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### STATE DEPARTMENT VISUALIZES NO ALLEVIATION OF THE ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM

WASHINGTON, May 8. (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State William M. Rountree appearing today before the Senate committee indicated he saw hope of improving American relations with the United Arab Republic, but thought it very difficult at this time to visualize any alleviation of the Arab-Israel problem.

Mr. Rountree, State Department officer in charge of Near Eastern Affairs, made known his views in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He said solution of the Arab refugee problem hinged on settlement of other related questions and that it was extremely difficult to obtain an independent solution of it as a separate matter. He saw no immediate solution of the Arab refugee issue.

While he found it very difficult to visualize such a trend in the next few years, Mr. Rountree made known the United States considers a very desirable a general settlement of the Arab-Israel dispute and the Arab refugee question. He regretted that "a permanent solution to the lamentable problem of more than 900,000 unfortunate Palestine refugees has not yet been found, despite our persistent efforts."

The high State Department official reported to the committee that "the maintenance of the uneasy peace between the Arab states and Israel is assisted by the continued presence of the United Nations Emergency Force in Gaza and Sinai, and of United Nations observers elsewhere in the area." He told the committee he did not have sufficient information to evaluate the visit to Moscow of UAR president Nasser.

#### Arab-Israel Dispute Strongly Exploited by Moscow, Official Says

Mr. Rountree named the Arab-Israel dispute among the most acute problems providing opportunity for Soviet exploitation. He said the Russians were taking advantage of this "most explosive" issue and exploiting emotions. Asked whether the easing of Middle Eastern tensions was a proper subject for a summit conference agenda, Mr. Rountree preferred not to comment publicly. He agreed to answer privately.

He said the United States was doing everything it could to help work out a solution of the Arab-Israel problem. He reported that "Israel has just celebrated the tenth anniversary of its independence. United States assistance has played its role in fostering the economic and human development of that country."

"There were several outstanding differences on the Gulf of Akaba" as well as on other regional water disputes, he said. "These disputes are bad enough in themselves, but they also cause us harm because our friends in ardently pursuing, understandably, their individual interests sometimes fail to understand our impartiality," he added.

#### U. S. Relaxes Restrictions on "Quasi-Military Goods" to Nasser

Mr. Rountree revealed in his testimony today that the United States has relaxed restrictions on the shipment of certain "quasi-military goods" to the United Arab Republic. He later explained to newspapermen that the easing of restrictions would permit the sending of spare parts to Egypt and Syria which could be used for military vehicles. He said that restrictions were lifted in the last few days.

The amount of equipment to be shipped is small, Mr. Rountree said. The new move to supply Nasser with U. S. "quasi-military goods" is indicative of improved relations of the United States with the United Arab Republic, he indicated. He said "we hope that trend will continue."

In previously secret testimony released today by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Rountree denied a report that Israel had requested atomic weapons. The report was published March 18 by columnist Dorothy Thompson. Mr. Rountree termed the report "without foundation" and said he knew of "absolutely no request that has been made and no consideration has been given to any such aid."

Sen. H. Alexander Smith, New Jersey Republican, commented that he was "glad" to get Mr. Rountree's reply "because it seems to me it would be a terribly dangerous thing for us to do in that area..."

ISRAEL CONVOY TO MT. SCOPUS STILL DETAINED; U. N. TRUCE CHIEF MEDIATES

JERUSALEM, May 8. (JTA) -- Israel's regular fortnightly convoy to the isolated enclave on Mount Scopus was held up for the second day today in a Jordan-Israel deadlock over passage of two Hebrew University employes assigned by Israel to the 15-man maintenance crew slated as part of the convoy.

As United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization officials worked through the night and today to ease the new dispute, Israel maintained its position that Jordan had no right to exclude anyone from the convoys and that it would not send the convoy through without the two additional maintenance workers, A. Cohen and Abraham Levi.

UN truce chief Maj. Gen. Carl O. von Horn maintained constant telephone contact last night and this morning with Israel and Jordanian foreign ministries and Henri Vigier, Gen. Horn's political adviser, met for a second time with Jordan's Acting Premier Rifai.

In the hope of aiding Gen. Horn's efforts, Israel abstained from any official statements and the Israel Radio played down the news of the latest convoy dispute. Several months ago, Jordan made an issue of a shipment of gasoline in one of the convoys, holding it up for several days before a settlement of the dispute was reached.

The Jordanian radio this morning refrained from mentioning the newest convoy dispute, but the Jordanian press published statements attributed to Acting Premier Rifai including a charge that the two maintenance workers were held three years ago in Jordan as "Israel infiltrators." Israel sources called the charge "completely absurd," pointing out that the two were known to Jordanian officials only by their names on the convoy list and that these names were among the most common in Israel.

Israeli officials unofficially took a grave view of the new deadlock, asserting that under an agreement negotiated by Dr. Francisco Urrutia, who came to the Middle East as UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's personal representative to seek an agreement on the Mount Scopus controversies, Jordan had no right to veto any aspect of Israel's convoys.

Mr. Levy, one of the two men to whom the Jordanians objected, was identified by Israel today as a librarian who had gone up the height with virtually every convoy, to check that hundreds of thousands of books in the Hebrew University library on the ridge were adequately protected.

SUPREME RELIGIOUS CENTER OF JUDAISM OPENED WITH CEREMONY IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, May 8. (JTA) -- In a ceremony recalling the Temple offerings of the 12 tribes of ancient Israel, greetings were brought today by 12 Chief Rabbis from cities across the world to Heichal Shlomo, the new seat of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, which was dedicated here this morning.

The visiting Chief Rabbis, representing Jewish communities on all continents, expressed the hope that the spiritual bounty emanating from the new supreme religious center of Judaism would radiate out over the entire Jewish world.

The impressive dedication ceremony, heralded by the blowing of the shofar, started with the mass singing of Hatikvah by 300 distinguished guests. Then Israel President Ben Zvi and Isaac Wolfson, British Jewish philanthropist, who contributed 2,000,000 of the 3,000,000 pounds cost of the construction of the center, walked into the hall.

The guests included diplomats from Western and Eastern countries, representatives of the Moslem and Christian churches in Israel, Cabinet members and other Israeli notables. A message was received from Premier David Ben Gurion, who was prevented by illness from appearing at the ceremony. (See page 4 for further details.)

NIXON SPONSORS BALL FOR ISRAEL IN WASHINGTON; SOVIET ENVOY TO ATTEND

WASHINGTON, May 8. (JTA) -- Soviet Ambassador M. Mehshikov and other leading diplomats accepted invitations today to attend a ball to be held here in celebration of Israel's tenth anniversary and in honor of Israel Ambassador Abba Eban and Mrs. Eban. The ball will be held on May 31.

The ball is sponsored by an honorary committee which includes Vice President Richard M. Nixon, and eminent Supreme Court justices, Governors, Senators, and other leaders in the national scene.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT ASKS BONN WHETHER NAZIS SERVE AS JUDGES IN GERMANY

LONDON, May 8. (JTA) -- The British Government has asked the West German Government to confirm or deny reports that former Nazi prosecutors and judges are again serving in such positions in West Germany, it was announced in Parliament by Ian Harvey, speaking for the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Harvey said that on May 2, Bonn had been approached for the second time in ten months. A reply to this query has been delayed, he said, because it is a complicated matter requiring considerable investigation by the Bonn authorities.

### GERMANY TO GIVE NASSER \$83,000,000 IN LOANS AND TECHNICAL AID

BONN, May 8. (JTA) -- West Germany yesterday signed an extensive agreement providing technical assistance to the United Arab Republic and underwriting private industrial loans to the UAR up to \$83,300,000. The agreement was signed by West German Economics Minister Abdel Kaissyony.

Under the new agreement, West Germany promised to consider favorably a number of UAR requests for technical assistance, including: Establishment of a technical education center in Syria; enlargement of Port Said and Suez harbors; construction of a new port in Syria; extension of the Damascus airfield; establishment of a standardization institute in Cairo; creation of a training center for mechanics and technicians in Egypt; creation of an institute for oil exploration in Egypt; and supply of shipping experts and metallurgical research workers to the UAR.

(Commenting on the announcement, the London Daily Express said the "Arabs are fortunate. A lot more fortunate than the British people, for when Britain asked for a German contribution of 40,000,000 in sterling towards the support of costs, she was told that Germany could not afford it.")

### ANTI-SEMITISM STILL STRONG AMONG PEOPLE IN POLAND, W. J. C. REPORTS

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- While the authorities in Poland are friendly towards the Jewish population, the people of Poland are still strongly anti-Jewish, Dr. A. Tartakower reported here today at a meeting of the executive of the World Jewish Congress, following his return from a visit to Warsaw.

"Not very much is being mentioned about it in the Polish press at present, but examples of hatred are rather frequent," the WJC leader said. He revealed that a few days after the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt, vandals destroyed more than 100 tombstones at the Jewish cemetery in Lodz.

During the course of his visit to Poland, Dr. Tartakower discussed with representatives of Polish Jewry and of the government the problem of Jewish cemeteries which, as the result of neglect, are liable to be destroyed within a few years. About 700 to 800 cemeteries are involved, Dr. Tartakower said. He reported that, following his negotiations, the Polish Government tasked for a detailed statement of expenses that might be incurred in caring for these burial grounds. The Union of Polish Jewish Religious Communities undertook to prepare such a statement in the course of the next few months.

### JEWS IN CENTRAL AMERICA REPORTED DEVELOPING BI-CULTURAL LIFE

BUENOS AIRES, May 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Communities of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia are closer to the United States, in terms of cultural interests, than they are to Argentina or Brazil, Marc Turkow, World Jewish Congress Latin American director, reported today on his return from a tour of those countries.

He said that in Bogota, where there are 5,000 Jews, he had to use Spanish or German at his conferences with Jewish leaders because Yiddish is hardly used. He reported that in all four countries he found children up to 15 years of age and adults 45 years and older. Jews in the middle age group emigrate as soon as they can. As a result in Ecuador, there are less than 1,400 Jews compared with 3,000 in 1948. Many Jews of German origin are returning to West Germany. The young people migrate to the United States or to other large countries, including Sao Paulo in Brazil.

Mr. Turkow found a passion in all four Jewish communities to build magnificent schools in which courses are bi-cultural. These schools are rated so highly so that non-Jews send their children to them despite an acute shortage of teachers. He said that in Lima, Peru, 98 percent of Jewish children attended Jewish schools. A little Hebrew is taught but no Yiddish. He told Argentine Jews they must help such communities to strengthen their educational programs.

### JEWISH ORDER TO BUILD RETIREMENT CITY IN ARIZONA FOR AGED MEMBERS

MONTREAL, May 8. (JTA) -- David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, will recommend to his union a \$1,000,000 contribution for the construction of a hospital near Beersheba, Israel, he told the concluding session here last night of the week-long convention of the Workmen's Circle.

It was also announced at the parley that the Jewish fraternal group, with 90,000 members in the United States and Canada, will build a retirement center in Arizona, to be known as Circle City. The organization will also co-sponsor a \$20,000,000 housing project on New York City's Lower East Side.

### KLUTZNICK HONORED BY INTERFAITH GROUP; CITED WITH LODGE AND MEANY

BOSTON, May 8. (JTA) -- Philip M. Klutznick, president of B'nai B'rith, was one of three recipients of citations here tonight at the annual dinner of the Massachusetts Committee of Catholics, Protestants and Jews. The two other personalities cited were Henry Cabot Lodge, chairman of the United States delegation to the United Nations, and George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO. Messrs. Klutznick and Meany were members of the U. S. delegation to the U. N. General Assembly.

#### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTERS IN U.S. GET INSTRUCTIONS ON SABBATH PROGRAMS

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- Programming in the Jewish community center on the Jewish Sabbath "should be in keeping with the spirit of the day," the National Jewish Welfare Board today recommended to its 353 affiliated centers and YM-YWHA's throughout the country.

In a document called "Guide to the Sabbath Policy of Jewish Community Centers," JWB declared that "to achieve a more positive expression of the responsibility of the Jewish community center to support and give meaning to the spirit of the Sabbath," the following points should be stressed: "1. The sanctity of the Sabbath in Jewish life; 2. The responsibility of the Jewish community center to support the concept of the Sabbath; 3. The center can make a significant contribution to the enrichment of the Sabbath in Jewish life."

The document also reaffirms a previous policy adopted in 1948 by JWB's national council which stated that "JWB recommends that on the Sabbath, Jewish festivals and Jewish holy days, Jewish community centers shall conduct only such activities as are in consonance with the dignity and tradition of these days. Where no special programs can be maintained, the Jewish community center shall be closed on the Sabbath, Jewish festivals and Jewish holy days."

Formulation of the statement and the reaffirmation of the ten-year old policy were an outgrowth of numerous requests for guidance which centers submitted to the JWB as the national association of Jewish community centers and YM-YWHA's. These requests had their origin in new trends and developments in the American Jewish community affecting Jewish community centers. In some communities questions have been raised as to the desirable policy and practice concerning the opening of center facilities on the Sabbath.

#### AGUDAH BOYCOTTS DEDICATION OF NEW SEAT OF ISRAEL'S CHIEF RABBINATE

JERUSALEM, May 8. (JTA) -- The dedication today of the Heichal Shlomo, the new seat of the Israel Chief Rabbinate, was boycotted by the Agudas Israel and Poale Agudas Israel, two Orthodox parties, because they were not consulted in the management or activities of the new building. (See page 2 for earlier story.)

Noting that the building also will serve as a Supreme Religious Center, the Agudas Israel also charged that with the Mizrahi party "in sole control," the center could publish edicts for Jews throughout the world.

Moshe Shapiro, Israel Minister of Religions, told the press that the action of the two Agudah parties was not a surprise, since they have been boycotting the Israel Chief Rabbinate since its inception. He said that if the two parties would join in the Chief Rabbinate, they would be represented in the Center's activities. He compared the Agudah stand with a hypothetical case of the ultra-Orthodox Neturei Karta seeking Knesset representation while holding firm to its refusal to recognize the Jewish State.

The ceremony also was without the participation of Rabbi Judah L. Maimon, who rejected an invitation to attend because, he said, he was asked at the last minute not to make any reference in his speech to his long-advocated proposal for the reestablishment of a Sanhedrin. Rabbi Maimon has advocated the new seat of the Chief Rabbinate as the site for a reestablished supreme Jewish religious legislature-court, which is opposed by the two Agudah parties.

#### LAG B'OMER MARRED IN ISRAEL BY FIRE AT MERON; 30 PILGRIMS INJURED

JERUSALEM, May 8. (JTA) -- The traditional Lag B'Omer pilgrimage to Meron and the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai last night, which attracted more than 50,000 persons including many tourists, was marred by a fire at the tomb in which 30 persons were injured. The fire at the site, where the traditional ceremony of casting lighted candles took place, occurred when an oil drum was flung on a bonfire and exploded. One girl was seriously injured among the victims.

President Ben Zvi danced with a group of Chassidim last night around a bonfire in the Shaarei Chesed quarter of Jerusalem. Gadna youth groups revived an ancient ceremony by lighting torches from 40 high points throughout Israel. An army unit participated in the pilgrimage to Meron, marching from Safed with a Torah Scroll. A column of motorized troops transported another Scroll under a canopy.

Celebrations continued till this morning at Meron as thousands of parents brought their children for their first haircut. The hair was tossed into the bonfire near the Rabbi's tomb. The holiday, the only day between Passover and Shavuot on which weddings are permitted by Jewish Law, was marked in Tel Aviv by the appearance of hundreds of couples. Rabbinical officials estimated that 360 couples would be married during the holiday.

#### ISRAELI KNESSET DELEGATION RECEIVES OVATION IN DUTCH PARLIAMENT

THE HAGUE, May 8. (JTA) -- The Israeli Parliamentary delegation visiting Israel was given a standing ovation when it visited the Parliament of the Netherlands today.