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IMMIGRATION IS 'STRICTLY INTERNAL' ISRAEL QUESTION, SAYS HAMMARSKJOLD

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The new mass immigration into Israel falls "strictly within the internal jurisdiction" of the Jewish State, Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold declared here today.

At the same time Mr. Hammarskjold denied that he had told Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, when the two met recently in Israel, that Israel should admit a million Arab refugees instead of a million more Jews. Such a report, he stated, "is part of the imaginative journalism into which one runs once in a while."

The Secretary General's assertion that the immigration is an internal matter over which Israel alone has jurisdiction came in reply to a query as to whether "the United Nations could limit immigration into Israel to quiet fears and in the interests of peace in the area."

"I don't want to enter into a matter," Mr. Hammarskjold replied, "which is strictly under the internal jurisdiction of a member state. It does have its legal aspects, too, however. But I don't want to enter into a question of what the UN can do or cannot do. I leave it to debate inside or outside the UN. I would rather leave it to debate."

In answer to other questions, the UN chief stated:

There is no ruling that the Security Council need not consider Israeli complaints of violations of the truce agreements with the Arab states, unless such complaints were filed first with the Mixed Armistice Commission.

The "Palestine Question" remains on the agenda of the Security Council, and so does the question of repatriation of Arab refugees. United Nations decisions regarding refugees remain on the records.

Both Syria and Israel have accepted his proposals for demarcation of the Syrian-Israel frontier, "but so far nothing has been done" in this direction.

The question of Jordanian compliance with Article VIII of its armistice agreement with Israel, granting free access to holy shrines, is a matter which he has been trying to settle "for years." "But the ball is still up in the air," the Secretary General added on this point, "and I would not like to comment further at this time."

ISRAELIS STUDY BUCHAREST, CAIRO STATEMENTS ON RUMANIAN EMIGRATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Israel's foreign experts attempted today to establish the degree of significance to be given to statements broadcast by the Cairo Radio last night reporting that the United Arab Republic had been assured that Rumania had discontinued issuance of exit permits for Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel.

The Cairo announcement said the Rumanian charge d'affaires in Cairo had informed the government that Rumania had halted the departure of the Jews.

The question here was whether the Egyptian broadcast was completely unfounded and designed for propaganda purposes or whether it meant the Rumanian Government took the position that reunion of families was not emigration from Rumania to Israel.

The Bucharest Radio stated yesterday that, on "humanitarian grounds," the Rumanian Government had authorized departure of Jews who had been separated from their families. The broadcast denied a "massive exodus" was taking place and asserted that only a small percentage of the Jews in Rumania was involved.

The official Rumanian news agency Agerpress distributed to the Rumanian and foreign press yesterday, a news bulletin blasting Israel and the "imperialists" for spreading reports of a mass emigration of Jews from Rumania in order to create bad relations between Rumania and the Arab States. The statement assailed Premier David Ben Gurion and denounced the Israel Legation in Bucharest as a center of Zionist agitation among Rumanian Jews.

The statement threatened that as a result of these activities, the Rumanian authorities, while continuing to permit reunion of families, would seek to discourage prospective emigrants but would permit them to leave if they insisted.

Israeli sources here noted that the Soviet Radio had also taken the position that no emigration from Rumania existed. They described yesterday's statements as the official announcement of an existing situation. Description of the situation as an internal Rumanian affair was presumed here to be the reply to Arab pressures.

Charges that the Israel Legation in Bucharest had distributed Zionist propaganda among the Rumanian Jews were denied. It was pointed out here that the Legation is deprived completely of any contact with Rumanian Jewry.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND IS 'PRINCIPAL EMPLOYER' OF ISRAEL IMMIGRANTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund is the "principal employer" of the new immigrants who are arriving in Israel now as part of the mass influx from Eastern Europe, Dr. Harris J. Levine, president of JNF of America, said today in his report to the annual meeting of the JNF board of directors. Dr. Levine was reelected unanimously to a tenth term as president.

Declaring that the JNF must reclaim and prepare at least 60,000 acres of Israeli land for agricultural settlement of the East European newcomers, he pointed out that "while these men and women will be preparing the soil for their own settlement, they will be in the employ of the Jewish National Fund which will pay them wages for work on soil reclamation and tree planting. Already the JNF is the principal employer in the Lakhish and Adullam areas southwest of Jerusalem, where 1,500,000 trees were planted last year on 2,000 acres of land. It is through this work that the JNF is providing an alternative to the dole of the new immigrants, thus avoiding a situation which, in addition to being unproductive, tends to have a demoralizing effect."

During the last ten years, the Jewish National Fund raised \$102,000,000, according to an announcement at today's meeting.

BONN TO PAY ISRAEL 250,000,000 MARKS IN YEAR ON REPARATIONS

COLOGNE, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Israel will receive a total of 250,000,000 deutsche-marks (\$62.5 million) in German reparations during the next fiscal year, according to the ninth annual protocol negotiated under the Reparations Agreement between Israel and West Germany. Announcement of the completion of the agreement was made here today by Dr. F. Shinnar, Israeli Minister, who heads his country's purchasing mission here.

Under the agreement, West Germany will supply to Israel steel and iron valued at 44,000,000 marks (\$11,000,000), chemical products worth 35,000,000 marks (\$8.9 million), and 75,000,000 marks worth (\$18.7 million) of oil which, it is stipulated, will come from British sources.

ISRAEL SIGNS AGREEMENT FOR \$2,500,000 EXPORTS TO LIBERIA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Israeli Foreign Ministry and the Israeli Export Bank announced today signature of an agreement with the Mayer Investment Corporation for the financing of exports to the extent of \$2,500,000 to Liberia. The Israeli exports will be construction equipment and building materials required for a \$10,000,000 project in the African republic undertaken by a joint Israeli-Liberian construction company.

MILITARY COURT ACQUITS COMMANDER IN KAFR KASSEM KILLINGS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Col. Issachar Shadmi, who issued the order under which an Israel border police unit killed 49 Arabs of the Kafr Kassem village on the eve of the Sinai campaign, was sentenced today to a token fine by a military court which found him guilty of acting beyond his authority in issuing the curfew order.

Col. Shadmi, who was fined the equivalent of less than one half of an American cent, was acquitted on a murder charge. The court recommended that he should retain his army post.

The officer declared, after the verdict, that he still had no feeling of guilt and that his action was motivated by his best understanding of the circumstances under which it was issued. The dead included Arab women and children.

The commanders of the unit, Major Shmuel Melinki and Lt. Gabriel Dehan, and nine of their subordinates were sentenced last year to varying terms of seven to 15 years after they were convicted of murder in the killings.

During their trial, the border police commanders claimed that the order to kill stemmed from a declaration by Col. Shadmi, in issuing the curfew order, "Allah Yerichmu," meaning "Let Allah have mercy on their souls," which they said they interpreted as giving them a free hand to kill curfew violators.

In the verdict against the unit members, the court had stressed that Col. Shadmi might also be responsible in the killings. He was recalled from Paris and brought to trial. A military court meanwhile continued hearings on the appeal of the border policemen.

AUSTRIA CLOSES CAMP THAT HOUSED HUNGARIAN JEWISH REFUGEES

VIENNA, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Jewish refugee camp at Korneuburg, near Vienna, through which thousands of Hungarian Jewish refugees passed during the Hungarian uprising in 1956, was closed today. Seventy-five refugees, still living in the camp, were transferred to Anstast to await emigration to new homes overseas.

Closure of the Korneuburg camp marked the end of another chapter in Jewish postwar history--the flight of some 18,000 Jews from the Communist regime in Hungary. The camp was opened by the Austrian Government in January 1957, and was operated by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. It gave shelter to some 4,000 refugees, most of whom were aided by the JDC and HIAS to emigrate to overseas points.

Of the 18,000 Hungarian Jews who passed through Austria after the uprising, 12,000 were moved to countries other than Israel through HIAS; 3,000 went to Israel and the others went to other European countries or were able to establish permanent residence in Austria.

KOCH, CONVICTED OF MASS SLAYINGS IN POLAND, AWAITS SENTENCE

VIENNA, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Sentence on Erich Koch, Hitler's gauleiter for parts of Poland and the Ukraine, convicted of responsibility for the murder of at least 400,000 people, will be issued between March 6 and March 10, in the Warsaw court in which he was tried.

The four-month trial of Koch ended today in Warsaw, where he had been charged with responsibility for the murder of at least 400,000 people, most of them Jews.

Ludwig Wojtaszowski, the public prosecutor, "in the name of the hundreds of thousands whom he killed," demanded the life of this defendant.

Many Jewish survivors from the areas under Koch's wartime jurisdiction had been brought to Warsaw as witnesses against the ex-gauleiter. Some of the witnesses came from foreign countries, including Israel.

Among the crimes of which he was accused was the murder of 200,000 Jews in the Bialistok area, and the killing of 15,000 Jews in Kovno, where he had his headquarters.

Throughout most of the trial, Koch sneered and jeered in the face of the court. His principal defense was that he was a civil administrator, and not an Army man, and he relied on the now-classic Nazi defense about being only a servant who was carrying out orders from on high. As to extermination of Jews, he said he knew nothing about the matter.

NAZI GENERAL SAYS ADENAUER INVITED HIM TO JOIN NEW GERMAN ARMY

HAMBURG, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Bernhard Ramcke, former Nazi general and convicted war criminal, created a minor sensation in Hamburg court today when he asserted Chancellor Konrad Adenauer had asked him to join the new West German army.

Gen. Ramcke, appearing in court in his libel suit against Erich Kuby, a radio writer, testified he had rejected the alleged request because many of his former army comrades were "still rotting in Allied prisons for so-called war crimes."

Gen. Ramcke, who was convicted by a French court and sentenced to five years at hard labor for war crimes but freed before he finished the first year of his sentence, is suing Kuby for referring to him as a "swine" in a radio play broadcast recently by the Hamburg Broadcasting Station.

He was quoted in the play as having said in a 1952 speech to a group of SS men that the Allies were the real war criminals and that Nazi parachute troop veterans would soon be placed on "lists of honor." The general did not object to those citations but did claim libel for being called a "swine."

Ernest Schnabel, the station manager who was a defense witness for Kuby, justified use of the term, declaring that the general had spoken of the Jews "in terms much worse."

The court today heard passages cited from the general's remarks during the Hitler period, which included statements that "the Jews have stabbed Germany in the back" and congratulations to Hitler for having "eliminated the putrid influence of Jewry."

Ramcke disappeared in January 1951, just before he was to be tried by the French court, reappearing some months later when the trial was held at which he received the five-year sentence.

GERMAN UNIVERSITY CONFISCATES ARAB STUDENT PROPAGANDA LEAFLET

BONN, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The University of Warburg has confiscated an anti-Semitic leaflet which Arab students on its campus had attempted to circulate, according to information revealed today by Dr. H.G. van Dam, secretary general of the Central Council of Jews in Germany.

TORONTO DAILY QUESTIONS RELIGIOUS CLASSES IN ONTARIO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TORONTO, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Strong support by a leading Toronto newspaper for an end to the holding of religious classes in public schools, the first such stand taken by an important daily newspaper, was welcomed today by Canadian Jewish circles.

In 1957, after submission of a brief by the Canadian Jewish Congress to the Ontario Government against such public school education, the Toronto Daily Star declared editorially that "on the whole, considering the exemption safeguard for minorities, religious education in the public schools was 'a good thing'."

But the newspaper changed its position and in a current series of editorials warned that such classes "could balkanize our school system." The daily said that the time had come "for a reappraisal" of such teaching-- "not only the methods and provisions for it but even the desirability."

"Dissent and disunity are in the air" over the issue, the daily said editorially, "and not only because of Jewish citizens' objections that the religion taught is Christianity."

The daily warned that "the critical danger is that so much stress and discord could develop that the public school system itself might be destroyed" with "each denomination setting up its own parochial schools."

The daily agreed with the stand of the Canadian Jewish Congress that arrangements to excuse Jewish or other non-Christian pupils from attendance, at the request of the parents, in effect involved such pupils in discriminatory treatment.

In a second editorial, the Toronto daily asserted that "when even Christian parents of different denominations object to certain kinds of teaching and interpretations in the schools, how much stronger must be the objections of Jewish parents, or Unitarians, or agnostics? They also pay taxes."

The daily reported that "fully one-quarter of all the public schools" in Ontario "avoid having any formal classes in religion."

COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN CALLS FOR AMERICAN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The National Council of Jewish Women concluded its biennial convention here today with a series of resolutions to aid Israel's economy.

The 800 delegates urged the United States to continue "to give economic support to Israel through loans and other measures" and pledged their organization's continuing support "to the social and economic upbuilding of Israel."

The delegates asked that the United States immigration quotas be increased and that discriminatory provisions in American immigration laws be eliminated.

The delegates also resolved to continue "to foster and encourage the study of Judaism, its religion, culture and history."

Delegates were informed that the Council and its sections will spend about \$2,000,000 in 1959 for its programs of overseas services to Israel and other overseas Jewish communities, public affairs and community services in the United States.

Mrs. Charles Hymes of Minneapolis was elected president.

GOV. MEYNER WARNS AGAINST ANY INVASION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- A warning that the "well-being and safety of all of us" is threatened by "the invasion of civil rights" and the "denial of civil liberties" to any minority was sounded here tonight by Gov. Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey.

Speaking at the first annual Herbert H. Lehman Award Dinner, sponsored by the Herbert H. Lehman Institute of Ethics of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Gov. Meyner criticized "the lack of progress" in the field of human relations.

Dr. Louis Finkelstein, Chancellor of the Seminary, presented the Lehman award to Gov. Meyner and Jack D. Weiher, New York realtor and philanthropist, for "unflinching service to the society of mankind."

JOEL ENTEEN, WHO TRANSLATED CLASSICS INTO YIDDISH, DEAD AT 85

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Joel Enteen, Yiddish writer and lecturer, and veteran Poale Zion leader, died here today at the age of 85.

Born in White Russia, Mr. Enteen studied in Russia, and came to this country shortly before he launched on a literary career here in 1895. He translated into Yiddish a number of plays now considered classics, like Ibsen's "Ghosts," Oscar Wilde's "Salome," and Maeterlinck's "Pelleas and Melisande." For years he was active in the work of the American Jewish Congress and the Farband-Labor Zionist Order.