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BEN GURION RESIGNS; WILL BE ASKED BY ISRAEL PRESIDENT TO FORM NEW CABINET

JERUSALEM, July 5. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion tonight announced his resignation following the refusal of the four left-wing members of his Cabinet to leave their posts of their own will. He was to submit the resignation officially to President Itzhak Ben Zvi at about midnight, immediately after the President's return to his residence from Holon where he is guest of the Karaite community.

The four dissident ministers, on whose resignation Premier Ben Gurion insisted, are the representatives of the Mapam and Achdut Avodah parties who voted in Parliament against Israel's arms deal with West Germany which Mr. Ben Gurion defended. The Premier considered their action a breach of the Cabinet's collective responsibility.

At today's last meeting of the coalition Cabinet, Premier Ben Gurion refused to serve as chairman as long as the left-wing members were participating. The four rebel ministers have, however, refused to resign, insisting that the entire Cabinet must resign. Mr. Ben Gurion, who received progress reports on the Cabinet deliberations in an adjacent room, then sent notice that he would wait until evening, and in the event the four ministers still had not resigned, he would announce the dissolution of his Government "not later than tomorrow."

Premier Ben Gurion's resignation brings about the automatic dissolution of the Government under the existing law. President Ben Zvi must now consult leaders of all parties and then invite one to form a new government. There is no doubt that he will invite Mr. Ben Gurion again for this task. Mr. Ben Gurion would have the choice between the formation of a new Cabinet or a temporary caretaker government till after the November national elections. It is assumed that he will choose the latter.

Ben Gurion Seeks Support of Other Parties for a "Minority Government"

Before the fall of the Cabinet today, Mr. Ben Gurion received this morning leaders of the National Religious Party, which has 11 seats in Parliament, and sought their support for the formation of a "Minority Government" to be composed of members of his own Mapai Party and of the Progressive Party--without the left-wing parties--till after the national elections.

It is understood that the leaders of the National Religious Party, which is composed of the Mizrahi and Hapoel Hamizrachi, countered with a proposal for setting up a "National Government" to be headed by Moshe Shapiro, leader of their party and former Minister for Social Welfare and Religious Affairs. Mr. Shapiro is at present on a visit to the United States. The leaders of the National Religious Party indicated that they have received support from other political parties in Israel for their proposal.

One of the last acts of the Cabinet at its meeting today was to vote that in the future all arms deals must be brought before a Ministerial Committee for Security and Foreign Affairs and later to the entire Cabinet for final approval.

The arms deal with West Germany which precipitated the Cabinet crisis, was, meanwhile, taken today to the public in what was widely considered the first broadside in the campaign for the November national elections. Country-wide rallies were held today at which the debaters were mainly Mapai leaders arguing in favor of the arms agreement and leftists who argued against it. The right-wing Herut and the National Religious party, which both oppose the agreement, remained on the sidelines.

Some 500 Communists staged a noisy demonstration against the pact in Tel Aviv. Other protest was staged by former partisans who fought the Nazis underground in various countries. Tempers ran high and police were posted at both demonstrations.

During the week-end, leaders of Mr. Ben Gurion's Mapai Party met with the Premier's participation, to discuss the possibility of arranging the national elections earlier than November, as scheduled. This would have spared the caretaker government from carrying the burden of the state till after November. However, it was pointed out that any pre-dating of the elections would require the approval of the Parliament. The Mapai Party leaders also discussed the formation of a "Minority Cabinet" including non-party personalities taking the portfolios held hitherto by the four left-wing rebel members.

SOVIET PRESS AND RADIO DENOUNCE ISRAEL, GERMANY ON ARMS TRANSACTION

LONDON, July 5. (JTA) -- Soviet newspapers and radio broadcasts today denounced Israel and West Germany in connection with the arms deal between these two countries and called the deal "a despicable pact between the Israeli men on the top and the West German revenge seekers."

The Moscow radio also accused the United States with "pushing forward German firms to cover the sending of German raw materials to Israel so that Israel can destroy her Arab neighbors."

The Soviet Army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda said that "close links between the Israel Government and the West German ruling circles have long since ceased to be secret." It claimed that Germany's reparation payments to Israel are "just another form of Western military aid to Israel."

Germany Interested in Buying Mortars from Israel, Bonn Indicates

BONN, July 5. (JTA) -- The West German Defense Ministry indicated today it would be interested in buying an Israel-made mortar which tests have indicated to be superior in lightness of weight, performance and price.

This was indicated in a statement in which the Defense Ministry said it was buying mortar shells and not grenade-throwers in the agreement which has brought about a Cabinet crisis in Israel. The Israel offer to sell 250,000 mortar shells, it was reported here, followed indications on the world armaments market that the West German Republic was seeking to buy such ammunition.

West German officials said the agreement on the mortar shells was made through Establishments Salgat, a Lichtenstein-based company which sells Finnish-made mortar shells. Such shells are made, among other firms, by Soltam, Ltd., of Haifa, which makes them under Finnish licenses.

Sources here suggested that the confusion over the nature of the arms Israel is selling West Germany probably arose from translation of the German word for mortar which is "granatwerfer," which looks like "grenade throwers." The West German Defense Ministry said that it was buying mortar shells from Israel.

CAIRO REPORT ON POSSIBLE SURRENDER OF ISRAEL CARGO AT SUEZ IS DENIED

COPENHAGEN, July 5. (JTA) -- A report from Cairo that the Danish freighter Inge Toft, which has been detained by the Egyptian authorities since May 21 for carrying Israeli cargo, would surrender the cargo to Egypt and return to Haifa was denied in shipping circles here today.

The report was published in Nasser's newspaper Al Ahram, in Cairo, as allegedly coming from the Copenhagen correspondent of that paper. It was established here that the Cairo newspaper has no correspondent here, and it is assumed that the report was "manufactured" in Cairo to indicate that United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold failed in his talks with Nasser to permit the passage of the Inge Toft through the Suez Canal. Mr. Hammarskjold left Cairo on Friday by plane for Switzerland.

(The New York Times today reported from Cairo that in the last few days there had been speculation among diplomats there that the Inge Toft affair might be decided by letting her return to Haifa with her cargo in a compromise that would let Israel get her cargo back, giving Nasser at the same time the satisfaction of not permitting the ship to pass the Suez with Israel cargo. However, yesterday it became clear that the Egyptian authorities are determined to confiscate the cargo under all circumstances.)

Israel Awaits Report on Hammarskjold's Talks with Nasser

TEL AVIV, July 5. (JTA) -- An Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman said today Israel had not yet been informed on the results of the talks between United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and President Nasser of the United Arab Republic on the current blockade of the Suez Canal to Israel cargoes.

He said that while Israel was awaiting a report from the United Nations, it was continuing talks with the major powers on the Suez Canal blockade on the basis that "what we demand is a return to the situation before February this year when Israel cargoes passed through the Suez to the Far East." He added that Israel would not agree to the return of the cargo on the detained Inge Toft to Haifa.

THREE-WEEK STRIKE OF MOTION PICTURE EMPLOYEES ENDS IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, July 5. (JTA) -- A three-week strike by operators and other personnel at motion picture theaters in Jerusalem ended last night and the theaters attracted packed audiences.

Both sides agreed to submit to arbitration the demands of the strikers after the Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce and the Municipality intervened to re-open the theaters.

SOVIET DEPUTY PREMIER KOZLOV CLAIMS NO ANTI-JEWISH BIAS EXISTS IN RUSSIA

SAN FRANCISCO, July 5. (JTA) -- Soviet First Deputy Premier Frol Kozlov, in a statement made to newspapermen escorting him on his present visit to the United States, said that synagogues are not forcibly closed in the Soviet Union, but avoided answering the charge that Jews in the USSR were being omitted from the lists of scientists. He went out of his way to state that Soviet Jews "live a much better life than do Jews in Israel."

Mr. Kozlov was replying to charges on anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union made last week by three prominent American non-Jews on the basis of a "dispassionate, well-documented study" in Soviet Survey, published by the Congress for Cultural Freedom. (See JTA Bulletin of Friday, July 3). The three non-Jewish personalities-- Dr. Donald Harrington, Dr. John Holmes and Norman Thomas--appealed to Mr. Kozlov to have the Soviet ban of Jewish culture lifted and to abolish all other restrictions against Jews in the Soviet Union. The statement by Mr. Kozlov replying to these charges reads:

"These reports on Jews are a slander on the Soviet Union and on its policies toward Jews. In the Soviet Union, Jews, like any other nationality, occupy their worthy place in society. We have ministers and deputy ministers who are of Jewish nationality. We have some prominent men of science, including Lenin Prize winners, who are of Jewish nationality. Some of our ablest artistically creative people are Jews.

"As to the accusation regarding the slights toward the religious feelings of Jews, that is completely a fabrication. They are completely free in the practice of their religion. No synagogues have been closed in the Soviet Union. These charges are slander. There are synagogues in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev, for example.

"I personally know a rabbi in Leningrad. When I worked there, he approached me and asked that the necessary ingredients for matzos be put on sale there. We did sell these ingredients and the Jews were free to celebrate the holiday in the traditional way.

"I had many friends with whom I studied and who are still my friends of Jewish nationality. The same is true of the other members of our Government. It should suffice to note that the wife of (Marshal Kliment Y.) Voroshilov (titular chief of state), who unfortunately died recently, was Jewish. The wife of the member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Andrei A.) Andreyev is also Jewish.

"God give it that the Jews in any other country should enjoy the same life as they do in the Soviet Union. At the least they live a much better life in the Soviet Union than they do in Israel. By the way, there were Jews who at their own request left the Soviet Union for Israel. Then many of them wrote letters to the Soviet Union saying they were having a bad time and wanted to come back."

American Jewish Congress Challenges Kozlov's Assertions with Photos

NEW YORK, July 5. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress last night challenged denials by First Deputy Frol R. Kozlov of suppression of Jewish cultural and religious life in the Soviet Union with a display of photographs said to show the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries in Russia during the past year.

Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the AJC, exhibited copies of the originals at a press conference, declaring he was satisfied with the authenticity of the pictures which he said were taken by tourists who made prints available to him. He charged that the "pictorial evidence" was another indication that "the Soviet Union has now apparently undertaken to fragmentize the meager remains of organized Jewish religious life which have still been permitted."

The Soviet leader had asserted, en route to San Francisco Friday, that no synagogues had been forcibly closed in the Soviet Union, citing specifically Russia's three main cities, Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. The photographs shown by Dr. Prinz pictured a boarded-up synagogue in Voronezh in Kremenchug, the only one in the city; and a desecrated mass grave of Nazi victims in Babi Yar, a suburb of Kiev.

Dr. Prinz asserted that the synagogue in Kremenchug, where 20,000 Jews live, was the only one in the city and that the Soviet officials had refused to permit it to be reopened for worship. Noting that 80,000 Jewish victims of Nazis and Ukrainians were buried in the Babi Yar grave, the AJC president showed widespread vandalism pictured in the area and said "no effort" had been made by Soviet officials to correct the desecrations. Other pictures displayed at the press conference showed a desecrated cemetery in Kiev, which has 200,000 Jews, and another vandalized burial ground in Bendery near the Rumania border.

Rabbi Prinz, replying to Mr. Kozlov's statement, asserted that "no one" had claimed that the synagogues in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev had been closed. He said that "the information available shows that in these main centers, which are regularly visited by tourists, the authorities took some care to avoid steps which might 'leak out'." He added

that while restrictions on the baking of matzoh were lifted in Moscow and Leningrad, they remained in force in Odessa, Kharkov, Kishinev and Rostov, "cities which are not regularly visited by outsiders."

He also cited Khazkov, Voronezh, Chkalov, Bubushkin, Stalino, Cherrigov and Novoselitsa as Russian cities where synagogues have been reported closed recently and said: "We would welcome assurances from Mr. Koslov to the effect that these synagogues will now be reopened."

U. S. CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL BODY SPREADS ANTI-JEWISH LITERATURE

WASHINGTON, July 5. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant, 3rd, chairman of the U.S. Civil War Centennial Commission, said today he was sorry he distributed a piece of anti-Semitic literature because "I had no idea the article was going to get into the hands of the general public."

Gen. Grant, grandson of the Civil War hero, had sent out thousands of copies of "Abraham Lincoln and the Rothschilds" which blamed the Civil War on "Jew financiers." The article also sought to characterize the assassination of Lincoln as part of a Jewish plot. According to the article, "international" Jews sought to split the United States to exploit the two struggling sections.

Gen. Grant dispatched the article last month to members of "military order of the loyal legion of the United States"--all descendants of Union Army commissioned officers. Protests ensued with the Anti-Defamation League raising the issue in Washington. Gen. Grant explained that "it was meant to go only to a supposedly friendly group."

The same article was published in 1940 by the controversial Father Charles E. Coughlin and also in Nazi publications. It was recently revived by the "Seaboard White Citizens Council" headed by John Kasper. When he distributed the article, Gen. Grant recommended its content as "illuminating" and endorsed it.

300,000 JEWS LEFT MOSLEM LANDS DURING LAST 25 YEARS, W. J. C. SURVEY SHOWS

NEW YORK, July 5. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today made public a survey showing that more than 200,000 Jews have been driven from Iraq, Egypt and Syria during the past 25 years and another 100,000 have fled other Arab lands, including Yemen and Libya.

The survey, prepared by Dr. Nehemia Robinson, covers 11 countries--Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen. "The accession of the Nazi Party to power in Germany had dire consequences for the status of the Jews in the Moslem lands," the report states. "The waves of anti-Jewish terror following the Israel War of Independence and the establishment of Israel swept away the last barriers to Jewish disenfranchisement and elimination in Iraq and Syria and contributed to the exodus from Yemen, Libya and Egypt," the survey continues. "The call of the reborn Jewish state caused large-scale emigration from Iran, Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia."

The former community of about 100,000 Jews in the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria has been reduced to between 15,000 and 20,000. Considerable communities remain in Morocco, with more than 200,000 Jews, and in Tunisia, with about 67,000, the report states. A few hundred families reside in Afghanistan, he reports, with about 80,000 Jews living in Iraq, 4,000 to 5,000 in Iraq, 4,000 in Libya, 48,000 to 55,000 in Turkey and several hundred in Yemen.

"The only country which has not practiced considerable discrimination is Lebanon," Dr. Robinson reports, adding that the 3,500 Jews in Lebanon in 1933 have swelled today to 10,000, due to a considerable extent to the forced exodus of several thousand Jews from Syria.

JUSTICE FREEDMAN IS FIRST JEW TO BE NAMED CHANCELLOR OF CANADIAN U.

WINNIPEG, July 5. (JTA) -- Justice Samuel Freedman, member of the Court of the Queen's Bench in the province of Manitoba, has been named Chancellor of the University of Manitoba for a term of three years. He is the first Jew in Canada to hold such a position in any university.

The 51-year-old Justice, a native of Russia, was named on recommendation of a committee of the University Senate, the Board of Governors and six members of the University Alumni Association. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University. He is a graduate of the Winnipeg Talmud Torah, served as head of the Talmud Torah's Maimonides College, and is a past president of the Winnipeg lodge B'nai B'rith.

PARIS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HONORS ISRAEL; NAMES SQUARE "PLACE D'ISRAEL"

PARIS, July 5. (JTA) -- The City Council of Paris has voted to name a junction of three major avenues the "Place D'Israel." The junction is located next to the Israel Embassy.

In the resolution approving the designation, the City Council said the action was taken because of the example of "mobility, dignity, courage and honor" of Israel which has become "the admiration of people everywhere."