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KNESSET ENDORSES ARMS DEAL WITH GERMANY; CABINET CHANGE DELAYED

JERUSALEM, July 1. (JTA) -- A government proposal endorsing Israel's arms deal with West Germany was approved today in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, by a vote of 57 against 45. The affirmative votes included all members of the Mapai, General Zionist and Progressive parties. There were six abstentions, including all five members representing Agudath Israel.

The two left-wing parties which participate in the government -- Mapam and Ahdut Avodah -- were among those who voted against the government proposal. Premier David Ben Gurion had notified them earlier that, if they will not support the government proposal, their representatives will have to leave the Cabinet. The Mapam and Ahdut Avodah have two members in the Cabinet each.

In order to dismiss the left-wing members from the Cabinet, Premier Ben Gurion would have to submit the resignation of the entire Cabinet to the President, after which he could form his own Cabinet without these members. However, it is expected that he will not tender the resignation within the next few days, possibly early next week.

Premier Ben Gurion left today for Tel Aviv where he will spend the week-end, thus permitting a cooling off period. However, he is determined not to have the four leftist ministers in his Cabinet under any circumstances. The delay in his intention to submit the Cabinet resignation immediately after today's vote in Parliament is possibly due to the fact that United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld is now in Cairo trying to secure free passage of Israeli cargoes through the Suez Canal. Mr. Hammarskjöld's visit to the Middle East may also bring him to Israel during the week-end.

Circles close to the Premier said today that delay in submitting the resignation of his Cabinet is due to the fact that he has several possibilities before him and wants to think things over before he makes his final decision. One possibility is, to form a minority government since neither the General Zionists, nor the Religious Party are likely to join a short-term government till the forthcoming general elections in November.

Another possibility for Mr. Ben Gurion is to continue with the present composition of the government, but to relieve the left-wing ministers from their portfolios by making them members of the Cabinet without portfolio. This would make it possible for him not to invite them to Cabinet meetings. During the week-end stay in Tel Aviv he will decide on his next move which depends on negotiations which the leaders of his Mapai Party will hold with leaders of the General Zionist Party and the Religious Party.

Ben Gurion Defends Arms Deal in Parliament; Calls Opponents "Demagogues"

Premier Ben Gurion was in his great fighting spirit today when he addressed the Parliament. He ridiculed the criticism voiced by members of the right-wing Herut Party and of the left-wing Mapam and Ahdut Avodah Parties who spoke against the arms deal. He accused them of "demagoguery."

Only West Germany, said the Premier, has recognized the full guilt for Hitler's atrocities, and decided on restitution. "Will all who still have God in their hearts," he pleaded, "not defile the memory of the slaughtered millions through a campaign geared to the elections?"

Regarding the charge that the decision to sell arms to West Germany overlooked the emotional aspects of the issue, Mr. Ben Gurion said: "Without Jewish feelings, we would not have survived the exile; we would not have settled this country; we would not have rebuilt the homeland; we would not have taken up arms for defense; we would not have fought and won."

Emotions, he continued, "have also taught us not to weep, not to mourn, but to build the homeland, to accumulate Jewish strength, not to linger and be a beggar at the gate, but to be sovereign, with equal rights in the family of nations."

Mr. Ben Gurion stressed the need for strengthening the security of Israel. Such strengthening, he held, must take into account "the great changes taking place within the Jewish people, within the world, within Israel." He told the House that "for the first time

in its 4,000-year history, Israel must understand the array of political forces, their importance, their place, their weight, their relations among the various countries."

He expressed regret that "small Israel does not belong to any bloc," stating that adhesion to a bloc strengthens security, facilitates the supply of arms, reduces defense expenditures. "But Israel is isolated," he declared, "and it must bear the burden by itself. Thus Israel is obliged to find friends, these days, where it can, to obtain arms from nations--from a few nations--with which we have established friendship and confidence."

Reasserting the need for friendly relations with the outside world, Mr. Ben Gurion deplored the lack of prospects for winning some friendships in the near future. "Existing friendships," he asserted, "must be continually primed. West Germany is an important factor in its region. Germany's attitude toward Israel will undoubtedly influence the attitude of other countries with whom she is associated."

He denounced the disclosures of the arms deal, by the German newspaper, "Der Spiegel," as "dangerous sabotage," in which the two left-wing partners of his coalition cabinet--Achdut Avodah and Mapam--joined. He concluded by telling the Parliament that, as Defense Minister, he could not "for a single moment bear the responsibility if the Knesset or the Government opposed my efforts to secure equipment needed for Israel's defense."

Left-Wing Cabinet Members Voice Charges Against Ben Gurion

Cabinet members of the opposition Achdut Avodah and Mapam Parties made personal statements in Parliament, charging, among other things, that Mr. Ben Gurion "steam-rollered" the German arms deal through the Cabinet.

Moshe Carmel, of Achdut Avodah, Minister of Communications, insisted that the only reference to a possible arms deal in the Cabinet had come up during a discussion of foreign currency income. Minister of Health Israel Barzilai, of Mapam, said he had immediately questioned the reference to a possible arms deal with Germany, and was told by Mr. Ben Gurion that the matter would be on the following week's agenda. Actually, he maintained, the issue was not brought up in the Cabinet again.

The second of Achdut Avodah's Cabinet members, Israel Bar Yehuda, Minister of the Interior, charged Mr. Ben Gurion with "stealing" a decision "which he wrapped up in a formal, legal request to extend the existing fire-arms law." He insisted that neither he nor his party colleague, Mr. Carmel, had heard "Germany" mentioned by the Premier as among the states contracting for Israeli arms.

(In The Hague, a Dutch Government spokesman said today that Israel recently supplied the Dutch Army with explosives and ammunition. He also reported that last year the Dutch Air Force received Uzzi submachineguns from Israel.)

NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO BEN GURION

JERUSALEM, July 1. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, as acting Foreign Minister in the absence of Mrs. Golda Meir, today received Ogden R. Reid, new United States Ambassador to Israel. Mr. Reid presented a copy of his credentials to Mr. Ben Gurion, who congratulated the young envoy and wished him well.

Mr. Reid, who will formally present his credentials to President Itzhak Ben Zvi tomorrow, was welcomed officially to Israel when he arrived Monday. Participating were officials of the Israel Foreign Ministry and all members of the United States mission to Israel.

ISRAEL RABBINATE ORDERS PROBE ON APPLICATIONS FOR MARRIAGES

JERUSALEM, July 1. (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbinate here issued instructions today, ordering that all applicants for marriage be investigated very carefully to see if their identity cards, listing them as "Jewish," were valid and "in keeping with the Torah."

According to a spokesman for the Sephardic Chief Rabbi, Dr. Itzhak Nissim, the rabbinate was concerned about the correct identity of a relatively small number of immigrants described as Jews on their identity cards, but who were actually Christian in religion. These persons allegedly registered as Jews in order to be permitted to emigrate. After their arrival here, they allegedly reverted to Christianity--but their identity cards show them to have declared themselves as Jews. "While the number involved is small," the Chief Rabbi's spokesman declared, "the precedent is fraught with danger."

Prior to the statement on behalf of Chief Rabbi Nissim, the Supreme Religious Council of Israel called on the Government "to state in clear terms that all questions of registration (of an Israeli's religion) will be treated in accordance with Jewish law." The Ministry of the Interior, which has jurisdiction over identity-card registrations, identifies adults in accordance with an applicant's personal declaration of his religion, according to Rabbi Nissim. "This creates a unique category," stated Chief Rabbi Nissim, "of citizens who are Gentile by religion and Jewish by nationality."

JEWS IN SO. AFRICA OBJECT INJECTION OF "JEWISH ANGLE" IN POLITICS

JOHANNESBURG, July 1. (JTA) -- The South African Jewish Board of Deputies reiterated today its call upon Parliament, all political parties, and the press to keep the "unjustifiable introduction of the Jewish angle" out of South Africa's political affairs.

At today's monthly meeting of the Board, Gustav Saron, general secretary, reviewed the situation created in Parliament a month ago, when members of the dominant Nationalist Party attacked some of the Jewish members of Parliament for protesting against the use of impressed labor. Earlier it had been revealed that arrested natives had been impressed into farm work, and some of the farmers concerned were Jews. All but one of the Jewish farmers, however, had released their impressed laborers.

The Board's first statement on the issue had been issued after the attacks in Parliament, where some political leaders said that Jewish members should be "the last" to discuss the issue of impressed labor. Later, Nationalist members of Parliament explained they did not mean to voice anti-Semitic attacks.

The Board did not wish to exaggerate the incident unduly, Mr. Saron stated at today's meeting. But, he said, he felt a reiteration of the earlier statement was necessary because the press has given prominence to the incident in Parliament, when remarks were made affecting the Jews.

"We are not entering the political field," he said, "or criticizing a particular party. We are only objecting to the unjustifiable introduction of the Jewish angle into a Parliamentary debate, and appealing to all parties to keep 'the Jew' out of politics. That appeal is addressed equally to Jews, of whatever party affiliation, who tried to drag the Jewish community into the political arena."

N. Philips, the Board's chairman, stressed at today's meeting the principle that Jewish members of Parliament represent constituencies "and not the Jewish community." These members, he declared, "have full right to express their views without being inhibited by the fact that they are Jews." He pointed out that South African Jews participate in politics "as citizens, in accordance with their personal convictions, and not as Jews." The Board's executive fully concurred with his views and endorsed his action.

So. African Nationalists Deny Anti-Jewish Intent in Their Speeches

CAPETOWN, South Africa, July 1. (JTA) -- Two Nationalist members of Parliament took the floor of the House today to deny that they had any anti-Semitic intent in remarks directed at two Jewish members of the United Party during a heated debate on the imprisonment of natives under arrest for farm labor.

One of the two, H.E. Martins, apologized to Dr. Boris Wilson for having alleged that he had changed his name from Woolfson. He coupled his apology with a long explanation of why he had raised the issue in the first place. Dr. Wilson, he said, had cited a list of names of farmers involved in court proceedings and Mr. Martins had wanted it made clear that the list included Jews as well as Afrikaners.

J. F. Schoenbee, the other, complained that Opposition newspapers had taken his references to Jewish farmers and to the race of the two United Party members out of context although, he said, it was clear from the rest of his speech that nothing anti-Jewish was intended.

U. S. RABBINICAL COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH ACADEMIC CENTER IN ISRAEL

SO. FALLSBURG, N. Y., July 1. (JTA) -- The creation of an academic center in Israel which would serve as a cultural and religious bridge between Israel and American Jews was announced here today by the Rabbinical Council of America at its 23rd annual convention at the Pineview Hotel. The proposed academic center would be constructed at a cost of \$500,000. It will be an expansion of the Council's Yeshivath Hadorom at Rehovot, Israel, which trains students for educational, rabbinical and social service in that country.

The delegates of the Orthodox rabbinical convention approved a campaign for the raising of the money among the Council's membership of more than 750 rabbis, and also among Orthodox Jewish communities in the country. Details of the project were outlined by Rabbi Charles Weinberg, first vice-president of the Council. He said that graduates of American rabbinical seminaries will be invited to study at the center for a year or more "for special research in the fields of Jewish religious law, Israeli culture and related subjects."

The delegates voted to hold the Council's 1961 convention in Jerusalem. The convention re-elected Rabbi Emanuel Rackman as president, and Rabbi Solomon J. Sharfman as honorary president. At another session, Dr. Isidore Twersky, Assistant Professor of History at Harvard University, delivered a paper which was devoted to an analysis of the religious poetry of the middle ages.

Addressing the convention, Dr. Joseph B. Soloveitchik of Boston, a leading Jewish Orthodox theologian and philosopher, said that there is nothing in Jewish religious doctrine which opposes scientific research and discovery, including the conquest of outer space.

J.D.C. URGES SUPPORT FOR WORLD REFUGEE YEAR; ADOPTS RESOLUTION

NEW YORK, July 1. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee urged "complete support" for World Refugee Year, and for worldwide efforts now under way to find "permanent solutions" for refugees, in a resolution adopted by its executive committee today. The resolution declared that "millions of refugees of all faiths are presently condemned to hunger, privation and suffering. Emergency relief for any of these hapless men, women and children is vital, but is not enough."

"During World Refugee Year, only the combined efforts of governments, voluntary agencies and individuals can hope to find permanent solutions for any sizeable numbers of refugees," the resolution stated. "As an agency which has been deeply concerned through all of its 45-year history with the plight of helpless and harassed refugees, the Joint Distribution Committee welcomes the designation by the United Nations General Assembly of World Refugee Year. The needy and the homeless are the concern of men of good will everywhere. We are happy to associate ourselves with the efforts of all groups, whether governmental, intergovernmental or voluntary, to meet the needs of the refugees and to help them achieve lives of dignity once more."

The statement also noted that following the end of World War II, the JDC had assisted in the emigration of more than 600,000 Jewish refugees, chiefly with United Jewish Appeal funds. Currently the JDC is carrying on programs on behalf of refugees and others in some 25 countries of Europe, North Africa and the Near East, including Israel. During 1959, JDC expects to aid some 250,000 men, women and children.

Jewish Agency Announces Wholehearted Support for World Refugee Year

GENEVA, July 1. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today announced its "complete and wholehearted" support for the program and goal of World Refugee Year despite its already heavy commitments toward Jewish immigration to Israel.

The statement of support was made by Moshe Benaventi, Jewish Agency representative to the International Committee for World Refugee Year which began today. He spoke at the committee's plenary here.

Odd Nansen, president of the Norwegian National Committee for World Refugee Year, told the session that the only hope for the solution of the world refugee problem, which he said has not reached "alarming proportions" was in "instant action on the part of a world whose conscience has at last been aroused."

GOLDA MEIR ADDRESSES 12,000 AT SAO PAULO RALLY; LEAVES FOR PERU

SAO PAULO, July 1. (JTA) -- Continuing her tour of Latin America, Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, left this Brazilian metropolis today for Lima, Peru, after getting here the same enthusiastic reception accorded to her in all of the other major centers on this continent.

Among the Brazilian officials here who showered honors upon the Israel Foreign Minister were State Secretary Marcio Porto, representing Gov. Carvalho Pinto; Mayor Adhemar de Barros, who conferred upon her the "Friend of the City" decoration; and members of the State Legislature, representatives of the foreign consular corps, and dignitaries of the Catholic Church.

A military parade was held in her honor, there was a special youth parade, and one of the country's most famous choirs staged a special concert in her honor, rendering Jewish as well as Brazilian folk songs. Among the largest outpourings of people greeting Mrs. Meir were the crowds, estimated at 12,000, who came to Pacaembu Stadium here last night to hear her address a rally conducted by the Jewish community.

AMERICAN JEWISH MAGAZINE SELECTED FOR U.S. CULTURAL EXHIBIT IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, July 1. (JTA) -- "Judaism," a quarterly journal of Jewish life and thought published by the American Jewish Congress, has been selected as one of 250 U.S. publications to be shown at the American National Exhibition in Moscow this summer, it was announced today. The selection was made by Miss Margaret Conlan, chief of the New York Services Section of the United States Information Agency.

BERNARD SEMEL, LEADER IN PROMOTION OF JEWISH EDUCATION, DEAD

NEW YORK, July 1. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Bernard Semel, textile official, philanthropist and leader in the promotion of Jewish education for children, who died at his summer home yesterday at the age of 80.

Mr. Semel had been honorary secretary of the Jewish Education Association, which he helped to organize, since 1918. He was a founder of the Jewish Day, the Yiddish daily, and had been a member of the executive committee of the Zionist Organization of America and of the executive committee of the Jewish Welfare Board. In 1917 he served on the New York City Commission on Employment.