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EGYPTIAN JET PLANE SHOT DOWN BY ISRAELI PILOT IN AIR BATTLE; SEVEN OTHERS ESCAPE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- An Egyptian-piloted MIG-17, one of the planes supplied to the United Arab Republic by the Soviet Union, was shot down yesterday when Israeli patrol planes encountered eight MIGs over the southwestern portion of Israel.

Seven of the eight planes, flying in two formations of four jets at six miles up, escaped into Egypt when the eighth was downed. A parachute was seen opening as the Israelis turned back and resumed their patrol.

The pilot who made the kill, an Israeli-born 26-year-old officer, said at a press conference later that it was "not a fight, but a pursuit" because the Egyptians had no stomach for combat. He said the Egyptians were so rattled that they failed to release their spare gas tanks to give them extra maneuverability when the Israeli fighters descended on them.

At this point, Col. Ezer Weizmann, commander of the Israel Air Force, who was also present at the press conference, interjected grimly: "The Egyptian's primary mistake, for which he was shot down, was his penetration of Israel's air space." Several times in the last few weeks, Egyptian and Syrian based planes have flown over Israeli territory, chiefly at night, on photo reconnaissance missions.

For the first time this morning, Radio Cairo admitted that Egyptian planes had flown over Israel. In its version of the fight which cost the United Arab Republic one MIG-17, the Arab radio--in a Hebrew language broadcast--charged that Israeli planes had penetrated Egyptian air space over the Sinai Peninsula and had been "chased" back "deep into Israel territory."

(The authoritative Cairo newspaper Al Ahram boasted yesterday that the Soviet Union has supplied the United Arab Republic with enough spare parts, Soviet-manufactured arms for MIG-17 jet fighters to last the UAR five years, according to a dispatch received in London from the UAR capital.)

Lebanese Vessel Captured in Israeli Waters; Will Be Sold by Israel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- A small Lebanese fishing smack with a crew of three was captured in Israeli waters off the northern border of the country in the vicinity of Aziv.

The vessel and its cargo will be sold and the proceeds deposited pending a court's decision as to its final disposition. The fishermen, when captured, asserted that they could find no food fish in Lebanese waters so they continued south until they encountered fish.

Hammarskjold to Send A Mission to Study Arab Refugee Situation

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold is expected to dispatch a study mission to investigate the situation of the Arab refugees, the Arab newspapers in Jordan reported today.

The Arab dispatches stated that members of the study mission would visit each of the countries in which refugees are now located, after which it would draft and submit to the Secretary General recommendations for continuation of relief to the refugees.

LOCUST SWARMS MOVE FROM NEGEV INTO JERUSALEM CORRIDOR; THREATEN ORANGE GROVES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Locust swarms that last week invaded the Negev moved northward this week-end into the top of the desert and into the Jerusalem Corridor region, threatening orange groves, one of the largest foreign currency earners of the Israeli economy.

Meanwhile, the Chief Rabbinate gave settlers a special dispensation to work through the Sabbath in order to spray the red locust swarms with insecticides. However, the authorization provided that the sprays should be of a strength that would merely knock down the pests so that they might be killed on Sunday and not on the Sabbath. More poison spraying planes have been assigned to wage the war against the locusts.

ROUNTREE RETURNS FROM VISIT TO ARAB LANDS; ANTI-ISRAEL PROPAGANDA MOUNTS IN IRAQ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State William Rountree returned today from his mission to the Arab countries where he especially studied the mood in Iraq, reportedly strongly pro-Soviet and anti-American.

Washington officials make no secret of the fact that Mr. Rountree's mission was not entirely successful. It has been noted in the State Department that there is an upsurge of anti-American and anti-Israel propaganda in Iraq and that this propaganda has the support of the new Iraqi regime.

Baghdad broadcasts and newspapers have reflected a Communist-like line in violent propaganda ~~barages~~ seeking to link the United States with Israel. Such propaganda had been much less evident in Baghdad since the new regime seized power last Summer. But now the anti-Israel and anti-American attacks may even exceed in intensity those currently voiced by the United Arab Republic in Cairo.

Commenting on a recent meeting of Israel Ambassador Abba Eban with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, the Baghdad Radio accused the two of "plotting" against the Arabs. The broadcast alleged that "American imperialist circles" were "using" Israel "as an economic, political, and military bridgehead against the Arab peoples." The Baghdad broadcast said: "It would be stupid for anybody to imagine that BenGurion, the criminal puppet, could stir up a single aggressive activity against the Arabs were it not for his American masters and their imperialist partners."

Another broadcast over Radio Baghdad stated that while "the imperialists are using every means to force the Palestinian refugees into abandoning their right to repatriation and compel the Arab states to settle them where they are now, the United States does not hesitate to spend tens and hundreds of millions of dollars on its puppet, Israel, in order to instigate further aggressive activities.

"The imperialists were not satisfied with rendering one million Arab refugees homeless, or with instigating Israel to attack sisterly Egypt in 1956, or with the 1.5 billion dollars which they presented to the rulers of Israel. They continue to prepare Israel for new crimes in other parts of the region," the Iraqi broadcast declared.

TWELVE-DAY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS TO BE HELD IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Israel's contributions to the development of agricultural settlement and the evolution of the country's regional planning policies will be the major topics for discussion during an International Seminar on Land Settlement for experts and instructors in the field, to take place in Israel next March, it was announced here today.

Representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Israel Minister of Agriculture will open the twelve-day seminar, one of the highlights of the International Farmers Convention, which will bring to a close the tenth anniversary year celebrations of the State of Israel.

Sponsored by the settlement department of the Jewish Agency and the Israel Ministry of Agriculture, the seminar will review, through lectures and field observation, four major aspects of settlement: factors and conditions for settlement; settlement process; social aspect of village life; and regional settlement. The discussions will take place at the Kalamaniya Agricultural Training Center, on the site of Biblical Lachish, the first fully-planned region in Israel.

The emphasis, throughout, will be on a frank presentation of the Israel experience in settlement. The discussions are to center on the ways in which this experience can be applied to settlement in other lands and how the problems and difficulties previously encountered can be avoided.

Delegates will trace the history of the various settlement forms created in Israel--the kibbutz, moshav, administrative farm and work village--in order to understand the specific conditions which brought about their creation. Every aspect of settlement, from the financing of a farm village to the education of its children, will be covered.

To supplement the lecture-discussions, participants will tour settlements, irrigation and afforestation schemes, swamp drainage projects and agricultural research and educational institutions. The general program of the International Farmers Convention will be opened in Jerusalem on April 5 by the President of the State of Israel.

ISRAEL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REJECTS GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- The Israel Medical Association rejected this week-end a plan for national health insurance drafted by the Ministry of Labor.

The IMA said it had no objection to health insurance coverage for practically the entire population, but would not go along with new schemes to achieve this result. It favored expansion and extension of current medical programs.

The Israel Medical Association memberships includes virtually all the physicians in the country. It conducts and guides medical associations in various institutions such as Hadassah and the General Sick Fund and helps conduct research into previously unfamiliar diseases introduced by mass immigration.

JEWISH COMMUNISTS IN POLAND START CAMPAIGN AGAINST ORGANIZED RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

VIENNA, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- The fight that has been brewing behind the scenes for a long time between Polish Jewish Communists, on the one hand, and the organized Jewish religious community on the other hand, has broken into the open, according to the Folkstimme, Yiddish-language daily newspaper published in Warsaw.

Emergence of the "kulturkampf" among the Polish Jews into an open fight was seen in two separate articles that appeared in the latest issue of the newspaper, received here today. One of the articles reports factually about two meetings held by the organized Jewish religious community. The second article is a virtual declaration of war against the religious organization by the Communist-dominated United Jewish Cultural Organizations of Poland.

At the meetings of the religious group, a report of the organization's activities was given by Itzhak Frankel, an engineer and chairman of the religious community. He reported that the organization has extended its work of providing Hebrew school teachers who conduct courses in religious subjects; runs kosher kitchens providing free noonday meals to about 1,500 Jewish people; has trained men for the profession of kosher slaughtering; is increasing the number of men trained to perform circumcisions; has reorganized the conduct of ritual baths in Polish Jewish communities.

The religious Jews adopted resolutions calling for establishment of their own matzoh-baking plants in Poland, and to improve supervision over Jewish cemeteries. Another resolution called for the religious community's executive committee to hold meetings regularly every two months. A hint of the fight with the Jewish Communists was seen in one resolution which "criticized sections of the Jewish community that carry on work not acceptable to religious Jews."

Countering the religious group, the Folkstimme articles declared that "some elements in the Jewish population are attempting to transform the congregational organizations into a political organization." It particularly attacked the religious group for its interest in the kitchens providing free meals, declaring that there are people who obtain these free meals and "as a result lead a parasitical existence."

The article reported that the Cultural Organizations held a national executive committee meeting which adopted a resolution declaring: "The executive committee and all local organizations are instructed to concentrate their activities against those elements which attempt to direct the feelings of religious Jews toward political aims and purposes which have nothing to do with freedom of religious practice."

BRITISH CONSERVATIVE PARTY PROBES COMMONS CANDIDATE ON CHARGE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Lord Hailsham, chairman of the British Conservative Party, was reported today to be making a personal inquiry into charges that Major James Friend, a prospective Tory candidate for Commons from Bournemouth, has close links with the anti-Semitic League of Empire Loyalists and has engaged in anti-Semitic activities..

The investigation follows the resignation of Jewish members of the Conservative Party Council of the Bournemouth constituency in protest against the Council's nomination of Major Friend. Major Friend recently sought to justify his speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Empire League's local branch.

NEO-NAZI EDITOR GOES ON TRIAL; CHARGED WITH HELPING NAZI MURDERER ESCAPE

BERLIN, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Robert Kremer, editor in chief of the neo-Nazi publication "Anklage" and one of his assistants, Kurt Genkel, went on trial here this week-end on charges of having assisted Franz Rademacher, Nazi official of the Hitler Foreign Office, escape from Germany.

Rademacher, once tried and sentenced to three years and eight months for responsibility in the murder of thousands of men and women, including 1,300 Yugoslav Jews, was freed by a court on the grounds that he had already been detained longer than his full sentence. Later, when an appeal by the state was upheld, a warrant was issued for his arrest but he had fled the country, eventually to take up residence in Damascus.

Kremer, who admitted to the court that he helped Rademacher get to Spain, insisted that he had not been reading newspapers at the time and did not know he was helping a convicted war criminal flee the country. He insisted he had "helped another German citizen who was persecuted by the occupation forces." At the time Rademacher was on trial, "Anklage" argued editorially that there had been no liquidation of European Jews but that "165,000 Jews perished because of events caused by the war."

GERMAN OFFICIAL ARRESTED FOR CONDONING THE EXECUTION OF JEWS BY NAZIS

WIESBADEN, Germany, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Dr. H. Schweinsberger, a local court official, was arrested here yesterday on charges of having condoned the execution of Jews when he was judge of a Nazi court in 1942.

Dr. Schweinsberger is alleged to have halted legal proceedings against a German army officer who in 1942 executed 75 Jews. The "judge" ruled that the murders were a "necessary party measure."

14,000 RESIDENTS REPORTED IN JEWISH HOMES FOR AGED THROUGHOUT U.S. AND CANADA

NEW YORK, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Increased life-span of residents in Jewish homes for the aged is tending to shift institutional services from care of the well aged to care for the chronically ill and the mildly senile, it was reported today by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

With nearly three-quarters of home residents 75 years and older, the report notes that an expansion in bed capacity was utilized largely for the mildly senile and the chronically ill. The report listed a total of more than 14,000 persons in Jewish homes for the aged throughout the United States and Canada.

CEREMONY AT UNIVERSITY IN PERU MARKS TENTH ISRAEL'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- The celebration of Israel's tenth anniversary in Peru ended today with a series of ten lectures at San Marcos University, the oldest on the American continent, delivered by Peruvian intellectuals who have visited Israel.

In the closing ceremony, Rector Leon Barandiaran, who is also president of the Israel-Peruvian Cultural Institute, spoke on Israel's cultural and moral role in the world, past, present and future. Prof. A. Beltry spoke on the legacy of Israel emanating from love of Israel. He stressed Israel's great influence on Spanish culture.

Tuvia Arazi, Israel's Ambassador to Peru, noted that in 1657, exactly 300 years before the establishment of the Israel Embassy in Lima, Leon Pinelo of Sephardic Jewish origin, became Rector of San Marcos University despite the strong pressure of the Inquisition to prevent his nomination on religious grounds.

Adding that the same pressure occurred 50 years later against the nomination to the same post of Pedro Peralta Barnuevo, also of Jewish origin, and again unsuccessfully, the envoy said that thus San Marcos University had proved its independence and dignity.

He said such exchanges of experiences between peoples, as were represented in the tenth anniversary celebrations, was the last word in true diplomatic diplomacy of the Twentieth Century whose aim is the betterment of living conditions and attainment of world peace. A notable book exhibition, entitled "People of the Book" was opened at the University and attracted great interest.

SCULPTURE GARDEN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK AS WARBURG MEMORIAL, ROSENBERG ANNOUNCES

NEW YORK, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- A sculpture garden will be established as "an enduring memorial to Felix M. Warburg and Frieda Schiff Warburg," it was announced here by James N. Rosenberg, noted Jewish leader. The garden, in which works of sculpture by prominent artists will be displayed, will be situated on land adjacent to the Jewish Museum, which was formerly the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warburg and their family. Mrs. Warburg donated this home to create the Museum.

Mr. Rosenberg made the announcement at the opening at the Jewish Museum of an exhibition of his paintings. In his address, he emphasized that Mr. and Mrs. Warburg had devoted themselves to "innumerable tasks for the good of all mankind, regardless of race, religion, or nationality." A distinguished audience of Jewish leaders and prominent figures in the world of art attended the opening of the exhibition of Mr. Rosenberg's paintings. A number of speeches were delivered lauding Mr. Rosenberg as one of the leaders of the Joint Distribution Committee and as a creative person in art.

LABEL KATZ RE-ELECTED NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- The re-election of Label Katz of New Orleans as national chairman of the B'nai B'rith youth commission was announced here today. Mr. Katz begins his fourth term as head of the policy-making board of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

Prominent in Jewish communal affairs nationally, and particularly throughout the South, Mr. Katz has been active in the B'nai B'rith movement for 26 years. He is an alumnus of its youth movement.

DAY OF MOURNING FOR 6,000,000 JEWISH MARTYRS OBSERVED IN ISRAEL; MINISTER OFFICIATES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21. (JTA) -- Special prayers and commemorative services were held all over Israel in response to the Chief Rabbinate's proclamation that today was to be marked as a universal day of mourning for the six million Jews martyred in Europe by the Nazis.

A memorial service was held on Mt. Zion in the Cave of the Holocaust where six urns with ashes of Jews murdered and burned in Nazi ovens stand as a symbol of the six million.

The service on Mt. Zion was led by Rabbi Jacob M. Toledano, Minister for Religions. The occasion of the nation-wide memorial service was the traditional fast day marking the commencement of the siege of Jerusalem which ended with penetration of the ancient Jewish capital and the destruction of the Temple.