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125 JEWISH ENTERPRISES LOOTED IN HAVANA RIOTS; NO ANTI-SEMITISM NOTED

MIAMI, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Between 125 and 150 Jewish-owned shops and stores in Havana have been looted and sacked by the mob in the rioting in the Cuban capital that has followed the collapse of the Batista regime, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today.

Most of these establishments were in the Prado section of the city where roving mobs turned their wrath against establishments identified in their opinion with the Batista government.

Information received here from the city of Santiago where Fidel Castro's anti-Batista revolutionary movement enjoys its greatest support, established that a number of Jews in Santiago were among Castro's supporters and an undetermined number of Jewish youths were enlisted in his 26th of July revolutionary movement. One Jewish volunteer was reported killed in action against the former government forces as a member of Castro's brigades.

While numerous shops owned by Jews in Havana were smashed and looted, there seemed to be no evidence of organized anti-Semitism as a factor. Castro's supporters were reported here today to have facilitated the departure through strife-torn streets of hundreds of American Jews.

Abe Aronovitz, former Mayor of Miami and one of the Americans who witnessed the battles in Havana and later was evacuated to the United States, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was very conscious of the dangerous potentialities facing Jews in the chaos. He expressed relief at the absence of anti-Semitism as such. He estimated that 95 percent of the Americans evacuated on the steamer City of Havana were Jews.

He said that his contacts with Cuban Jewry led him to believe that Castro had no desire to inject anti-Semitism into the scene and that the rebel leader was anxious to avoid such a development among his followers. Meanwhile, it was reported here that Cuban friends of Israel are hoping for early diplomatic recognition of the new Cuban regime by Jerusalem.

BEN GURION REPORTS TO CABINET ON HIS TALKS WITH U. N. SECRETARY GENERAL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion today reported to the Cabinet on his talks with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold during the week-end. It is understood that the closer and less official contacts established between Mr. Hammarskjold and Mr. Ben Gurion--particularly the day which the UN Secretary General spent at Sdeh Boker--have improved relations between the former and Israeli leaders.

The question now is whether such improved relations will stand up to the test of political realities. One of the major subjects discussed at Sdeh Boker was the implementation of Article VIII of the Israel-Jordan armistice agreement which provides for arrangements to assure unimpeded access of Israel to the Mt. Scopus area--now held by Jordan--where the Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital are located.

It was learned here today that when Mr. Hammarskjold raised this question yesterday with the authorities in Jordan, following his visit to Israel, the Jordanians told him that they would continue to refuse to implement Article VIII. The Israelis are awaiting Mr. Hammarskjold's formal reply on this issue, as well as his reaction and comments. (A radio report from Jordan said today that Mr. Hammarskjold told reporters there he hoped that the Arab refugee problem would be solved within the year).

The private meetings between Mr. Hammarskjold and Premier Ben Gurion at Sdeh Boker included an overnight stay for Mr. Hammarskjold at the kibbutz and the sharing of a simple supper of herring and a few vegetables in the communal dining hall. An official joint communique merely noted that "a January 1 discussion and exchange of views on the general position in the Middle East and the international situation and its effects on the Middle East took place. At a further meeting January 2, there was a discussion on implementation of Article VIII of the Israel-Jordan Armistice and measures for assuring tranquillity and safety on the Syrian-Israel border."

As a step toward more tranquillity on the Syrian-Israel border, scene early in December of violent Syrian artillery attack in the Huleh area, Mr. Hammarskjold was understood to have proposed physical marking of the border. Premier Ben Gurion was reported to have agreed.

SHORTAGE OF RAIN IN ISRAEL ASSUMES PROPORTIONS OF NATIONAL DISASTER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The continued absence of rain in all parts of Israel is rapidly assuming the proportions of a national agricultural disaster. Brief showers in Northern Israel if they materialize tonight and tomorrow, as predicted, will do little to change the picture.

In the Negev, worst hit, Bedouin tribes are beginning to slaughter their flocks of sheep and goats because of a shortage of fodder. Even if the rains were to come immediately, it would still take two months for pasture lands in the arid region to provide enough feed for the flocks.

ISRAELIS WILL PAY 25 PERCENT MORE TAXES UNDER COUNTRY'S NEW BUDGET

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The final draft of the new Israel budget, released today, indicated that Israel's citizens will pay 25 percent more taxes next year than they did during the current fiscal year. The budget will be debated this month in Knesset.

The draft of the 1,335,000,000-pound budget showed that 767,000,000 pounds had been allocated to the regular budget with the remainder scheduled for development and special budgets.

Under the new budget, government income from taxes was due to increase 114,000,000 pounds to a total of 574,000,000 pounds. Fiscal experts said that while more efficient tax collection was expected to increase income tax revenues, indicated increases in customs and purchase tax revenues meant probable price increases during the next fiscal year.

Initial confidence that the far-reaching monetary changes by West European countries would have no immediate adverse affect on Israel's foreign trade is now beginning to be shaken, economic experts here admitted today. These authorities said that Israel exports to West Africa might be considerably hurt. Israel's best West African customers are Ghana and Nigeria, both of which are members of the sterling bloc where convertibility to dollars has been introduced.

ISRAEL FIRM BUYS PART OF IRAQ-HAIFA PIPELINE FROM BRITISH COMPANY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Posit, the Israel-controlled firm set up to buy the Haifa refineries from Shell Oil Company, today announced the purchase from the British-owned Iraqi Petroleum Company of that part of the Iraq-Haifa pipeline which lies in Israel territory.

The agreement included the purchase of storage tanks, pumping installations and other equipment for oil transport belonging to the Iraqi Petroleum Company. Isaac Wolfson, British financier, is a board member of Posit.

Posit officials also announced they had insured the refineries with a group of Israel insurance firms for a total of 20,000,000 pounds sterling, a figure about 14 times as large as the price reportedly paid for the refineries. The insurance coverage was understood to be based on the estimated cost of rebuilding the entire refinery system, plus the estimated operating losses if the refineries were destroyed.

ITALIAN PREMIER ANNOUNCES TRIP TO EGYPT; MEETS WITH ISRAEL ENVOY

ROME, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Italian Premier Amintore Fanfani conferred this week-end with Israel Ambassador Eliahu Sasson prior to the Premier's scheduled departure for a four-day trip to Egypt as a guest of the Government of President Nasser. Between his arrival in Cairo on January 6 and his departure on the evening of the ninth, the Premier will meet several times with President Nasser, will sign an agreement for cultural exchanges between Italy and the United Arab Republic and will participate in public ceremonies.

Premier Fanfani is conferring with his Cabinet tomorrow when he will outline the objectives of his Cairo trip. No serious objection is expected from his fellow ministers. The public, too, seems to favor the journey.

Pietro Nenni, left-wing Socialist leader, in a statement hailing the mission, declared that there was "room" for Italy as well as all powers large and small in the affairs of the Middle East and Africa. "Fanfani's trip is a positive fact," he added, and "it should not be impossible to reach an agreement on military non-intervention and political non-interference in the Middle East."

(In Jerusalem, Israeli officials declined to comment today on the fact that Italy's Prime Minister, Amintore Fanfani, who will visit Cairo this week, will return home without coming here. However, it is understood that Israeli circles are not happy with that decision, nor with the fact that World Bank President Eugene R. Black, who is now visiting Cairo, will also bypass this country. Both Premier Fanfani and Mr. Black had been scheduled to come to Israel.)

BONN, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A West German delegation will leave for The Hague tomorrow to resume negotiations with the Dutch Government on the question of indemnification of citizens of Holland who were imprisoned in Nazi concentration camps.

Meanwhile, it was reported here today that Bonn, recipient of similar claims from eight European nations, has offered Norway 58,000,000 marks as a lump sum settlement of all such claims. West Germany has stressed that the offer is "voluntary" since under Bonn's indemnification law these claims--with minor exceptions--are not recognized as the German Government's legal obligations.

J. D. C. TO PROVIDE ORT WITH \$1,600,000 IN 1959; AGREEMENT SIGNED

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee will provide \$1,600,000 during 1959 for the vocational training programs of ORT, under an agreement announced today. The amount budgeted by ORT for all its 1959 programs in 20 countries is \$5,750,000. Under terms of the pact, ORT will make up from other sources the difference between the JDC grant and the total which it requires.

The agreement specifies that the American ORT Federation will refrain from conducting independent fund-raising campaigns in the United States, but will be permitted to continue its membership activity and solicitation. The latest pact is the 13th signed between ORT and the JDC since the end of World War II. During the past 12 years, JDC financial assistance to ORT has totalled \$16,495,000.

A major provision of the agreement for 1959 continues large-scale assistance for the vocational training of Jews in Poland, both those repatriated from Russia and the needy among the so-called "settled" population. The contemplated program also includes funds for vocational education and training programs conducted by ORT in other parts of Europe, Israel, North Africa and Iran during the coming year.

The amount allocated for use in Poland will support ORT training activities on behalf of an estimated 15,000 Jewish repatriates. Another 3,000 are expected to arrive before the Polish-Russian repatriation agreement expires on March 31, 1959. Many of the repatriates lack adequate housing and means of subsistence. Both JDC and ORT resumed activities in Poland one year ago.

Signing the pact for the two agencies were Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice-chairman, and Dr. William Haber and Max A. Braude, representing ORT. Dr. Haber is president of the American ORT Federation and Mr. Braude is director-general of the World ORT Union.

RABBIS ATTACK PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER JURISDICTION OVER IMMIGRATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis protested today against a proposed transfer of jurisdiction over immigration, naturalization and passport legislation from the House Judiciary Committee to a successor unit of the House Un-American Activities Committee to be reconstituted as a Committee on Internal Security.

Urging that the transfer not be made, the CCAR declared that "to regard immigration as a problem of internal security is to put it in an unfortunate context." The statement added that "the implication that immigration matters are primarily a question of security is one that should be rejected."

Former Senator Herbert H. Lehman also attacked the proposal, by Rep. Francis E. Walter, chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities. He insisted that "the proposal would label every alien a suspect and a possible subversive," adding that it would constitute an "unbearable affront to millions of Americans of foreign birth and descent."

B'NAI B'RITH HEAD REPORTS ON F. B. I. AID IN PROBING SYNAGOGUE BOMBINGS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Federal Bureau of Investigation's assistance to local police in probing the recent wave of synagogue and school bombings is "reducing the threat of continued bigot-inspired violence," Philip Klutznick, B'nai B'rith president, said today in his year-end report to the board of governors of the organization. He lauded the FBI and its director, J. Edgar Hoover, for their "deep concern" with the bombings and threats of bombings.

Declaring that problems of enforcing "the rule of law" are a "continuing issue of transcendent importance" to the welfare of the nation, Mr. Klutznick said that "the investigative efforts, training assistance and scientific services of the FBI have been a tremendous value in improving the efficiency and performance of law enforcement agencies in all parts of the country."

JEWS IN N. Y. C. SUPPLY 26.6% OF ENTIRE RELIGIOUSLY-AFFILIATED POPULATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Jews constitute 18 percent of all residents of 22 counties composing the New York metropolitan area who are affiliated with churches and synagogues, it was reported here today by the Protestant Council of the City of New York, whose research department has conducted a study of church and synagogue affiliation in this region. Sources for figures on synagogue affiliation were the American Jewish Yearbook and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

In the five counties of New York City, Jews supplied 26.6 percent of the church and synagogue affiliated population. The percentage dropped off to 10.5 percent in the surrounding New Jersey counties, to eight percent in the nearby upstate New York counties and less than one percent in Fairfield County, Conn. Eighty percent of all synagogue-affiliated Jews in the metropolitan area lived within the boundaries of this city, according to the report.

ISRAEL'S FINANCE MINISTER COMES TO U.S. TO PLAN 1959 BOND CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Levi Eshkol of Israel will come to the United States this week to confer with Israel Bond leaders on plans for the 1959 Israel bond drive, it was announced today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization. Mr. Eshkol will report on Israel's financial needs for economic development at an extraordinary three-day meeting of the Board of Governors and community leadership of the Israel bond campaign, which will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel this week-end.

The year 1958 witnessed a substantial strengthening of Israel's economic structure, as its total population passed the 2,000,000 mark, it was reported Saturday by Dr. Schwartz. Israel has made significant basic strides in consolidating her economic position, despite the strains and tensions created by continuing unrest in the Middle East, Dr. Schwartz said.

To a great extent, it has been American investment resources made available through the purchase of Israel bonds which have enabled Israel to make gains in practically every phase of her economy during the past year, he pointed out. More than one-third of the money spent under Israel's Development Budget, which provides funds for the country's economic projects, is derived from Israel bonds.

Dr. Schwartz stated that "Israel's decision to float a third bond issue this year was based, in large measure, on the successful record achieved by the Israel bond drive, which, since May, 1951, has mobilized over \$360,000,000 in cash to strengthen every phase of Israel's economy, and to provide employment and permanent homes for her immigrants." He stressed the fact that the results of the 1959 campaign will have a telling effect on the pace of Israel's future economic progress.

DAVID ROSE REELECTED PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN TECHNION SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- David Rose, was reelected president of the American Technion Society, it was announced today. Dr. Abraham Tulin and Sen. Jacob K. Javits were reelected chairman and honorary chairman, respectively, of the board of directors.

A nationwide organization composed of nearly 14,000 scientists, engineers, technicians and industrialists, the American Technion Society sponsors the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and also fosters the advancement of technology in Israel.

JEWS HONORED BY BRITISH QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO COMMONWEALTH

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A number of Jews in leading positions in the British Commonwealth were among the Britons listed in the Queen's New Years Honors List. Among them were:

Sir Abraham Jeremy Raisman, named a Knight of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George; Sir Roy Wilenski, Prime Minister of the Central African Federation, who was named a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Lord Mancroft, Minister without portfolio, who was named a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

Also, Dr. Michael Gelfand was named a Knight Commander OBE for services to the Central African Federation; Peter Goldman, director of the Conservative political center in London, was named Knight Commander OBE for political services; Dr. Isadore Rowland Rosin of Salisbury, Northern Rhodesia, was named to the Order of the British Empire, as was Herman Weinberg, who is a member of the Board of Customs and Excises. Lazarus Aaronson, member of the faculty of London College, and Geoffrey Finsberg were made Members of the British Empire.

SALO WISSMANN, PRESIDENT OF UNITED JEWISH APPEAL IN SAO PAULO, DEAD

SÃO PAULO, Brazil, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Salo Wissmann, for the last ten years president of the United Jewish Appeal in this city, died here at the age of 65. Born in Germany, Mr. Wissmann came here in 1923. He was founder of several of the oldest local Jewish organizations and institutions, and was also president of the Keren Hayesod here.