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"OPERATION PASSOVER" STARTS IN ISRAEL; ARMY TO HOLD GALA SEDERS

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- Israel's Army Chaplain Services, including all chaplains accredited by the defense forces, regular and reserve, were under total mobilization today in "Operation Passover," called out to aid Israel's servicemen and women to celebrate the Passover, which begins at sundown Wednesday.

Units of chaplains were dispatched this morning to every camp and garrison in the country. Their first task was to see to it that all kitchens and all mess-hall equipment and utensils had been placed in kosher condition for the Passover. The chaplains carried with them matzeth, sacramental wines, haggadoth, ceremonial plates and other holiday paraphernalia.

Several hundred chaplains will remain at their posts of duty at least for the first two nights of Passover, to conduct the seders. A gala seder will be held at an airforce base, where the army's serior chaplain, Col. Shlomo Goren, will officiate.

Special Passover messages were issued here today by the two Chief Rabbis, Dr. Itzhak Halevi Herzog, of the Ashkenazic community, and Dr. Itzhak Nissim, of the Sephardic community. Former U.S. Senator Herbert H. Lehman, accompanied by his wife, arrived here yesterday to celebrate the Passover seder at the Weizmann Institute. Mr. Lehman is also scheduled to visit with Prime Minister David Ben Gurion at the latter's home at Sde Boker.

Thirty Samaritans, representing almost the entire membership in Israel of this ancient sect, today entered Jordan to spend the Passover week camping on holy Mount Gerizim, near the city of Shchem (Nablus). The group was met at the Mandelbaum Gate by representatives of the 200 Samaritans now living in Jordan. The Samaritans, headed by their High Priest, Zedaka, will begin their Passover celebration by offering the traditional sacrifice of the Pascal Lamb.

The holiday spirit was marred by an accident last night, in which four agricultural school pupils were killed. The pupils were on their way from Ein Geddi to Beersheba to spend Passover home, when the truck in which they were riding overturned. In addition to the four dead, 30 others were injured.

Czechoslovakia Permits Baking of Matzoth in State Bakery

LONDON, April 20. (JTA) -- Matzoth baked at the Czechoslovakian state bakery at Zlate Moravce, and kosher wine from the State wine cellars, have been distributed to Jewish communities throughout Czechoslovakia by the Council of Jewish Communities of Bohemia and Moravia, according to reports received here today.

The mazoth were baked under the supervision of Chief Rabbi Elias Katz, of Slovakia, who also supervised the distribution of both matzoth and wines. Commuml seders were scheduled, according to the reports, to be held at the headquarters of the Jewish Community at Prague, as well as in many other large Jewish centers. These included Brno, Marianske, Lazne, Karlovy, Podebrade, Bratislava and Kosice.

Jews in Pakistan Receive Passover Supplies from J. D. C.

GENEVA, April 20. (JTA) -- Jewish communities in eleven countries: have received from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Passover supplies, including 250,000 pounds of matzoth, 70,000 pounds of matzoth meal, and 7,500 bottles of sacramental wines,

For the first time, Jews in Pakistan have received Passover supplies from the JDC, Charles Jordan, JDC overseas director, said here today. A shipment of 2, 200 pounds of matzoth was received at Karachi and confirmed by cable to the JDC offices yesterday. The Joint Distribution Committee does not operate any welfare program in Pakistan, Mr. Jordan said, but the matzoth were sent to Karachi at the specific request of the Jewish community there, which reported that the 400 Jews in Karachi face economic difficulties.

In addition to the shipment of Passover supplies to the eleven countries, the JDC also made special grants to Jewish communities in other countries, to facilitate full, religious observation of the Passover holiday, Mr. Jordan reported.

ISRAEL WELCOMES HERTER'S APPOINTMENT AS U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- Gratification over the appointment of Christian Herter as the new American Secretary of State was expressed here today by the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Herter's appointment is welcomed by the Israel Government, the spokesman declared, because of his ready grasp of problems presented to him in the past by Israeli representatives in the United States, and because he has shown himself able to handle issues in the Middle East.

RESULTS OF U.S. EXPERIMENTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 20. (JTA) -- Mordechai Bentov, Israeli Minister of Development, revealed here today that he was informed during a visit to the Tennessee Valley Authority and Muscle Shoals, Tennessee, that patents, know-how and results of experimentation would be made available to Israel.

Mr. Bentov was received in Washington by Elmer Bennett, Undersecretary of Interior. He also met with other officials and heads of various government departments. He discussed mining, water desalination, and geological surveys.

AMERICAN-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIPS CONSIDERED "SOLID" BY U.S. DIPLOMAT

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- The retiring U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Edward B. Lawson, tonight called upon "all loyal Americans" to be on the alert "to dissipate any misunderstanding on the part of the nationals of either country" (U.S. and Israel) which may endanger their mutual friendship. At the same time, he voiced the belief that "American-Israel relationships have a solid foundation and that both the Governments and the people understand the vital interests and ideals that we share."

Mr. Lawson spoke before several hundred Zionist representatives at a reception in the Hotel Statler tendered him by the Zionist Organization of America. In behalf of the organization he was presented with a citation by Abraham A. Redelheim, president of the ZOA, in "grateful recognition of his distinguished service as United States Ambassador to Israel and his outstanding contributions to the cause of America-Israel friendship."

Ambassador Lawson, who is being succeeded by Ogden R. Reid, served as U.S. Ambassador to Israel for four years, Addresses of tribute to him were rendered by Israel Ambassador to the U.S., Abba Eban; James G. McDonald, first American Ambassador to Israel; Abraham A. Redelheim, ZOA president; and Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

KLUTZNICK CONFERS WITH RUMANIAN MINISTER IN WASHINGTON ON EMIGRATION

WASHINGTON, April 20. (JTA) -- President Philip M. Klutznick, of B'nai B'rith, today made known the results of a meeting with the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Rumanian Embassy here, on the subject of Jewish migration to Is rael.

"I have seen the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Rumanian Government to the United States," Mr. Klutznick said. "Among other things, he stated that I could quote him that, in his judgment, certain comment in the press on the emigration of Jews from Rumania has incorrectly interpreted its motives and its framework.

"I do not know what others have said, but I can confirm that, for years, Jewish organizations have urged the Rumanian Government to enable Jews to leave Rumania in order to be united with their families in Israel. The Rumanian Government finally agreed to take this humanitarian step. I have every confidence that the Rumanian Government, having been moved by humanitarian considerations, will not fail, because of certain misunderstandings, to permit this process to continue until its consummation."

Mr. Klutznick reported on his meeting with the Rumanian Embassy officials at a city-wide conference of Jewish organizations, convened to publicize Israel's role in settling new immigrants and promote local support of the United Jewish Appeals

GOLDA MEIR REPORTS ON U. J. A. TO JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, who recently visited the United States, today, reported to the Jewish Agency executive here on the United Jewish Appeal campaign to aid the absorption here of immigrants from Eastern Europe.

At a meeting yesterday, the Elections and Shekel committee of the World Zionist Organization adopted some rules in connection with the election of delegates to the next World Zionist Congress. To assure democracy in the choice of delegates, the committee decided that a nominee must have between 100 and 1,000 signers on his nominating petition, depending on the size of the constituency. The rules will be laid before the next meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee, which will convene here May 31.

GERMANY AGREES TO PAY INDEMNIFICATION TO DUTCH VICTIMS OF NAZISM

BONN, April 20. (JTA) -- The German Federal Republic has agreed to pay a total of 25 million marks for the indemnification of Dutch victims of Nazi concentration camps, sources here revealed today. The indemnification settlement was reportedly reached during the current talks between Bonn and The Hague, which are expected to reach a conclusion shortly.

At the outset of the negotiations, Bonn had offered to pay only 33 million marks, whereas the Dutch Government made the settlement of the much higher claim a condition before it would permit any discussion of the return of German border territory.

Meanwhile, it was reported today that the Bavarian Legislature has approved the allotment of 250 million marks for indemnification of Nazi victims. So far 197,000 out of a total of 415,000 claims have been processed, and it is anticipated that processing of the remainder will be completed by the deadline of March 31, 1962.

"RUTHLESS" PROSECUTION OF ANTI-SEMITISM URGED BY LEADING GERMANS

HAMBURG, April 20. (JTA) -- Hostility against Jews is not shared by the German people as a whole, but all incidents of anti-Semitism must be prosecuted "vigorously and ruthlessly," according to the consensus of leading Germans who contributed to a symposium on resurgent anti-Semitism in the current issue of the periodical "Die Zeit." Leading politicians, jurists, educators and authors have participated in the symposium.

'Widespread anti-Semitism does not exist in the Federal Republic," and anti-Jewish hostility is "the spiteful reaction" of a few who have gone astray, in the opinion of Dr. Eugen Gerstemmaier, Speaker of the lower house of Parliament.

Another contributor, Hamburg State Attorney Ernst Bucholz, declares that only "confused fanatics" are Jew-baiters in Germany today. An educator, Prof. Karl Schiller, declares that German youth is far "too skeptical and sober" to succumb to the harangues of Nazi agitators.

NEO-NAZI PARTY SHOWS SLIGHT GAIN IN STATE ELECTIONS IN GERMANY

FRANKFURT, April 20. (JTA) -- Slight gains were recorded by the Deutsche Partei, a neo-Nazi group, in yesterday's State Legislature elections in Lower Saxony and Rhine-land-Palatinate, according to final results tabulated today.

The Deutsche Partei's official organ has frequently published anti-Jewish and anti-Israel articles. During the election campaign, it was noted, there seemed to be no anti-Semitic speeches. However, pro-Arab sentiments were expressed during the campaign by anumber of the Deutsche Partei candidates.

SO, AFRICAN JEWS ASSURED BY DUTCH CHURCH LEADERS OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

JOHANNESBURG, April 20. (JTA) -- A resolution adopted last week by the Northern Transvaal Regional Synod of the Dutch Reformed Ghurch, calling upon members to support "candidates of Christian character" for election to public office, was not intended as a slur against Jews. This assurance was given today to E.J. Horwitz, president of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, in a letter from the leadership of the Dutch Reformed Church.

The Southern Transvaal Regional Synod had already adopted such a resolution, and Mr. Horwitz protested, receiving the same assurance. In today's letter, the Jewish leader was again told that the wording was not intended to discriminate against "the Jewish community, whom the Church holds in high esteem."

The Synod informed Mr. Horwitz it was only trying to emphasize its concern for the election of "persons of high qualities, character, and religious conviction..." The Synod expressed regret at anyone's misunderstanding of its resolution.

BRITISH JEWS PREPARE TO COUNTER ANTI-SEMITIC SLURS DURING ELECTIONS

LONDON, April 20. (JTA) -- Special material is being prepared by the Jewish Defense Committee of the British Board of Jewish Deputies to counter fascist and anti-Semitic attacks that may crop up in England during the forthcoming general elections campaign.

Special material is being prepared for use in the Kensington constituency in this city, where Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British fascists, will contest that division's seat in the House of Commons. Other material will be circulated by the committee to fight the continuing anti-Negro agitation. The committee reported to the board yesterday that it deems the anti-Negro agitation as stemming from "exponents who are known to be anti-Semitic."

STRONGER LAWS TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA SCUGHT IN FRANCE

PARIS, April 20. (ITA) -- Stronger laws banning publication and dissemination of anti-Semitic literature, and forbidding discriminisation in employment or in housing because of race or religion are being sought here. Passage of such laws is requested by MRAP, the Movement of the Resistance Against Anti-Semitism and for Peace, it was reported here today.

DENVER, April 20. (JTA) -- Anti-Jewish discrimination in employment has virtually become extinct, according to a statement by Edward Miller, local leader of the Anti-Defamation League of the Binai Birith, made to the Intermountain Jewish News here.

Mr. Miller said that in 1958 and so far in 1959, the state FEP commission received no Jewish complaints. Sheldon Steinhauser, ADL director, said his local office received four complaints of job bias during this 15-month period, but in each case, investigation disclosed that no anti-Jewish prejudice was involved.

CALIFORNIA AND OHIO JOIN RANKS OF STATES BANNING BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- California and Ohio after years of effort on the part of the Jewish communities there, have joined the ranks of states with laws forbidding discrimination in employment opportunities. The California measure was passed on April 10, and the one in Ohio on April 15.

The addition of California and Ohio brings to 17 the total number of states with fair employment practices laws. New York initiated the movement with enactment of its law in 1945.

TWO NATIONAL JEWISH COLLEGIATE FRATERNITIES MERGE; HAVE 17,000 MEMBERS

NEW YORK, Feb. 20, (JTA) -- The largest merger of national collegiate fraternities of Jewish membership was effectuated yesterday with the signing of legal documents joining Phi Sigma Delta and Phi Alpha into a single fraternity with 47 undergraduate chapters and a total membershis of approximately 17,000 students and alumni.

The fraternity will be known in perpetuity, according to a joint announcement by officers of both groups, as "Phi Sigma Delta." The new Phi Sigma Delta has a combined heritage of 94 years. Fhi Sigma Delta having been established on November 10, 1909 at Columbia University, New York, and Phi Alpha having been created on October 14, 1914 at George Washington University, Washington, D. C.

WORLD JEWRY URGED TO COMMEMORATE MARTYRDOM OF JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

JERUSALEM, April 20, (JTA) -- World Jewry was called on today to join Israel in commemorating on the 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan (May 5, this year) the martyrdom and heroism of the Jews who were exterminated by the Nazis or who died fighting Nazism

The date had already been fixed as the annual memorial date for Israel in a bill adopted here by Parliament two weeks ago. Now "Yad Vashem," the official Israeli authority responsible for these commemorations, has issued an appeal to all Jews. The appeal was issued through the Chief Rabbinate here and was addressed specifically to the World Jewish Congress, all Zionist organizations, and all other groups of organized Jewry.

LONDON, April 20. (JTA) -- The 16th anniversary of the heroic stand taken by the Jewish population in the uprising of the Warsaw Ghetto was marked here last night at a public meeting.

Dr. S. Levenberg, representing the Jewish Agency, was the featured speaker at the commemorative meeting. He told his audience that "the story of the battle of the Warsaw Ghetto is not a chapter of the past. " He urged Jews all over the world to remember that "the story of the uprising is the new Haggadah of our generation, which must be related on seder night. "

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- The martyrdom of the participants in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, 16 years ago, was commemorated at a public meeting here last night. The program was arranged by the Committee to commemorate the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

COL. HER ZOG BECOMES CHIEF OF ISRAEL'S MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICE

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- Col. Chaim Herzog, former Israeli military attache at the Embassy in Washington, today was appointed chief of military intelligence to succeed Brig. Jehosophat Harkavy, one of the two high Army officers disciplined for the "false alarm" army reserve call-up, broadcast by the Israel radio on April 1. Col. Herzog has been head of the Army's southern command headquarters.

The commander of the northern headquarters, Col. Itzhak Rabin, was appointed to the second vacancy resulting from that "false alarm" broadcast, replacing Brig. Meir Zorea.

GUSTAVE L. LEVY RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK JEWISH FEDERATION

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- Gustave L. Levy was re-elected president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, at the board of trustees tonight. Mr. Levy is serving his third term as the 6th president of the Federation.