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ISRAEL MILITARY OFFICERS DISCIPLINED FOR FALSE CALL-UP OF RESERVES

JERUSALEM, April 14. (JTA) -- Two Israel Army brigadiers--officers of highest rank in the defense forces--were disciplined today as the men responsible for the army reserve call-up, broadcast April 1. The call-up was interpreted as a mobilization, and caused panic in this country and concern abroad.

The officers are Brig. Meir Zorea, in charge of defense forces administration; and Brig. Jehosophat Harkavy, chief of intelligence. By order of the Cabinet, which held a special meeting today on the false alarm incident, Premier Ben Gurion, in his capacity as Defense Minister, transferred the officers to other posts.

Both officers were criticized for "failure to carry out exact instructions, and failure to submit the plan and timing of the call-up broadcast." The Cabinet, which met for the third time on the issue, specified, however, that both officers shall retain their present ranks. A spokesman for the Cabinet emphasized that the criticism against the two brigadiers and the decision to transfer them does not reflect on the personalities of the officers.

STATE DEPT. DEFENDS ELIMINATION OF ISRAEL FROM GRANT AID PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, April 14. (JTA) -- William Rountree, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, today stuck to his stand for the elimination of Israel from the United States special assistance program for fiscal year 1960 grant aid, in the face of a vigorous pro-Israel stand by leading members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Rountree, appearing to testify before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, was challenged by Congressmen who insisted that Israel should be retained on the list of nations to receive grant aid. It was pointed out to Mr. Rountree that Israel had been discriminated against through omission in the granting of U. S. military assistance to Near Eastern nations. Congressmen held that Israel was at least entitled to inclusion in the economic grant assistance program.

Rep. James G. Fulton, Pennsylvania Republican, was supported by members of both parties, when he spearheaded the defense of Israel's right to special assistance participation. Rep. Fulton insisted that Israel should continue on the list of nations entitled to grants, even if she receives a minimum of \$5,000,000. He saw no justification for Israel's exclusion from such a program.

But Mr. Rountree testified that "Israel itself made significant progress in carrying forward its dynamic internal development program." He used this as an argument against continued grant aid for Israel, and spoke of the prospect of improved American relations with the United Arab Republic.

Mr. Rountree praised the United Arab Republic, stating: "The UAR is turning its attention actively to the very real problems of its underdeveloped economy. Progress was made during the year in the normalization of relations between the United States and the United Arab Republic."

Testifying for the International Cooperation Administration, Near Eastern Office Director Leland Barrows outlined the expenditure plans to cover \$80,000,000 in grants to Near Eastern nations. Israel was not among the countries to receive a grant. Mr. Barrows said that the U.S.A., in drawing up the grant program, was primarily interested "in areas of special interest" being supported economically. He explained that emphasis was now on aiding Jordan, and that Jordan will receive the largest special assistance grant in the next program.

The ICA director said that, despite intra-Arab strife and "continued strained relations on the Israeli border, and the continuing unsettling effect of the existence of more than half a million Palestine refugees within the total population of only 1,500,000, Jordan has still remained an independent state."

Rear Admiral E. B. Grantham, Jr., director of the Near Eastern and African Division of the Defense Department, told the Committee that the United States is concentrating in building up the Jordanian defense capacity. He revealed that "the Department of Defense, on request of the Jordanian Government, conducted a thorough, on-the-spot survey of her

military establishment. Out of this survey, came a series of recommendations, already transmitted to the Jordanian army, which, when implemented, will do much to improve her defensive picture. "

Admiral Grantham said that other steps to bolster Jordan's military striking power "may also be required, and are now under consideration. " He also recommended a program of military assistance for fiscal year 1960 for Saudi Arabia; and said that a requirement for Lebanon may develop. No grant of military assistance was recommended for Israel.

Experts Say U.S. Is Not Discriminating Against Israel in Aid

NEW YORK, April 14. (JTA) -- Experts on American relations with the Middle East discounted here today reports that the United States State Department intends to discriminate against Israel in blocking out the Washington Administration's program for grants in aid during the fiscal year 1960.

The experts pointed out that, actually, the American grants in aid received by Israel in recent years constituted only a small proportion of American aid given Israel. They called attention to the fact that, in 1959, Israel received \$7,500,000 through grants in aid, \$38,000,000 from the surplus food commodity program, \$2,000,000 in technical assistance, and a \$5,000,000 loan from the Development Loan Fund. The latter figure may be increased, the experts said, since the Loan Fund does not operate on a fiscal-year basis.

Above all, the experts insisted, there is no connection whatever between the move to eliminate Israel from the fiscal 1960 grants in aid program, and America's attitude toward the United Arab Republic. They did concede that three Arab states--Jordan, Libya and Morocco--have already had U.S. grants-in-aid funds earmarked for fiscal 1960.

Meanwhile, it became known here, that Israel's Ambassador to Washington, Abba Eban, will meet with Acting Secretary of State Christian A. Herter next Tuesday to discuss American grants-in-aid as well as other subjects of interest to the United States and Israel.

EBAN FORESEES POSSIBILITY OF ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE WITHIN TEN YEARS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., April 14. (JTA) -- Peace between Israel and the Arab States is likely to evolve "sometime during Israel's second decade, perhaps during the half of that decade," Abba Eban, chairman of Israel's delegation to the United Nations, declared here today. Mr. Eban made that prediction in his valedictory appearance before the United Nations Correspondents Association which tendered him a farewell luncheon.

"On the question of peace with our neighbors," he said, "I confess that I do not see an early break in the clouds. The spectacle of Israel's permanence and stability is beginning to make an impression on Arab minds. International inhibitions rule out the reversal of our status by force. Non-recognition and ostracism have now been ruled out, rejected, by the fact that we have established a network of tangible relations with so many nations. I doubt whether the Arab nations can maintain their bulwark of non-recognition."

Mr. Eban then made his prediction of a possible Israel-Arab peace in the next ten years, declaring that such a development would be "an organic process" and "not spectacular. " However, he said, he believed "peace will assert itself. "

Asked about Israel's stand toward the Soviet Union, Mr. Eban stressed that, in the early days of the establishment of Israel, Moscow maintained friendly relations, which he would like to see being maintained also at present. He emphasized that the term "coexistence" means cooperation, otherwise this much-preached term is meaningless. Mr. Eban added that Israel is anxious to cooperate "with all big and small nations.

U. N. ENVOY TO DISCUSS IN CAIRO EGYPT'S SEIZURE OF ISRAELI CARGOES

JERUSALEM, April 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, United Nations Undersecretary, will discuss with United Arab Republic officials at Cairo the recent Egyptian seizures of cargoes attempting to carry Israeli-originated cargoes through the Suez Canal.

Confirmation of the fact that such a discussion is on Dr. Bunche's agenda for his forthcoming visit to Cairo was received by government officials here today from the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

Late in February and early last month, Egypt halted two foreign ships, one flying the Liberian flag, another owned by a West German firm, and seized the cargoes carried in those vessels. The freighters had loaded the cargoes at Haifa and were bound for Oriental ports. Israel lodged a sharp complaint against these actions with the Security Council, but to date there has been no announcement about a UAR answer to that complaint.

Israeli officials hope that, during his visit to Cairo, Dr. Bunche will not only talk to Egyptian officials about stopping the practice of seizing cargoes originating in Israel. Officials anticipate also that Dr. Bunche might effect the release of the confiscated cargoes, and seek assurance that Egypt will not again resort to these practices, which Israel has called "piratical. "

JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM RUMANIA WILL BE RESUMED, ISRAEL ENVOY SAYS

LOS ANGELES, April 14. (JTA) -- The prediction that "emigration of Rumanian Jews, halted suddenly last month, will be resumed shortly," was made here by Yehezkel Sahar, Israel Minister to Austria, addressing the annual West Coast regional conference of the National Labor Council of the United Jewish Appeal.

"Rumania," he said, "still intends to abide by the humanitarian principle of reunification of families proclaimed by her earlier this year." The 500 delegates who attended the conference, representing 15,000 Labor Zionist members on the West coast, voted to contribute a "minimum of one week's wages" to the United Jewish Appeal's special \$100,000,000 drive, in addition to making regular pledges to their local community campaigns now under way.

BILL SEEKING DEATH PENALTY FOR SYNAGOGUE BOMBING INTRODUCED IN FLA.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., April 14. (JTA) -- A bill that would impose the death penalty for bombing of houses of worship, schools and other public buildings was introduced here today in the lower house of Florida's Legislature. The measure has the backing of Gov. Le Roy Collins, who called for such legislation last year after several bomb outrages had occurred.

The Governor reiterated his call last week at the opening of the 1959 session of the State Legislature here. He called for consideration by that body of stronger measures to prevent repetition of acts of terrorism against religious institutions and schools in the State. He referred to the dynamiting of Beth El Congregation in Miami last March and of the Jacksonville Jewish Community Center soon after and denounced them as "a willful attack against the rights and property of others." He deplored the bad name these outrages gave to Florida.

SHECHITAH APPROVED IN HUMANE SLAUGHTER BILL INTRODUCED IN MICHIGAN

DETROIT, April 14. (JTA) -- Shechitah, the Jewish method of slaughtering, has been specifically defined here as a humane method of slaughter in a humane slaughter bill introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives, the Jewish News of Detroit reports. A public hearing on the bill was held here this week with Rabbi Samuel Prero, attending.

A federal humane slaughter law was enacted during the last session of Congress, but can regulate only meat that is sold in inter-state commerce or to a federal agency. The Michigan bill, if passed, would include all commercial slaughtering in the state.

Under the terms of the Michigan bill, a double guarantee is included against infringement on the right of Shechitah, according to proponents of the bill. Section 3 states: "The following methods of slaughtering and handling are hereby found to be humane... b) by slaughtering in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Jewish faith or any other religious faith that prescribes a method of slaughter whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument."

Section 7 further says that "Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit, abridge or in any way hinder the religious freedom of any person or group. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, ritual slaughter and the handling of other preparation of livestock for ritual slaughter are exempted from terms of this act. For the purposes of this section, the term 'ritual slaughter' means slaughter in accordance with subsection (b) of section 3(cited above)."

The Michigan bill, introduced by Representatives Mrs. Hunsinger, Mrs. McCollough and Mrs. White has been referred to the committee on agriculture for reporting. Orthodox Judaism has consistently opposed enactment of humane slaughter laws, claiming that historically, such laws have been forerunners of bans on Shechitah.

NEW YORK MAYOR BOYCOTTS "AFRICA FREEDOM DAY"; REJECTS SNUB TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 14. (JTA) -- Mayor Robert F. Wagner today announced that he will boycott the invitation extended to him to be a guest of honor at the celebration of "Africa Freedom Day," which is being held here tomorrow in honor of the political independence acquired in the last few years by a number of African states. The Mayor will ignore the invitation because Israel is the only one of the 82 United Nations member states not asked to participate in the celebrations.

Israel's omission from the list of states invited was seen here at the United Nations as significant, especially because four of the new sovereignties celebrating--Liberia, Ethiopia, Ghana and Guinea--have very friendly, official relations with the State of Israel. The failure to invite Israel was attributed by all to insistence on the part of the United Arab Republic that Israel be left off the list.

Tomorrow afternoon, representatives of all member states of the UN, except Israel, will be given a diplomatic reception in honor of "Africa Freedom Day" at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Leading diplomats from Washington and from the United Nations will attend. In the evening, there will be another celebration at Carnegie Hall. Israeli circles have refused to make any comment about the matter.

ISRAEL MINISTER VISITS LATIN AMERICA; HOLDS HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCES

BUENOS AIRES, April 14. (JTA) -- Pinhas Sapir, Israel Minister of Trade and Industry, concluded his visit to Argentina today, departing for Brazil, after a series of high-level meetings with leaders of Argentine banking, commerce and industry. The purpose of his visit here -- as it has been throughout other Latin American capitals -- is aimed at increasing trade between Latin America and Israel.

Before coming here, Mr. Sapir visited Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Chile. After conferences in Brazil, at Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, the Israel Cabinet member will go to Venezuela. On his visit, Mr. Sapir has also been conferring with leaders of Jewry in the various countries, and addressing meetings to aid the sale of Israel bonds.

CHICAGO JEWRY BUYS \$1, 250, 000 IN ISRAEL BONDS IN HONOR OF EBAN

CHICAGO, April 14. (JTA) -- More than \$1, 250, 000 in Israel bonds were bought by Chicago Jews in honor of Israel Ambassador Abba Eban at a "farewell salute" given to him by 25 organizations at the Civic Opera here. More than 4, 000 persons attended the affair. Admission was by the purchase of an Israel bond. Principal speakers included Senator Paul Douglas, Illinois Democrat, and Philip Klutznick, B'nai B'rith national president.

In expressing his profound thanks to the people of Chicago for the overwhelming tribute, Ambassador Eban predicted a steady strengthening of friendly relations between Israel and the United States. He also predicted that Israel's diplomatic successes with the newly emerging African and Asian nations on the fringe of the Arab world would cause the Arab policy of intransigence and non-recognition to crumble in 10 years' time.

PHILADELPHIA'S OLDEST SYNAGOGUE VOTES TO ADMIT WOMEN AS OFFICERS

PHILADELPHIA, April 14. (JTA) -- The congregation of Mikveh Israel Synagogue, Spanish-Portuguese synagogue established here in 1740, has voted unanimously to amend its constitution to eliminate a restriction that only men could be officers.

The congregation, which is the oldest in Philadelphia and is believed to be the second oldest in the United States, by this action made women members eligible for election to the board of managers of the synagogue and as officers of the congregation, including the presidency.

David Arons, president of Mikveh Israel, said in a statement that the amendment "in no way changes the religious custom of the congregation which according to Orthodox traditions permits men only to conduct services." He added that the congregation, "while guarding its historic and religious traditions has the flexibility to interpret these traditions to the significant facets of modern life."

LARGE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION OPENS IN ISRAEL; POLAND PARTICIPATING

TEL AVIV, April 14. (JTA) -- A large agricultural exhibition opened today at Rishon Lezion. Poland has on display its latest agricultural machinery. Ghana is participating with a display of agricultural products; and Denmark is exhibiting dairy livestock.

The exhibition, which is being held in connection with the convention here of world agronomists, features a display of Israel's achievements in the general field of agriculture, with particular emphasis on conservation. The "conversation piece" of the show is a demonstration of how Bedouins live in the Negev. The exhibit includes a Bedouin family, tent, camels and goats.

TECHNION NAMES ENGINEERING LABORATORY FOR LATE BRIGADIER KISCH

HAIFA, April 14. (JTA) -- Dedication ceremonies were held here today at the Haifa Technion for the naming of a large laboratory for the late Brigadier Frederick Kisch. The laboratory, part of Technion's Electrical Engineering Faculty, was presented with the dedication plaque by Brigadier Kisch's widow and his two sons.

Brigadier Kisch, who was killed in action during the second World War while serving as chief engineering officer of the eighth army in North Africa, was a close friend of Dr. Chaim Weizmann. He was a member of the Zionist executive committee in 1923. He later served as chairman and director of its political department. In addition, Brigadier Kisch served at one time as chairman of the Palestine executive of the Jewish Agency. He was also chairman of the Palestine-British Trade Association, and a member of the board of governors of the Haifa Technion.

CHAIR IN MEMORY OF JUDGE FISHER TO BE ESTABLISHED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, April 14. (JTA) -- A chair in memory of the late American Jewish leader, Judge Harry M. Fisher, of Chicago, will be established at the Law Faculty of the Hebrew University, it was announced here today.