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ISRAEL ARMY WILL UNDERGO BASIC CHANGES, BEN GURION TELLS PARLIAMENT

JERUSALEM, March 5. (JTA) -- Basic changes in the Israel armed forces' organizational and training systems, required by developments in military science and recent political events in the Middle East, can be expected within a few weeks, Prime Minister David Ben Gurion declared today in Knesset.

The Prime Minister made the disclosure in reply to a General Zionist proposal that military service for women be reduced from 24 to 18 months. The Prime Minister did not give any details of the projected reorganization.

Declaring that "we stand now on the eve of changes in all military matters," the Prime Minister said: "We must make a new accounting of our resistance capabilities because the world around us is changing, both the world nearby and the more distant world. Things that were good a few years ago may not be sufficient any more." He explained that the progress of military technology made necessary longer training periods in the military services.

After the military authorities completed their study of the needed changes, he would present the proposals to the Cabinet for final approval, the Prime Minister stated. The plans, after Cabinet approval, will be presented to both the Security and Finance committees of Knesset, he said, because the plans were likely to involve budgetary problems.

Military Power of the Arab Unions Evaluated in Israel

JERUSALEM, March 5. (JTA) -- It is highly unlikely that the United Arab Republic of Egypt, Syria and Yemen and the Arab Federation of Jordan and Iraq will come to blows militarily, informed circles here believe.

On the basis of informed estimates, it was reported that the Cairo-Damascus axis has 190,000 troops under arms, including five infantry and almost two armored divisions, plus 150 MIG fighters and Ilyushin bombers from the USSR. The federation, supplied by the West, has one armored division, 70 British manufactured jets and 90,000 troops under arms in four infantry and one armored division.

The difference in manpower and materiel, experts here believe, does not give the UAR an edge over the Hashemite bloc. The latter has the advantage of geographic position--their borders are contiguous while Syria and Egypt are separated and Yemen isolated at the tip of the Arabian Peninsula. As a result of this "balance" there is little likelihood of military action but a good deal of political chipping away at each other's position and the possibility of a military operation only to deliver the coup de grace.

Israel's Progress in Atomic Energy Research Watched by Arabs

JERUSALEM, March 5. (JTA) -- "All the damage done to Israel by Arab economic warfare will be cancelled by Israel's progress in atomic research," Falastin, leading Arab daily newspaper published in the Jordanian part of Jerusalem, stated today.

Commenting on the start of operations at the Weizmann Institute of a new Van de Graff atom-smasher, the Arab daily declared editorially that "while this does not mean that Israel will be able to manufacture atom bombs tomorrow, it does mean that Israel is making progress toward peaceful uses of atomic energy in industry and in agriculture."

The newspaper predicted that "ultimately the Arabs will not be able to cause any economic damage to Israel."

NASSER REPORTED PLANNING PALESTINE ARAB STATE BASED ON GAZA

LONDON, March 5. (JTA) -- Rumors are current in Cairo that an "independent" Arab state of Palestine, based on Gaza, will be declared March 14, the anniversary of the day on which Israeli troops withdrew from the Gaza Strip last year, the Times of London reports from Cairo.

The correspondent added that adherence of the Arab refugees now living in Syria and Lebanon to the new "state" would be proclaimed speedily after the "state" comes into being. It is also anticipated that Gaza-Palestine will be offered membership in the United Arab Republic, a move intended to arouse half a million refugees in Jordan to rioting to the embarrassment of the Arab Federation.

HISTADRUT'S ACQUISITION OF PRIVATE INDUSTRIES OPPOSED BY TOP LEADER

TEL AVIV, March 5. (JTA) -- Opposition against the practice of some Histadrut affiliates of buying existing industrial enterprises in Israel from private owners was expressed here today by Pinhas Lavon, Secretary General of the Histadrut. He urged instead that the economic division of the labor federation concentrate primarily on establishing pioneer plants in Israel's development area.

Speaking at the opening session of a three-day meeting of the Histadrut national executive, Mr. Lavon reported that the Histadrut and state-owned portion of Israel's economy now comprised 60 percent of the total economy. This, he said, imposed on the labor federation the duty of taking "a broad national view" in plans for further expansion.

He urged that the Hevrat Ovidim, the Histadrut's holding company, be given authority for supervising overall policy in the federation's enterprises, but that the day-to-day operating policies in factories be left to Histadrut plant managers. He also suggested that the introduction of worker participation in the management of Histadrut factories might have a "salutary" effect on both labor and the nation.

He declared his support for the national health program but only on the basis of existing sick funds. He added a warning to doctors in the program not to "alienate" the people with "exaggerated" demands for higher salaries.

The Histadrut secretariat submitted to the executive committee a 20,000,000-pound budget for the year, an increase of 2,100,000 pounds over last year's budget.

Russia Scored for Giving False Picture of Israel and Histadrut

Concern over the increasingly hostile Soviet propaganda attack which has given many nations of the world a distorted picture of Israel and of the Histadrut was expressed at the meeting by Reuben Barkatt, head of the labor federation's international relations department. Speaking at another session of the national executive, Mr. Barkatt called Soviet remarks about Israel and the labor group "reminiscent of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and of Moscow's 'doctors plot.'"

On the positive side, Mr. Barkatt revealed the interest of African and Asian nations in Histadrut's organizational set-up, noting that at the moment a Ghanaian trade union delegation was in Israel studying the Histadrut's structure and program. Other countries which have evidenced interest in the Histadrut include: Nigeria, Burma, Malaya and Japan.

Mr. Barkatt noted that the Histadrut was represented on three world-wide organizations together with labor groups from major Asian nations like India, Indonesia and Pakistan. The Histadrut's membership on the International Labor Organization, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and International Cooperative Movement, he asserted, permitted the Israeli group to explain Israel's case in an atmosphere which otherwise would be completely dominated by the Arab view.

BEN GURION FAILS TO WIN KNESSET ON PROPOSAL TO PUBLISH RADIO MAGAZINE

JERUSALEM, March 5. (JTA) -- A Mapai proposal for a Government fortnightly magazine for Israel's radio listeners was beaten down last night in Knesset debate when all of Mapai's coalition partners won a demand for the right to vote against the measure.

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, defending the proposal, said the periodical would serve 335,000 radio set owners with information on state radio services and prove an "excellent language medium" for new immigrants.

By a vote of 57 to 23, the Knesset sent the bill back to its finance committee, where it was expected to die. The votes followed attacks against the proposed publication by the General Zionists, the right-wing Herut and the Communists. Foes of the measure argued that the magazine would actually be an organ of the Mapai and that Israel's hard-pressed economy could not afford the 750,000-pound magazine allocation.

NEW U.N. TRUCE CHIEF PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENT ISRAEL-ARAB ARMISTICE PACTS

STOCKHOLM, March 5. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Carl G. von Horn, newly appointed Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, will leave for his new headquarters in Jerusalem March 19, he revealed here today.

Gen. von Horn stressed that he "knows nothing about politics" but pledged to do his best in the politically complex job of implementing the uneasy armistice agreements in Palestine. The Swedish military man succeeds Canadian Lt. Gen. E. L. M. Burns who resigned the UNTSO post but remains commander of the UN Emergency Force in Sinai and the Gaza Strip.

U.N. BODY HEARS REPORT ON FORCES STATIONED BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 5. (JTA) -- The United Nations Advisory Committee on the United Nations Emergency Force held a meeting with Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld here this morning for the first time in almost three months. All that the Secretariat would say of the meeting was that it "reviewed developments with respect to UNEF which have occurred since its last meeting."

ISRAEL NEGOTIATES WITH WASHINGTON FOR ANOTHER LOAN; MAY GET \$18,000,000

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- Negotiations for a United States loan of about \$18,000,000 to Israel, in addition to the \$24,200,000 announced yesterday by the U.S. Export-Import Bank, are nearing conclusion, it was learned here today. The new loan will be given chiefly for power development in Israel.

Commenting on yesterday's announcement by the Export-Import Bank of its loan to Israel, Ambassador Abba Eban said today: "The agreement announced today will enable a beginning to be made in one of Israel's most vital development projects. With the aid of the United States Government and the Export-Import Bank we are taking an important step towards economic self-support."

The recent economic agreements negotiated and concluded between the United States Government and the Israel Embassy have been: In May 1957--\$25 million Mutual Security program for fiscal year 1956-57; in October 1957, \$35 million (P.C. 480); in October 1957, \$7.5 million (Special Assistance Fund); and in February 1958, \$24.2 million (Export-Import Bank).

A statement issued last night by the Export-Import Bank on the loan to Israel said that the credit will go for the expansion of Israel's water supply, irrigation and other facilities for agricultural development with equipment from the U.S. "This credit," the statement said, "will assist the undertaking of a part of a four-year irrigation and agricultural development program in Israel."

The total program, according to the statement, is designed to develop and put into productive agricultural use a large proportion of remaining unused-water resources of Israel, aside from those developed by the Jordan Project. It includes development of additional water supplies, by the drilling of new wells, the gathering of spring waters and the diversion of surface streams, the construction of facilities for distributing these new water supplies to farm settlements and on farms, the expansion and planting of the farm area irrigated and the enlargement of farm production and processing facilities.

DULLES ASKED TO CHECK ARAB BOYCOTT ON AMERICANS TRADING WITH ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- Chairman Emanuel Celler of the House Judiciary Committee sent a letter today to Secretary of State Dulles emphasizing that Arab boycott practices against Americans trading with Israel are continuing.

"The dignity of our nation demands that representations be made to the guilty nations," Rep. Celler insisted. He stressed to the Secretary that Arab diplomats accredited to the United States are directing discriminatory anti-American boycott operations "on our own territory."

"Thus far our government has taken no public stand against this Arab bludgeoning. Indeed, it seems that the silence of our government lends encouragement to this boycott based on bigotry," he wrote. He noted that under the "guidance" of Mr. Dulles, agreements were renewed translating Arab bias into U.S. discrimination against Jewish citizens. He referred to the barring by official U.S. order of U.S. personnel of Jewish faith from Saudi Arabia.

U.S. WILL CONTINUE TO ARM ARAB COUNTRIES, EISENHOWER INDICATES

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- The United States will continue to send arms to Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, it was indicated today by President Eisenhower in a report to Congress. He warned Congress anew that the Soviet Union and its satellites are seeking to expand Communist influence in the Middle East through military and economic assistance programs.

The President said Communist propaganda in the Middle East has intensified efforts to distort the purposes of the U.S. Middle East Doctrine. In response to this Communist campaign, the President said this country must continue to devote "major attention" in its Middle East policy to assisting states in that area to maintain independence.

Mr. Eisenhower's letter transmitted to Congress a report covering activities under the U.S. Middle East resolution in the last six months of 1957. He said the resolution, approved March 7, 1957, continues to be a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East. He credited the resolution with a "decisive role" in keeping the area free of Communism.

MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN GERMANY CONDEMNED AT MASS MEETING

BERLIN, March 5. (JTA) -- Neo-Nazism and new manifestations of anti-Semitism in West Germany were condemned here by speakers at a mass meeting commemorating the Reichstag fire of 25 years ago set by the Nazis, which was used by Hitler as an excuse to intensify persecution of political opponents and Jews.

The meeting was called by the Social Democratic Party. Among the speakers at the meeting were Paul Lobe, former Reichstag president, Joachim Lipschitz, member of the Berlin municipal government, and Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt.

WORLD CONFEDERATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS TO HOLD PARLEY IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 5. (JTA) -- A three-day world conference of the World Confederation of General Zionists will open in Tel Aviv March 15, it was announced here today by the administrative committee of the Confederation.

Jacques Torczyner, who issued the announcement, said that "the conference will be attended by delegates of the Zionist organizations of the United States, British Dominions, Israel, Latin American and European countries." The Zionist Organization of Canada will be represented by observers, he stated.

The conference in Tel Aviv will take place a week after a similar world parley of the opposition--known as the re-organized Confederation of General Zionists--will be held in London. The opposition group, led by Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mrs. Rose Halprin, insists that General Zionist organizations in the Diaspora should not be affiliated with any political party in Israel.

In its statement today, the administrative committee of the Confederation asserted that the "re-organized Confederation" is a "minority splinter group that left the Confederation after it had not succeeded in imposing its demands upon the legally constituted governing bodies of the World Confederation at the meeting of the administrative committee held in Jerusalem last summer."

The statement said that following the 24th Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in May, 1956, the conference of the World Confederation of General Zionists elected as its chief governing body an administrative committee of 12 members on a party basis, consisting of six representatives of the two blocs within the World Confederation, without a chairman. "Only this administrative committee can speak in the name of the Confederation," the statement claimed.

HILLEL FOUNDATION PLAYS IMPORTANT PART IN HEBREW UNIVERSITY IN JERUSALEM

WASHINGTON, March 5. (JTA) -- The role which the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation plays at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem was depicted here today by Dr. Judah Shapiro, director of the Hillel Foundations, at a meeting of the executive committee of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Commission, following his return from Israel.

"The B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has become an essential arm of the university, and faculty, students, and members of the community agree that it would not be possible today to conceive the Hebrew University without the Hillel program and the many services it offers to students. Similarly, the administration of the Technion in Haifa has expressed the hope that Hillel service could be brought to that institution in the near future," Dr. Shapiro reported.

HAIFA TECHNION GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS TO ARAB STUDENTS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 5. (JTA) -- Two Israeli Arab students have been granted scholarships to enable them to study at the Haifa Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, through the generosity of Col. J. R. Elyacher, honorary president of the American Technion Society. A third Israeli Arab has been granted a scholarship at the Technion by the Rotary Club of Haifa.

The selection of the three Arab students was guided by Suheil Shukry, chairman of the Moslem community of Haifa. At present, the Technion has some 35 Arab students, and two Arab teachers serve on the faculty. Arab students face a serious obstacle in studying at the Institute because all courses are given in Hebrew. However, special assistance is provided to help them with the language problem.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY PRESENTS MEDALS AND GRANTS TO U.S. ARTISTS

NEW YORK, March 5. (JTA) -- Four recognized American artists were honored by Brandeis University today for their contributions to various fields and four younger artists were awarded grants-in-aid of \$1,500 each to continue their work. The occasion was the Second Annual Brandeis University Creative Arts Award ceremony held here in the presence of 200 leading figures of the art world.

Medals were presented to Roger Sessions, composer, for his work in music; Jacques Lipchitz for sculpture; John Crowe Ransom for poetry, and Stark Young, author, critic and editor, for the theatre. The grants-in-aid, intended to encourage talented younger people, went to: Andrew W. Imbrie, composer, for music; Richard Lippold for sculpture; Barbara Howes for poetry, and Paul Shyre, director and actor, for theatre.

DRAFTESSES SCHEDULED FOR INDUCTION DURING PASSOVER MAY ASK DEFERMENT

NEW YORK, March 5. (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board's Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy today received an official communication from Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of the Selective Service System, announcing that all local draft boards have been requested to give "favorable consideration, wherever possible," to requests of registrants of the Jewish faith not to be forwarded for physical examination or induction into the Armed Forces during Passover.