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MOSCOW HEARINGS ON ISRAEL'S OIL SUIT REACH DEAD END; LAWYERS RETURN

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- The Moscow hearings in Israel's long drawn-out suit for damages caused by the Soviet Union's abrupt cancellation of a Soviet-Israel oil supply agreement at the start of the Sinai campaign came to a dead end today.

An official Israel Government statement noted that the arbitration proceedings had been postponed repeatedly because of illness of Russian arbitrators and that an Israel proposal for a substitute arbitrator in the case of one such illness remained without reply from the Soviets.

In the statement, the Israel Government said that Israel's attorneys in the case had returned to Moscow and that the government hoped that the possibilities of removal of the arbitration hearings would be cleared up within the next two weeks.

The government reported that the hearings were halted by the illness of one Soviet arbitrator, M. Ramazaitzev, who subsequently resigned. Israel then suggested that M. Nestrov, chairman of the Russian Chamber of Commerce, be named to replace him. While Israel was awaiting a reply to the proposal, another Soviet arbitrator was reported ill and Israel's attorneys were instructed to return.

High Soviet Official Gives False Picture of Jewish Life in Russia

BUENOS AIRES, May 15. (JTA) -- The DAIA, central representative organization of Argentine Jews, took issue today with assertions by a visiting Soviet leader that all was well with Jews and Jewish culture in the Soviet Union. The DAIA further expressed its regrets that the visitor, Mikhail Tarasov, a Vice President of the Supreme Soviet, the USSR equivalent of a Parliament, had refused to receive a deputation from the Jewish group.

At a press conference, Mr. Tarasov had told Argentine newsmen that "in the USSR there are Jewish newspapers, books, theatre and culture and the Jewish people enjoy the same rights as other people." In a note to the Soviet Ambassador here, made public today, the DAIA asserted it has evidence that the situation is considerably different from the picture painted by Mr. Tarasov.

The situation of Russian Jews does not seem so satisfactory, the DAIA note stated, citing the execution of Jewish writers in 1952. It requested that Jews be granted real cultural freedom, the right of contact with Jews abroad and the right of immigration to Israel. The DAIA note was signed by Abraham Mibashan, president and Hirsch Tribwaks, secretary of the DAIA.

American Religious Delegation Goes to Moscow for Discussions

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- For the first time an interfaith team of five American religious leaders will enter the Soviet Union and other countries in Europe and the Middle East to hold conversations with religious and political leaders on problems relating to the role of all religious groups in the world today.

Sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews as part of the cultural exchange program the group will leave New York on May 27. Included in the group is Dr. Irving Lehrman, Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of Miami Beach, as the representative of the Jewish religion.

AMBASSADOR EBAN DISCUSSES LEBANESE DEVELOPMENTS WITH STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, May 15. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban today held a general exchange of views on developments in the Middle East with Under Secretary of State Christian Herter.

The situation in Lebanon apparently figured significantly in today's discussion, but Mr. Eban said after talking with Mr. Herter that the situation was such that he thought he ought not to make a public comment at this time.

ISRAELI ARAB CASE AGAINST JEWISH TENANTS; FORTY JEWS EVICTED

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- A Jerusalem court ruled today that 40 Jews, members of eight families evacuated from old Jerusalem's Jewish quarter in 1948, had to give up homes in new Jerusalem belonging to an Israeli Arab which they had claimed as refugees. The 40 were evicted.

The ruling covered an additional 50 Jewish families in other buildings belonging to the Arab who in 1950 won a suit against an Israel custodian of his property. The Israel Supreme Court ruled then that he was an Israeli temporarily absent but still the rightful owner of the seven buildings in the Katamon quarter of new Jerusalem.

The tenants, considering themselves refugees, refused to pay rent to the custodian and also refused to enter into contracts. The owner then sought and obtained the dispossession order in a test case involving one of his buildings.

Last minute efforts by police to obtain a stay in the dispossession order until substitute accommodation were found were unsuccessful and the tenants were forcibly ejected. Two moved in with relatives but others rejected temporary shelter in a hotel and chose to sleep outdoors.

ISRAEL DEPORTS ESCAPED AMERICAN CONVICT SOUGHT BY F. B. I.

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- The Israel Interior Ministry issued a deportation order today against William Jacobs, 36, escaped Sing Sing convict sought by the FBI. He was ordered expelled within 24 hours.

Jacobs, who has a long record of convictions including armed robberies, was serving a 30-year sentence when he escaped. In March he applied for permanent residence, offering a Moroccan passport in the name of David Shitreet.

An official suspected his story and, in the course of questioning, learned that he was an Ashkenazi Jew not a Sephardic Jew. An investigation turned up wanted circulars with Jacobs' description and photographs. Tel Aviv police, who picked up Jacobs, said that he had committed no crimes in Israel.

HAMMARSKJOLD SATISFIED WITH DR. BUNCHE'S TALKS IN ISRAEL AND JORDAN

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 15. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, who said two weeks ago that he would "very probably" go to the Middle East in June, declared at a press conference today that his plans for a Middle East trip are "open." He said that in regard to going to the Middle East he has not "been able to decide on any definite in view of recent developments.

Questioned about the visit to Amman and Jerusalem of Under Secretary Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Mr. Hammarskjold said that the results of Dr. Bunche's talks with the leaders of the Israeli and Jordanian Governments were "very satisfactory." In another context, Mr. Hammarskjold said he has never given up the hope there will be full participation by all Middle East governments in the Israeli-Arab armistice machinery.

(In Tel Aviv today, the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, Maj. Gen. Carl C. von Horn, said that he would be guided in handling his mission here by the agreements between Israel and her neighbors, chiefly the armistice pacts. Speaking to the local Association of Friends of the United Nations, Gen. von Horn expressed awareness of the significance of the UN's mission and of the paramount importance of bringing peace to the Middle East region.)

COST OF LIVING REPORTED RISING IN ISRAEL; WAGES GO UP AUTOMATICALLY

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- Living costs in Israel continued to rise, advancing four points during April to bring the index to 272. The base index of 100 is for Sept. 1951.

A year ago, when the Israel Government started large-scale subsidies to halt the price rise, the index stood at 265. The April rise automatically hikes wages tied to the index.

DANIEL MAYER, JEWISH MEMBER OF FRENCH PARLIAMENT, RESIGNS HIS SEAT

PARIS, May 15. (JTA) -- Daniel Mayer, once a Premier of France, resigned his seat in Parliament today because he felt his recent election as president of the International League for Human Rights might be incompatible with his function as a legislator.

This is the first case in the history of the Fourth French Republic that a deputy has resigned from Parliament for ethical considerations. At a meeting today of the International League Against Anti-Semitism, Mr. Mayer pledged his organization's cooperation in the fight against racial intolerance "regardless of where it occurred--whether in Budapest, Algeria, France or Madrid."

Bernard Le Cache, president of the International League Against Anti-Semitism, declared at the meeting of the group that anti-Semitism and fascism are increasing in France.

STATE DEPARTMENT CHARGED WITH FAILING TO PROTECT AMERICAN JEWS

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., May 15. (JTA) -- The "continuing acquiescence by the State Department in the Arab campaign aimed at making the Jews of America second class citizens," was assailed today by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, in his presidential address to the national biennial convention of the AJC now taking place here.

"The State Department keeps repeating that it does not approve the Arab boycott," Dr. Goldstein told the 500 delegates. "We of the American Jewish Congress declare that our government has not sufficiently condemned the boycott and publicly made known the fact that such practices are deeply repugnant to American tradition.

"Unlike a number of other governments," the AJC leader charged, "the United States has never asked American manufacturers, chambers of commerce, importers or exporters to refrain from answering any questionnaires about the religious composition of their personnel.

"Our government has never directed the American business and shipping community to ignore the Arab boycott and blockade. Nor has it taken steps to eliminate discrimination by Arab diplomats in this country in the issuance of consular invoices covering exports. We ask our government to vigorously oppose the Arab boycott of American citizens."

The situation of the nearly 3,000,000 Jews in the Soviet Union is "by far the largest problem which confronts the Jewish people today," Dr. Goldstein told the convention. "The Jews of the Soviet Union have oscillated between Stalin's terror and Khrushchev's uneasy toleration. Forty years of the Soviet regime have all but weathered their spirits, all but liquidated their uniquely Jewish culture and dissipated the religious life. Another such 40 years may well spell their doom as Jews.

"Only immigration to Israel can still save them. The half million Jews of the Soviet satellite countries are able to breathe somewhat more freely in the exercises of their religion and culture. Yet they too live under regime which are officially anti-religious and among people who are affected with anti-Semitism. Their longrange future is in doubt unless they can transplant themselves to Israel."

Referring to Nikita Khrushchev's "animadversions" on the subject of Jews, Dr. Goldstein commented: "If he should still cling to his biased views about the characteristics of Jews in Russia then it should occur to him that Russia's Jews as well as Russia itself would be better off if Jews would be permitted to go to Israel."

PARENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO AREA OPPOSE RELIGION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15. (JTA) -- Demands for church-state separation have resulted in discontinuance of daily prayers at a public elementary school in the San Francisco area. At the same time, boards of education at two schools received objections to the presentation of Nativity pageants during the last Christmas season, it was reported here today.

The board of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District followed the advice of its legal adviser in voting to stop prayer recitations in some primary grades of the Pleasant Hill School. A parent and the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California raised the issue. Simultaneously, they contended that the manner in which a Christmas story was given in assembly and to the PTA by three sixth grade classes turned it into religious teaching and indoctrination rather than a secular presentation. Included were extensive readings from the Bible, particularly the New Testament, and traditional carols.

A similar case arose at the Ross Grammar School. There Mrs. Ann Diamond, an attorney and wife of a physician, said she was "shocked" when she witnessed a Nativity pageant presented by students for parents. "The religion it reflected was not the religion of my children," she said. "It confused them, and they brought their confusion into our home. It was an experience outside their faith." Mrs. Diamond's was only one of several protests against presentation of the Nativity play in the Ross public schools.

\$750,000 RAISED FOR U. J. A. AT DINNER HONORING UNITED HIAS LEADER

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- More than \$750,000 in contributions toward the United Jewish Appeal was announced tonight at a dinner honoring Murray I. Gurfein, chairman of the executive committee of the United Hias Service. Four hundred guests attended the affair which took place at the Hotel Pierre. The principal address was delivered by former Governor Thomas E. Dewey.

Mr. Gurfein was presented with a scroll citing his activities on behalf of both the United Jewish Appeal and United Hias Service. The presentation was made by Carlos Israels, Hias president. Mr. Gurfein, in his response, said that the need for permanent world-wide Jewish migration machinery was never better illustrated than when the Hungarian exodus began in the fall of 1956 and voluntary agencies such as JDC, the Jewish Agency and United Hias were called upon to act swiftly and effectively. He pointed out that Hias last year helped some 19,000 Jews reach new homelands and that "thousands of others, many of them from East Europe and Egypt, still awaited permanent resettlement."

JEWISH COMMUNAL WORKERS OPEN 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, May 15. (JTA) -- Problems of Jewish community life will be discussed at the five-day convention of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service--central body of Jewish communal workers--which opened today at the Pick Congress Hotel here. More than 2,000 Jewish social workers are attending the parley.

The general theme of the convention, which is the 60th anniversary meeting of the organization, is: "Economic, Social and Political Developments Affecting the Jewish Communities in the United States--1899-1959-1999." In addition to general sessions, the meeting has scheduled some 100 workshop sessions and panels. Sessions scheduled for tomorrow will discuss the changing relationships between Protestant, Catholic and Jew; the training of counselors and social workers for rehabilitation work; the problems of regional homes for the aged, the emergence of the American Jewish community, and other problems.

ISRAEL MINISTER OF INTERIOR RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, May 15. (JTA) -- Argentine President Arturo Frondizi received today Israel Bar Yehuda, Israel's Minister of Interior, who is currently visiting this country. Mr. Bar Yehuda, in a 15-minute audience, expressed his country's gratitude for the many tokens of friendship by Argentina and his personal thanks for the courtesies extended him on his visit.

Earlier, Mr. Bar Yehuda and Israel Ambassador Arie L. Kubovy were hosts at the Embassy to Dr. J. Vitolo, Argentina's Minister of the Interior. The Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Parliament, in a unanimous resolution, hailed Israel on the occasion of the Jewish State's tenth anniversary. After the measure had been approved by representatives of the majority Frondizi group and the Balbin minority bloc, the deputies rose and acclaimed Israel.

COMMANDER OF ISRAEL'S WOMEN'S ARMY ARRIVES IN U.S. FOR BOND DRIVE

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- Colonel Shoshana Gershom, commanding officer of Chen, the women's army of Israel, arrived in the United States for a six-week speaking tour of American and Canadian cities on behalf of the Israel bond drive. She will be the guest of honor at a score of Israel bond rallies in celebration of the tenth anniversary of Chen, which will be marked officially in Israel on June 4th.

Colonel Gershom, a heroine of the Sinai campaign and of the War of Liberation has long been active in Jewish defense. She was a pivotal figure in Haganah, the defense army of the Jewish community of Palestine in the days of the British Mandate. During that period, she was also a research worker in science at the Hebrew University. During World War II, as one of the first four to graduate a British Army officer's course for women, Colonel Gershom led a unit of women drivers in Egypt. Later, as a member of the Jewish Brigade, she was sent to Italy.

"FIRSTBORN" GETS FIRST PRIZE ON N. Y. STAGE; CAST TO PLAY IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- The first \$2,500 Theatre Guild Foundation-Theresa Helbrun Award was presented last night to British playwright Christopher Fry for his play "The Firstborn," a poetic drama about Moses. The award was accepted for Mr. Fry by Katherine Cornell and Anthony Quayle, who are starring in the Broadway hit. The presentation was made on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the State of Israel, where it will be presented this summer.

Among those attending the ceremony were Abba Eban, Israeli Ambassador to the United States; Clare Boothe Luce, former United States Ambassador to Italy; Joseph Koevago, the last freely elected Mayor of Budapest; Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, and others. "We look forward to welcoming the poetry and drama of Mr. Fry in Israel soon," Mr. Eban said. "For these fine players will be taking the play to the land where freedom was born." The attraction is scheduled to open July 3 in Tel Aviv.

RABBI BRICKNER, NOTED U.S. SPIRITUAL LEADER, DIES WHILE VISITING SPAIN

LORCA, Spain, May 15. (JTA) -- Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, spiritual leader of the Euclid Avenue Temple of Cleveland and a prominent figure in the Reform movement, died here yesterday at the age of 65. He suffered injuries in an accident near here last Saturday but attending physicians said they had nothing to do with his death from cerebral hemorrhage. He was in Spain en route home from a visit to Israel.

A former president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Rabbi Brickner was wartime chairman of the Jewish National Welfare Board's Army and Navy Activities Committee and received a Medal of Merit for his services on the committee. Born in New York, he became one of the top American Zionists and was also actively associated with the Jewish farm movement in Canada. At one time, he was the rabbi of Holy Blossom Congregation in Toronto.