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DANGER TO ISRAEL SEEN IN POSSIBLE LEBANON "MERGER" WITH U. A. R.

TEL AVIV, June 19. (JTA) -- The left-wing Socialist Achdut Avodah Party has called on Premier David Ben Gurion to call a meeting of representatives of the labor parties in the government to reconsider Israel's stand vis-a-vis the Lebanese situation, it was reported here today.

Achdut Avodah leaders feel that Israel's optimism on the Lebanese development is out of line and that there is a real danger for Israel in the possibility that Lebanon will drop into the hands of the United Arab Republic. The Socialists want the Ben Gurion Government to review its security situation and publicly announce that Israel reserves its right to action in the event Lebanon is "merged" with the UAR.

ISRAEL CRITICIZES U. N. REPORT TO SECURITY COUNCIL ON MT. SCOPUS CONFLICT

JERUSALEM, June 19. (JTA) -- The Israel Foreign Ministry loosed a blast today at the report on the May 26 Israel-Jordan conflict on Mt. Scopus in which United Nations observer Lt. Col. George A. Flint and four Israeli policemen lost their lives. Observers here believe that the report, submitted by UN truce chief Carl C. von Horn to Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and by him passed on to the Security Council, will further complicate attempts to ease tension around the Mt. Scopus issue.

The von Horn report, released at the United Nations yesterday, was scored for failing to mention unequivocally Jordon's responsibity for the five deaths, though Jordan officially admitted having started the fighting. The report said Col. Flint, chairman of the Israel Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission was "probably" shot by a bullet from Jordan-held territory. The report was also criticized for:

1. Failing to state that Issawia village, whence the firing on Israel police came on May 26, was originally in the Israel sector of the height and should only have held 150 unarmed inhabitants.

2. Stating that the Mt. Scopus boundary dispute was due to each side using a different map, but failing to note that the map to which Israel adheres was signed by Jordan, Israel and the UN, while the Jordanian version never was signed by Israel.

3. Incorrectly stating that Israel expanded its patrolling activities on Mt. Scopus.

4. Failing to note that Arabs from Issawia had been using without authority a road through Israel-held territory--a fact which the UN recognized eight years ago.

Meanwhile, Andrew Cordier, Mr. Hammarskjold's executive assistant, held another inconclusive meeting with Israel Foreign Ministry officials today. He then left for talks in Amman and a trip to Beirut to report to Mr. Hammarskjold who is expected here early next week.

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO. AGREES TO IMPROVE ITS REPRESENTATION IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, June 19 (JTA) -- The American Express Company, which had been charged by Israeli officials with closing its offices in Israel under the pressure of the Arab anti-Israel boycott, today agreed to provide a full range of services in Israel to local and foreign customers.

A joint announcement by the Israel Government Tourist Corporation and the American Express Company reported that both parties had agreed to a joint promotion campaign of Israel's tourist attractions, following a series of discussions in Jerusalem. In order to improve services, the company, which had previously cut down on staff, undertook to "improve" its representation in Israel. The joint promotion campaign will stress the traditional values of Israel as well as newly developed sun-and-sea attractions.

U.S. Jewish Groups Comment on American Express Action

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- After reading the joint statement of the American Express Company and the Israel Government Tourist Corporation issued earlier today in Jerusalem, the presidents of the 17 major American Jewish organizations who several

months ago mentioned American Express in their pamphlet "A Report on the Arab Boycott Against Americans," made the following comment today:

"We are confident that the new joint plans of the Israel Government Tourist Corporation and the American Express Company will be as beneficial to American Express as it will to the development of Israel tourism. The action of American Express exemplifies the best traditions of the American business community. It strengthens the unhampered flow of international trade and commerce free of any extraneous considerations."

ISRAEL AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST SITUATION WITH STATE DEPT.

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban met today with William Rountree, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, and later told reporters that a general exchange of views was held on the situation in the Middle East.

Also discussed, said Mr. Eban, were several items of economic and supply cooperation. He did not elaborate. He indicated that Lebanon was discussed. Asked by newsmen about the Israeli position, Mr. Eban said the Israel Government has not made a pronouncement on the Lebanese situation.

U. N. ISSUES REPORT ON ARAB REFUGEE PROPERTY; VALUATION NOT COMPLETED

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 19. (JTA) -- Identification of Arab refugee property holdings in Israel "is almost completed," the Palestine Conciliation Commission announced here today, and the next step is to determine the value of that real estate. The valuation, which "should be carried out as soon as possible," will be made on the basis of 1946-1947 land sales price, according to the P. C. C.

In the report, the Commission refers to identification of Arab refugee property "in Israel," but the actual figures list identified Arab property in all of British Mandatory Palestine, including Jordanian-held territory and the Gaza Strip. Sixteen sub-districts are listed, but these sub-divisions are listed as they existed on the British records, thus including many lands which are entirely out of Israeli jurisdiction at present.

The PCC reported also that Israel has now released a total of $7,444,319 to Arab refugees who had accounts in Barclay's Bank in Israel, and $1,148,000 is still being held for the claimants. Israel has already set aside foreign currency to pay this outstanding sum, but there is still a total of $392,000 in other Israel banks for which the Government of Israel has not yet made foreign currency available.

SOVIET COURT REJECTS ISRAEL'S $2,400,000 DAMAGE CLAIM AGAINST RUSSIA

LONDON, June 19. (JTA) -- A Soviet court today rejected the $2,400,000 damage claim brought by an Israeli oil company for an oil contract cancelled unilaterally by the Soviets during the Suez crisis.

The Israel company charged it contracted in 1956 to import several thousand tons of Soviet oil and that the Russian Government cancelled the contract later in the year. Soviet officials contesting the suit said the contract was junked because of Israel "aggression" against Egypt.

RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF WHITE HOUSE AGAINST ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA) -- Religious extremists, estimated by police to number 280, picketed the White House today, asking President Eisenhower's intercession against alleged "religious persecution" by the Israel Government. The pickets were ignored by government officials. A spokesman for the group sought to enter the White House but was refused admission by Secret Service agents because no appointment had been arranged.

(The Synagogue Council of America, representing the major branches of organized religious Jewry in America, issued a statement "deploring" the demonstration in Washington and characterizing it "irresponsible behavior.")

The group especially supported the position taken by the Neturei Karta of Jerusalem against mixed bathing in an open-air swimming pool now under construction. (Haaretz, leading Israeli newspaper, reported this week that the builder of the swimming pool had agreed to erect a cement partition in the pool to separate men from women during bathing.)

The pickets, who arrived from New York in buses and other vehicles, carried signs attacking the Government of Israel and accusing the Israeli police of brutality against religious demonstrators.

GOLDA MEIR UNDERGOES OPERATION IN ISRAEL; HER CONDITION IS SATISFACTORY

TEL AVIV, June 19. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, underwent surgery today at the Beilinson Hospital. A bulletin issued this afternoon by the hospital described her condition as satisfactory. The hospital authorities refused to discuss the reason for the operation, but it was reported to be for removal of gallstones.

AUSTRIANS PROTEST INADEQUATE PROVISION OF RESTITUTION FOR NAZI VICTIMS

VIENNA, June 19. (JTA) -- Groups within both the People's Party and the Social Democratic Party, partners in Austria's coalition government, have submitted protests to the government against its failure to adequately provide restitution for Nazi victims.

The latest protests center about the failure to provide restitution for people forced out of employment during the Nazi regime for racial or political reasons. Many of these, legally entitled to restitution from their old employers, cannot collect because the firms are out of business.

Finance Minister Reinhard Kamitz has pledged to check into the program, authorized under Austria's Seventh Restitution Law. Meanwhile, Bruno Pitterman, Vice Chancellor, predicted in a radio broadcast that Parliament will debate and approve all outstanding restitution legislation before it recesses for the Summer. He said that Herr Kamitz had shown "full understanding" of the matter.

JEWS IN GREECE SEEK PUNISHMENT OF NAZI WHO KILLED 60,000 GREEK JEWS

PARIS, June 19. (JTA) -- The Central Council of Jewish Communities of Greece has appealed to Jewish communities throughout the world to protest the possibility that Max Merten, Nazi war criminal responsible for the deportation to death of 60,000 Greek Jews during the German occupation, will evade punishment for his crimes.

Merton, who walked into the National Judicial Office for War Crimes last year on the pretext that he was a lawyer, was recognized and arrested. Since then, numerous witnesses have come forth to testify to his crimes against Jews and other Greek citizens.

However, certain political circles have been pressing the Greek Government not to bring him to trial. The possibility is becoming greater that the case will be dismissed or, at worst, he will be handed to the German authorities for trial.

EX-GUARD AT BUCHENWALD CAMP, ON TRIAL, ADMITS TO CRUELTIES

BAYREUTH, Germany, June 19. (JTA) -- Martin Sommer, one-time Buchenwald concentration camp guard, on trial here charged with the murder of 53 Jews and other camp inmates, denied today having killed any one during his service at Buchenwald.

Testifying in his own defense, Sommer said that he had whipped men and women prisoners on orders, had designed a whipping block which permitted "more efficient" beating and at the same time prevented incidental injury to prisoners, and denied sundry other cruelties charged to him.

His testimony was interrupted by one of the justices who confronted him with testimony at a trial before an SS judge in 1943. At that time, Sommer confessed to brutality in handling prisoners and was convicted by the SS court of this and other charges and sentenced to serve time in Buchenwald. Later he was paroled to serve at the front.

One of the witnesses who followed Sommer, and testified against him, charged that today leaders of the Gestapo and SS are back in office in West Germany. The charge was made by Josef Ackerman, a Munich city official who was once a prisoner in the Buchenwald concentration camp.

The trial is expected to continue for many weeks, with more than 100 witnesses scheduled to testify.

JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE GRANTS $135,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- Scholarships and Fellowships in the amount of $135,000 have been granted for the academic year 1958-59 to 163 students and scholars throughout the world, who are victims of Nazi persecution. This was announced today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which distributes these awards for Jewish study, research and creative work.

This is the fifth in the annual series of grants in the field of Jewish studies. Dr. Goldmann emphasized that the Conference considers one of its essential obligations to be the reconstruction of Jewish communal and cultural life and the encouragement of Jewish scholarship which the Nazis had sought to destroy, and that "the Conference will make every effort to aid in the rehabilitation of Jewish creative activities."

The grant of $135,000 is a part of the $1,305,000 allocated by the Conference this year for cultural and educational rehabilitation in its overall budget, amounting to over $10,200,000. The major portion has been earmarked for basic relief needs of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

The conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which includes 23 major organizations the world over, administers funds received under the terms of the agreements which it negotiated in 1952 with the governments of Israel and the German Federal Republic.

AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR ISRAEL OPENS THREE-DAY NATIONAL PARLEY TODAY

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- The first three-day national membership conference of the American Jewish League for Israel will open here tomorrow at the Hotel Biltmore with discussions of the relationship of American Jewry to Israel. More than 400 delegates from the League's chapters throughout the country will attend the parley.

Ezra Z. Shapiro, president of the League, today said that in his address at the conference he will offer a proposal for the complete reorganization of the world Zionist movement, including a new system of representation and voting, based on the premise that Jewish groups in the diaspora should be free of alliances with Israeli political parties.

Other principal speakers at the sessions will include Louis Lipsky, Mr. Dewey D. Stone, Mrs. Rose Halprin, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, and Yaacov Herzog, Israel's Minister to the United States, who will bring to the delegates a picture of the latest developments in the world as they affect Israel.

CONGRESSIONAL BODY HEARS SUGGESTIONS ON PREVENTING SYNAGOGUE BOMBINGS

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA) -- A plea for broader legislation against hate groups, including a specific anti-conspiracy bill, aimed at preventing further synagogue bombings in the South was voiced here yesterday by Rep. Kenneth Keating of New York. He testified before a House Judiciary Subcommittee which opened hearings on bills to tighten Federal laws controlling the interstate shipment of explosives.

Herman Edelsberg, Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told the subcommittee that such legislation would clarify Federal authority in future attacks on minority institutions and put Congress on the record against such terrorism. The ADL leader noted that the legislation had the support of Southern Congressmen.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY CONFERS 266 DEGREES; HONORARY DEGREE TO ROCKEFELLER

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University conferred 266 undergraduate and graduate degrees at its 27th annual commencement exercises today, including degrees to the first graduating class of 26 women seniors of the University's Stern College for Women, the nation's only liberal arts college for girls under Jewish auspices.

Dr. Samuel Belkin, University president, conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Nelson A. Rockefeller and Max J. Etra, chairman of the university board of trustees; and an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters on Dr. Joseph Kaplan, chairman of the U. S. National Committee for the International Geophysical Year.

DR. SIMON GREENBERG NAMED PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF JUDAISM

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- Dr. Simon Greenberg, vice-chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, has been named president of the University of Judaism, West Coast branch of the Seminary, it was announced today. Dr. Greenberg will assume his new duties on July 1, but he will remain in the New York office of the Seminary and retain his post as vice-chancellor.

Dr. Greenberg is the author of "Living as a Jew Today," the "Ideals and Values of the Jewish Prayer Book," The Harishon series of text books for use in elementary Hebrew education and "The First Year in the Hebrew School: A Teacher's Guide," and a series of brochures on the conservative movement in Judaism, its standards its attitude towards Zionism and its teachings.

JEWISH CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION REPORTS ON EXTENDED SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- The Jewish Child Care Association announced today that scholarship grant-in-aids totalling $23,736 were given to 22 boys and 12 girls during the past 12 months to make possible college studies for the 34 wards of the association.

Louis Strauss, trustee and chairman of the Scholarship committee, also announced six new grants-in-aid which brings the total number of young people helped by such grants to 1,053 in the 67 years of the Scholarship Fund, established in 1891 by a gift from Jacob H. Schiff.

ROGOSIN PRESENT: $75,000 IN STOCK AS GIFT TO ATLANTA HEBREW ACADEMY

ATLANTA, Ga., June 19. (JTA) -- A new gift of $75,000 in stock of Rogosin Industries, Ltd., was announced by Dr. Irving Greenberg, president of the Hebrew Academy of Atlanta. The gift is in addition to $25,000 worth of stock given by Mr. Israel Rogosin to the Jewish Day School several months ago, Dr. Greenberg said.

ISRAEL WOMAN WINS COMPETITION FOR ORCHESTRA CONDUCTORS IN PARIS

PARIS, June 19. (JTA) -- Miss Haviva Einhorn, 29-year-old Israeli musician, won first place in a Paris Conservatory of Music competition for orchestra conductors, it was announced here today. Miss Einhorn thus became the second woman in the history to win this honor.