appeal totalling \$18,400,000 were made here today at a dinner closing the three-day inaugural UJA conference which was attended by more than 1,500 community leaders from all parts of the country, and at which the 1958 UJA national drive was launched.

Principal speaker at the dinner, Brig. Gen. Dan Tolkowsky, commander of the Israel Air Force, told the conference that the alignment of Egypt and Syria in the United Arab Republic under Col. Gamal Nasser has produced new stresses and difficulties for Israel's people.

"No one knows," Gen. Tolkowsky commented, "what the political combination of Egypt and Syria holds in store for the Middle East and the rest of the world. But Israel's people know full well that they must tighten their belts another notch to continue the building of a free and democratic nation and to prepare for whatever contingencies may lie ahead."

This new development, he said, makes it more imperative than ever for American Jews to take over financial responsibility for the humanitarian work of caring for the hundreds of thousands of uprooted Jews who were given haven in Israel in recent years. "Under such circumstances, the gigantic task of giving an adequate start in life to the scores of thousands of immigrants is far outpacing our means. This is the task that we are confident will be met in greatest possible measure by the conscience and conscientiousness of the United Jewish Appeal supporters."

No Recession in Jewish Philanthropic Giving, Berinstein Says

Morris W. Berinstein, UJA general chairman, who presided, hailed "this out-pouring of magnificent gifts" to launch this year's nationwide campaign on behalf of immigrants to Israel, distressed and dependent Jews in Europe and Moslem lands and newcomers to the United States.

"Your action proves that there is no recession in your support of those who desperately need your help," Mr. Berinstein declared. "And as many of you are business leaders in your home communities your response shows that you have confidence that the American economy is heading for a renewed upsurge. All UJA supporters now will be inspired to follow the high standard of giving you have set here tonight."

Highlight of the dinner was a tribute to William Rosenwald of New York, a founder of the UJA, who has been a foremost leader of all its annual drives since its first, in 1939, and who served as UJA general chairman for the three campaigns of 1955 through 1957. Joseph H. Mazer of New York, chairman of the 1958 UJA Rescue Fund, made the presentation to Mr. Rosenwald of an illuminated Hebrew volume of the Book of Esther, bearing an inscription acknowledging "the brilliant leadership he provided the United Jewish Appeal and of the heart, soul and high sense of dedication he brought to this great cause."

In response to the presentation, Mr. Rosenwald declared: "It is particularly appropriate that you should have selected the Book of Esther. Through the ages, Jewish communities threatened with danger have had to be saved. It was true in the days of Esther, and it is true in what we of the United Jewish Appeal are doing today. Since the Hitler holocaust in which more than 6,000,000 Jews were mercilessly slaughtered, we feel that each Jewish life is more precious than it was before. We give expression to that feeling when we save Jews in Egypt and other North African countries and when we take Jews out of other areas of fear of hopelessness. Most of the people whom we rescued went to Israel. And, thank God, there is an Israel. For in the days of Hitler there was no such haven."

10-Point Aid Program Outlined by Rabbi Friedman at Conference

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, UJA executive vice chairman, called for "a greater than ever response from American Jews during 1958 to start tens of thousands of Jews on the way to freedom and to bring hundreds of thousands already started on a new life, the rest of the way to freedom." He outlined the following ten-point global aid program that must be financed by the UJA this year:

1. Enable tens of thousands of Jews who wish to leave Europe to reach Israel and resettle them there;
2. Transport additional thousands from Moslem lands;
3. Transport and

resettle another 12,000 in the U.S., British Commonwealth and Latin America; 4. Provide emergency relief and essential services to 10,000 Jewish returnees to Poland from the Soviet Union who arrived last year, and additional thousands of repatriates expected in Poland in 1958; 5. Speed the absorption of some 370,000 earlier immigrants to Israel in the area of housing. At least 100,000 living in the transit villages, where immigrant families are crowded into one-room huts.

6. Meet Israel's "backlog of unmet needs" for previous arrivals in terms of employment rehabilitation and medical care; 7. Provide for 7,000 aged, chronically ill and handicapped among Israel's newcomers through the Joint Distribution Committee's Malben program, which operates with UJA funds; 8. Provide welfare and technical training for 100,000 Jews in Moslem countries; 9. Continue the life-saving program for 30,000 distressed and dependent Jews in Western Europe; 10. Provide adjustment assistance for 5,000 immigrants expected in the U.S. this year mainly in the New York area.

PLANE FROM ISRAEL EN ROUTE TO SO. AMERICA DETAINED BY FRENCH IN ALGERIA

JERUSALEM, March 2. (JTA) -- The Israeli Foreign Ministry declined to comment today on the French detention of a B-17 bomber which was forced to land at Bone, Algeria, Friday, by French fighters. The plane, which does not belong to Israel, was en route from Israel to a Latin American country.

It was revealed in aviation circles here today that the four engine Flying Fortress, together with its cargo of mortars, bazookas and submachine guns, had been sold to the Latin American country. The plane left Israel with a filed flight plan which called for stopovers at Algiers and Dakar and then a flight across the Atlantic to South America.

Bad weather forced the craft down at Brindisi, Italy, and later engine trouble caused it to land at Bone. Its navigator was identified as an Israeli citizen named Ruachweger. A special plane carrying mechanics and spare parts left Israel for Bone today to repair the B-17 so that it continue its flight.

Authoritative circles here pointed out that Israel sold arms surpluses to friendly nations, if asked. They expressed the hope that even if the French authorities confiscate the arms cargo--originally thought by the French to be destined for Algerian rebels--they would soon return them.

(In Paris today, official sources said the B-17 would be permitted to leave Bone, but without its cargo of arms. The Associated Press reported that the plane carried no wing markings, and had a cargo of 292 bazookas, four mortars and 100 submachine guns. It added that the plane had been authorized to continue its journey to Venezuela whenever the ship was repaired.)

ISRAEL REPAYS \$7,734,424 TO EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ON ACCOUNT OF LOAN

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- The Treasury of the State of Israel this week-end paid the United States Export-Import Bank the sum of \$7,734,424. This semi-annual installment, on account of the 1949 United States development loan to the State of Israel, consists of \$5,871,534 of principal and \$1,862,889 of interest.

This payment brings the total payments to date by the State of Israel to a sum of \$62,216,546: \$33,536,708 on account of principal and \$28,679,827 on account of interest.

HEAD OF REPUBLICAN PARTY MAY BE SENT BY U.S. TO ISRAEL CELEBRATIONS

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Leonard Hall, former Republican National Chairman, will soon be named the official American representative to Israel's tenth anniversary celebrations this spring, it was reported today by the New York Herald-Tribune. Mr. Hall will be named by President Eisenhower, the report said.

The same report stated that Mr. Hall would return from his Israel trip bringing Premier David Ben Gurion to this country. Also that Mr. Hall would make some appearances with Mr. Ben Gurion in the United States. (In Jerusalem today, the Premier's Office disclaimed any knowledge that Mr. Ben Gurion had been invited to pay an official visit to Washington.)

ARAB MERGERS THREATEN ISRAEL, FORMER U.S. AIR FORCE SECRETARY SAYS

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Thomas K. Finletter, former Secretary of the Air Force, said today that there is "good reason to be apprehensive over the ultimate direction" of the recent two Arab mergers, indicating that these mergers may imply a pooling of resources in the direction of aggression. He based his concern over the threats of the new Arab mergers, in referring to the Syrian-Egyptian Federation on "the extension of the dictatorship to Syria, the Egyptian threats against the integrity of the Sudan, against the Hashemite Union, and habitually against Israel.

Mr. Finletter spoke before Zionist leaders at a special meeting of the National Executive Council of the Zionist Organization of America, summoned to consider the recent developments of the Middle East on the eve of the departure of a delegation of ZOA leaders, to a meeting of the World Zionist Actions Committee in Jerusalem.

NAZI VICTIMS SEEKING INDEMNIFICATION MUST FILE CLAIMS THIS MONTH

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Nazi victims who are eligible for the receipt of indemnification under the West German Federal Compensation Law, were urged today by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany to forward their claims to the German compensation agencies before March 31, 1958. No extension of the filing deadline will be forthcoming. Application forms may be obtained from the nearest German consulate.

Non-residents of Germany who are eligible to file claims under the Compensation Law include: 1. Former permanent residents of Germany within the boundaries of that land as they were fixed on December 31, 1937, and their heirs; 2. Former residents of areas from which Germans were expelled after the end of the last war, who were German citizens or belonged to German cultural or linguistic groups. The areas include Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Danzig; 3. Inhabitants of DP camps in West Germany as of January 1, 1947; 4. Stateless persons and refugees, even if they gained another nationality subsequently.

Victims of Nazi persecution are eligible to submit the following claims: 1. The first group: For loss of life, damage to health, imprisonment in concentration camps or ghettos, the wearing of the Star of David, damage to property and possessions, including the payment of discriminatory taxes, emigration costs and insurance and injuries to advancement in professions and vocations; 2. The second group: For loss of life and damage to health and liberty. Also for damage to professions and vocations and discriminatory taxes, on the part of members of the group who emigrated prior to 1945; 3. The third and fourth groups: For loss of life, damage to health, imprisonment in concentration camps or ghettos and the wearing of the Star of David.

HEAD OF PARLIAMENTARY COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPLACED IN BONN

BONN, March 2. (JTA) -- The Social Democratic Party announced today that Alfred Frenzel, a Socialist deputy from Bavaria, would replace Otto Greve as chairman of the Parliamentary compensation committee. Herr Greve resigned recently after charges by other deputies that he had used his office for personal advantage by representing individual claimants for compensation as Nazi victims.

Meanwhile, Dr. Adolf Arndt, Social Democratic deputy, has charged in a letter to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer that Christian Democratic deputy Jacob Diel who caused Greve's resignation, has been guilty of anti-Semitic statements on several occasions. Both Dr. Arndt and Jewish leaders have held that Herr Diel's campaign against Herr Greve was meant to smokescreen an all-out attack on the compensation program.

In 1952, Dr. Arndt wrote Dr. Adenauer, Herr Diel wrote that "the German people regrets that not all the Jews were gassed." Dr. Arndt further stated that Herr Diel is said to have spoken of the "machinations" of Jewish notaries in Israel in reference to claims filed by Nazi victims and to have referred to persecutees of the Nazi regime as "anti-social and criminal" elements.

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT ASSURES JEWS EQUAL RIGHTS; TO EASE IMMIGRATION

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Argentina's new government is strongly opposed to all religious discrimination and will guarantee to its 350,000 Jews equal rights and an opportunity for full integration into the life of the nation. Argentina will also liberalize its immigration policies. This was made known by Argentine President-elect Arturo Frondizi to the American Jewish Committee's Latin American representative, and announced by the AJC here today.

"Argentina's recent, orderly democratic election demonstrates clearly the Argentine people's eagerness to reestablish democracy and internal peace," the AJC said. It emphasized that indications of this trend are: 1. The new President's expressed intention to liberalize present immigration policies; 2. Election of a number of Argentine's citizens of Jewish faith to executive and legislative offices.

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE TO TENDER DINNER TONIGHT TO 200 CONGRESS MEMBERS

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Some 200 senators and representatives -- one of the largest bipartisan gatherings of Congressmen ever held outside of the Capitol itself -- will participate in the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith's "Dinner With Congress," to be held at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, tomorrow evening.

The assembled Congressmen will receive the League's 1957 America's Democratic Legacy silver medallion, annually awarded the past ten years for "distinguished contributions to the enrichment of American democracy." The award is being presented to the 85th Congress for its passage of the first federal civil rights legislation in 82 years -- the Civil Rights Law enacted on August 29, 1957.

Senator William F. Knowland of California and Representative Kenneth B. Keating of New York will accept the award in behalf of the Republican members; Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota and Representative Emanuel Celler of New York will accept it for the Democrats. Previous America's Democratic Legacy award winners include Presidents Presidents Eisenhower and Truman, Harry Ford II, Eleanor Roosevelt and ten others.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OPPOSES JEWISH EFFORTS FOR "SUNDAY LAW" CHANGE

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York reiterated its stand this week-end opposing change of the Sunday blue law which prohibits many kinds of businesses from staying open on Sundays in this city. The statement was issued through the diocesan Coordinating Committee of Catholic Lay Organizations, which represents 62 lay organizations with a total membership of several hundred thousand.

The New York Board of Rabbis and many Orthodox Jewish groups have asked that the law be changed to permit observant Jews who keep their businesses closed on Saturday to remain open on Sunday. Republican legislative leaders in Albany, where the State Legislature would have to pass a law changing the Sunday closing situation, have indicated that they will bring up such a bill for discussion if the New York City Council formally requests it. Last week 500 Jews picketed City Hall demanding such action.

ISRAEL TO ISSUE \$2, 250, 000 IN STOCKS TO FINANCE TOURIST ENTERPRISES

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz yesterday issued an exemption from the filing requirements of the New York State Securities Law to the State of Israel for a \$2, 250, 000 issue of stock of the Tourist Industry Development Corporation Limited, a firm organized and fully controlled by the State of Israel, for the purpose of financing tourist enterprises in Israel.

The General Business Law requires comprehensive documents to be filed with the Attorney General's office prior to the issuing and offering of securities to the New York State investors. However, the Attorney General is given discretion to grant exemption from filing requirements of the State Securities Act to foreign governments with which the United States is, at the time of the offer for sale of the particular securities, maintaining diplomatic relations.

INTERESTS OF ISRAEL AND U.S. ARE SIMILAR, BLAUSTEIN REPORTS

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein, American Jewish leader, returned here today from Israel where he discussed with Premier David Ben Gurion various problems facing Israel. Pointing out that his visit to Israel was made at the Premier's invitation, Mr. Blaustein said in a statement upon his arrival here:

"We surveyed a large field of matters which are of common interest to his country and to mine. I aim to be helpful to Israel within the framework of American interests, and happily I can say that there is a very large field in which the interests of Israel and of the United States are similar or run along parallel lines." Mr. Blaustein added that in his talks with the Israel Premier "we satisfactorily reviewed the relationship between Israel and Jews in other countries, along the lines clarified in his and my exchange of official statements of August 1950." Mr. Blaustein also visited Teheran where he had an hour's audience with the Shah of Iran.

BAR-ILAN U. MAY RECEIVE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY, LOOKSTEIN REPORTS

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Israel Premier David Ben Gurion has given assurances of recognition of the principle that Bar-Ilan University, religiously-oriented institution of higher learning in Israel, had earned the right to a subsidy from the Israel Government. It was reported at a press conference here by Rabbi Joseph Lookstein, chairman of the Academic Council of the university.

Rabbi Lookstein, who returned from a two-month study of the problems created for the university by the sudden death last year of its founder and first president, Dr. Pinchos Churgin, told the press conference that the university, now in its fourth year, had achieved acceptance among sections of the population which had been skeptical or opposed to it at the start. It now has 60 faculty members and 260 students.

RARE BIBLE PUBLISHED FOR JEWS EXILED FROM SPAIN DONATED TO PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, March 2. (JTA) -- A copy of the rare Ferrara Bible, the first edition of a Spanish language Jewish Bible published in Ferrara, Italy, in 1553 for the use of Jews exiled from Spain and Portugal, was put on exhibit here this week-end at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

The Bible, as rare as a Gutenberg Bible, was donated to the library by a group of Philadelphians including: Lessing J. Rosenwald, Seymour Adelman, David Bortin, Albert M. Greenfield, Frederic R. Mann, Louis Stein and Morris Wolf. The library's copy, one of two dedication copies, was originally dedicated to Dona Gracia Naci, a wealthy Jewess of Italy who paid the cost of publishing the Bible.

IMPORTANT ARCHIVES UNDAMAGED IN FIRE AT ISRAEL DELEGATION TO U.N.

NEW YORK, March 2. (JTA) -- Archives containing important international documents were undamaged in the fire which broke out at the headquarters here of Israel's delegation to the United Nations, it was learned today.

Considerable damage was caused elsewhere in the building during the brief blaze this week-end which broke out in the office of Arthur C. Liveran, counselor to the delegation. A secretary, Mrs. Nehemiah Levy, was trapped briefly but rescued by firemen.