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ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES INTERNATIONAL SITUATION; HEARS BEN GURION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet heard today analyses of the international situation and Israel's position within it in reports by Premier David BenGurion and Foreign Minister Golda Meir. They dwelt particularly on the diplomatic activity stirred up around Israel's complaint to the United Nations Security Council against Syrian attacks.

Observers here speculated today that the Cabinet had also discussed the implication of Assistant Secretary of State William Rountree's tour of the Middle East in which he is pointedly avoiding visiting Israel. Last week, Mr. Rountree declared that the purpose of his trip is to improve relations with the Arabs, particularly President Nasser. The Arabs have seized on this statement to claim that his skipping Israel on the Middle East itinerary is meant to show he is courting Arab goodwill.

It is also felt in these circles that Cairo's claim Washington is interested in building up Nasser as a lesser evil than Bagdad's pro-Communist Kasseem, cannot be rejected out of hand. Israeli circles keep stressing that Washington should remember that it was Nasser and his subversive activities which laid the Middle East open to Soviet penetration.

U. J. A. CONVENTION DECIDES TO RAISE \$100, 000, 000 AS SPECIAL FUND FOR 1959

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The three-day annual national conference of the United Jewish Appeal concluded here today with the adoption of a decision to raise a \$100, 000, 000 special fund for the UJA -- "over and above" the regular 1959 nationwide UJA campaign -- to care for thousands of newcomers pouring into Israel from Eastern Europe and to start rehousing 100, 000 earlier immigrants still living in makeshift shanty towns.

More than 1, 200 Jewish community leaders from all parts of the nation attended the conference. The delegates re-elected Morris W. Berinstein to his second consecutive term as UJA general chairman to lead its 21st yearly campaign.

Besides voting to conduct the special fund drive, the delegates charted plans to raise the maximum possible amount through the regular UJA to meet the needs of UJA beneficiary humanitarian agencies requiring more than \$105, 000, 000. Through both the special fund and the proceeds of the regular campaign, the UJA seeks to provide urgently needed migration, resettlement, rehabilitation and welfare aid to more than 630, 000 persons in Israel, 24 other countries abroad and the United States during 1959.

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, UJA executive vice-chairman, announced that the campaign now closing had benefitted more than 540, 000 Jews in need throughout the world in 1958. He said the 630, 000 who look to the UJA for help in 1959 come under these major programs:

1. Jewish immigrants coming to Israel from Eastern Europe. "They have been arriving at the rate of several thousand a month since early Fall," he said. "We have no way of knowing how long they will continue to come in such numbers, but we must be certain that all who can come will get the necessary help."
 2. Speeding housing to move 110, 000 immigrants out of makeshift huts.
 3. Help provide farm machinery, irrigation, livestock and power needed to advance 130, 000 immigrant farmers in Israel -- including scores of thousands not yet fully absorbed, and the orphaned, aged and handicapped.
 4. Help for 220, 000 Jews in need in countries other than Israel -- including some 15, 000 Jewish repatriates to Poland from the Soviet Union; more than 100, 000 Jews in Moslem lands, the majority of them children, and thousands of Jewish refugees from North Africa, Egypt and Hungary still waiting in European reception points for permanent havens.
- Dr. Dov Joseph, treasurer of the Jewish Agency which carries out the absorption of Israel's immigrants, reported to the delegates on the upsurge of immigration to Israel from East European countries. "For the past few months Jews have been arriving in very large

numbers in Israel from an East European country which for some years has kept its doors virtually closed to such emigration," he declared.

Dr. Joseph pointed out that "outstanding progress has been made by Israel in receiving and absorbing the tidal wave of immigrants who have arrived since its establishment in 1948" but stressed that some 250,000 of the nearly 1,000,000 immigrants who have come into the country still require major assistance before they can be considered completely absorbed.

Sen. Herbert Lehman took up Dr. Joseph's plea and urged support of the special fund to finance needs over and above the regular budgetary requirements of the UJA's three constituent agencies. "We cannot ask the people of Israel to do more than they are doing to receive and absorb the steady stream of our fellow Jews coming into Israel," Mr. Lehman declared. "They more than have their hands full with many staggering burdens, including the burden of defense imposed upon them by hostile and implacable neighbors."

The UJA's constituent agencies are the United Israel Appeal, which remits funds to the Jewish Agency, the Joint Distribution Committee, which works in 24 overseas countries and conducts a specialized welfare program for aged and handicapped immigrants in Israel, and the New York Association for New Americans.

Warburg, Berinstein Appeal for Generosity of American Jews

Edward M. M. Warburg, opening the UJA dinner-session last night, appealed to American Jewry for maximum giving to the United Jewish Appeal in 1959. Morris W. Berinstein, UJA general chairman, who presided, made a similar appeal. He called upon American Jewish communities to draw inspiration from the fact that the people in Israel have voluntarily launched an emergency loan for \$11,000,000 to help defray emergency immigration costs through the month of April.

Mr. Berinstein warned that a "catastrophic financial situation" endangers the Jewish Agency's humanitarian programs since the mounting of backlog of unmet immigrant absorption needs now totals millions of dollars. "With all the outstanding generosity of American Jewish communities, which has helped make possible the transformation of the majority of Israel's 920,000 immigrants into self-reliant, productive citizens," Mr. Berinstein stated, "the Jewish Agency has never received the yearly income to keep pace with the ever-increasing tasks of immigrant resettlement."

Appeals to American Jewry for increased contributions to the UJA in 1959 were also voiced by William Rosenwald, a national UJA chairman, and Samuel Rubin who served this year as honorary chairman of the UJA's 1958 Rescue Fund. The delegates heard detailed reports of the UJA-financed Joint Distribution Committee's overseas operations by Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice-chairman; Charles H. Jordan, director general of JDC overseas operations; Louis D. Horwitz, JDC director in Israel, and Samuel L. Haber of JDC's Geneva headquarters.

Shimon Peres, Director-General of Israel's Defense Ministry, addressing last night's session, said that a series of external and internal changes has improved Israel's position on the international scene. He added that Israel's people "hope that all these changes will finally enable us to become a full partner in the communities of the free world, dedicated to deterring aggression wherever it appears."

Israel Defense Official Says New Generation Looks Up to U. S. Jewry

Mr. Peres described the coming into prominence of the new generation in all phases of Israel's life as a favorable internal change. "This generation," the Israel leader told the 1,200 delegates, "looks upon you not only as admiring brothers, but also as understanding partners. They look to you not just for material assistance, but for the spiritual support which exists among those who stand shoulder-to-shoulder--facing and meeting--the same historical challenges."

U. S. Senator Jacob Javits said a decline in United Arab Republic President Nasser's movement to take over "dictatorial leadership of the Arab world" presents the free world with "unparalleled opportunities" for taking the initiative in the Middle East. He urged action for pushing to success President Eisenhower's proposal for a Mideast regional economic plan and a Mideast Development Association.

Special awards in the form of silver-bound Bibles, bearing inscriptions of recognition from Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel for their long years of devoted service to the saving and building of Jewish lives, were presented to two UJA leaders. The recipients were Adolph Kiesler of Denver, re-elected chairman of the UJA national Campaign Committee, and Joseph Holtzman of Detroit, elected as a UJA honorary chairman.

Besides re-electing Morris W. Berinstein to lead the 1959 Appeal as UJA general chairman, the delegates also elected Joseph Holtzman of Detroit as UJA honorary national chairman; Albert A. Levin of Cleveland as UJA national chairman; Max M. Fisher of Detroit and Joseph M. Mazer of New York, UJA Special Fund chairman; Robert W. Schiff of Columbus, O., UJA Big Gifts chairman, and Melvin Dubinsky of St. Louis as UJA National Cash chairman. Other national officers were re-elected.

NO ANTI-SEMITES IN DE GAULLE'S PARTY, SAYS MEMBER OF FRENCH CABINET

PARIS, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Jacques Soustelle, Minister of Information in Gen. Charles de Gaulle's Cabinet and leader of the Union for the New Republic, largest party in the French National Assembly, denied today that right-wing anti-Semitic elements had found a home within his UNR Party.

"A true Gaullist can be neither anti-Semitic nor racist," M. Soustelle declared in a press interview. He further denied that there was a "Jewish problem" in France, pointing out that among the leaders of his new party were to be found a number of Jews. He noted, too, that many Jews had been put forward as candidates by the UNR and some had been elected in last month's electoral victory.

M. Soustelle, president of the Franco-Israel Alliance, who has been openly pro-Israel for a long time and is occasionally called a Judeophile, has campaigned for different Jewish causes. He has fought for Israel's inclusion in the Western alliance, and has expressed the view that France's Middle East policy must be tied to understanding of and close cooperation with Israel.

NEO-FASCIST PARTY IN ITALY DENIES GUILT FOR ANTI-SEMITIC DISTURBANCES

ROME, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Denials by representatives of the Italian Social Movement, neo-Fascist party, that its members were responsible for a series of anti-Semitic disturbances and an attack on a synagogue and a Jewish memorial last May, created a furore in the Italian Senate this week-end.

Sen. Franza, a neo-Fascist, insisted that the movement was in no way responsible for the action of "delinquents," despite the unanimous reporting of the Italian press last Spring that members of the Italian Social Movement had carried out the demonstrations and attacks, which brought out Jewish guard formations of youth to fight off the invasions of the Jewish quarter. Christian Democratic Sen. Angelini, one of the most vocal critics of the neo-Fascists, recalled the anti-Semitic, racist history of the Fascist regime.

CENTRAL JEWISH BODY IN POLAND HINTS OPPOSITION TO EMIGRATION OF JEWS

VIENNA, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The official organization representing Polish Jewry -- under Communist Party domination -- has declared openly that one of its "standing principles" is opposition to the idea that Jewish emigration furnishes a solution to the Jewish problem in the country.

This policy was pronounced at a meeting of the executive committee of the Association of Jewish Cultural Organizations in Poland, held in Warsaw. The report of the main policy speech, delivered before the executive committee meeting by David Sfar, appears in the latest issue of the Warsaw Yiddish-language newspaper, *Folksstimme*, received here today.

Before laying down the line opposed to Jewish emigration, Mr. Sfar reported about the economic and cultural progress among Polish Jews. During the six-month period ending October 31, Polish Jews doubled their membership in 11 cooperative workshops. Nine of the eleven cooperatives were making a profit. These cooperatives furnished work for Jews trained previously in vocational courses conducted by ORT.

Mr. Sfar reported that the sale and circulation of Yiddish newspapers and books in Poland has increased in the six-month period ending October 31 by 30 percent. He said there are in the country now more Jewish schools than there had been, as well as more pupils. There are in Poland now six Yiddish theatrical groups, a puppet theatre, six choirs and a number of youth groups and children's theaters.

When he came to political affairs, Mr. Sfar told the executive committee: "It is our belief that Poland contains all the essentials for stabilization of Jewish life in the country. Our attitude is unalterably opposed in principle to emigration as a solution to the Jewish problem. However, we recognize the fact that some people wish to emigrate. We accept the Government's democratic and humanitarian attitude on this issue. But it is a matter that must be viewed clearly from all aspects. Failure to view this matter clearly until now has been one of the negative aspects of our work."

KING OF BELGIUM UNEXPECTEDLY ATTENDS "ANNE FRANK" PERFORMANCE

BRUSSELS, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- King Baudoin of Belgium made an unscheduled appearance last night at a presentation here of "The Diary of Anne Frank" at the Flemish Theater.

The King's attendance at the theater at a non-command performance is unprecedented in the theater's 70 years' history, according to the Belgian press. Jewish circles here interpreted the monarch's action as an exceptional gesture of sympathy for the suffering of the Jews during World War II.

Alexis Goldschmidt, a local attorney, has been named Chef de Cabinet (the equivalent of secretary) to Albert Lilar, Belgian Vice Premier of the newly-formed Liberal-Catholic coalition government.

UNITED HIAS STARTS YEAR-LONG 75TH ANNIVERSARY; OPENS HALL OF RECORDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- The United Hias Service started today a year-long program of celebration of its 75th anniversary with a ceremony dedicating a permanent and international Hall of Records at its headquarters. Several hundred delegates from various organizations attended the function.

Ben Touster, chairman of the 75th anniversary committee, said that the Hall of Records contains data on Jewish migration dating back more than half a century. The records will be accepted by the U. S. Government as proof of entry and residence in the United States. Mr. Touster explained that the Hall of Records is named after the late Wilhelm Weinberg, Jewish financier who immigrated to this country following the Nazi occupation of the Lowlands, and from whose residuary estate funds were provided for the establishment of the Hall.

Carlo L. Israels, United Hias president, pointed out that the records contain data on immigrants who rose to great renown in this country, and throughout the world. They include such names as: Albert Einstein, Mischa Elman, Gregor Piatagorsky, Mark Chagall, Alexander Kerensky, David Ben Gurion, Itzhak Ben Zvi, Franz Werfel, and others.

General Joseph M. Swing, U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Commissioner, declaring that the records would be accepted by the government as proof of entry and residence in this country, said: "Such is the reputation that United Hias enjoys with the organization which I head, that if you say an immigrant was here, according to your records--he was here!"

Plans for expanding the Hall of Records at United Hias were revealed by James P. Rice, executive director of the agency, who said that negotiations have been initiated to add certain Jewish immigration files, now in Portugal, to the some 1,000,000 records already classified in New York. The Portugal records were brought there during World War II, as the Germans occupied Western European countries one by one.

JEWISH HOSPITALS IN U. S. TREATED 550,000 PATIENTS DURING YEAR

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Hospitals under Jewish auspices provided almost 6,000,000 days of patient care at a cost of nearly \$170,000,000 during 1957, it was reported in the "1958 Yearbook of Jewish Social Services," issued this week-end by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. More than one-quarter of this service was given free in the 74 reporting institutions located throughout the United States and Canada.

Of the funds expended by these hospitals, more than \$36,000,000 came from philanthropic sources, including Jewish federations and welfare funds and Community Chest. The remainder came from payments for service, public funds and investments. Operating on a non-sectarian admission basis, the hospitals treated some 550,000 patients. This figure represents a two and one-half percent increase in service over the preceding year.

Philanthropic contributions from Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and Community Chests amounting to 15 percent of all Jewish hospital income, played an important role in helping meet hospital deficits where other sources of income were lacking, according to the survey.

The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds is the national association of 213 local central Jewish community organizations representing more than 800 Jewish communities in the United States and Canada. Through their united community campaigns, these member agencies annually raise the bulk of Jewish philanthropic funds which are allocated to agencies providing health and welfare services in America, Europe, North Africa and Israel. The Council provides central services for its member agencies and represents them in matters of Jewish concern on national and international levels.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY TO SPEND \$1,000,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS DURING YEAR

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University will spend a record \$1,000,000 in scholarship aid for 2,600 undergraduates during the 1958-59 academic year, it was announced tonight by Max J. Etra, chairman of the university's board of trustees, at the institution's thirtieth annual Scholarship Dinner, held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. More than 600 persons attended the dinner.

Mr. Etra said that the scholarship assistance program represents 25 percent of the institution's total maintenance and operating budget of \$4,000,000. During the 1957-58 academic year, the university spent a total of \$753,000 in scholarship aid for 84 percent of the student body, he added. The 2,600 students are receiving tuition and dormitory scholarships, and are in attendance at the university's six teaching centers in New York City.