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### STATE DEPT. REAFFIRMS STAND ON FREEDOM OF TRANSIT THROUGH SUEZ CANAL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The State Department has reaffirmed that it "firmly supports the principle of freedom of transit through the Suez Canal as an international waterway before international forums and to the Government of the United Arab Republic," Sen. Kenneth B. Keating of New York disclosed this week-end.

The department, in a letter to Sen. Keating, reaffirming its position, pointed out that neither the World Bank nor its directors had yet made any decision on a projected \$40,000,000 loan to the UAR to improve the canal. The New Yorker had asked that the loan be not granted unless the UAR guaranteed to remove restrictions on Israeli shipping through the waterway.

Assistant Secretary of State William B. Macomber Jr., said the State Department's view would continue to be set forth "in various appropriate international agencies, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)." He expressed continued support of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's efforts to find a solution and voiced the hope that "aided by counsel of the United Nations and of other friendly countries, including the United States, progress toward a solution of the current restrictions on such transit can be obtained."

(In New York, the Society for Prevention of World War III revealed it had asked Secretary of State Herter to oppose the projected loan to the UAR as long as the UAR's control of the Suez Canal was "guided primarily by political considerations" and Israeli shipping was blockaded.)

### Egyptians Agree to Return Confiscated Mail for Israel

LONDON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The Egyptian authorities have agreed to return to Australia eight sacks of mail addressed to Israel which they seized last month from the Norwegian freighter Tarn in the Suez Canal, according to reports from Cairo.

An agreement for return of the mail, seizure of which had been protested by Israel, was worked out by the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo who represents Australian interests in the United Arab Republic.

A UAR Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted as declaring that return of the mail did not mean any departure from the principle of the UAR's belligerency toward Israel. Cairo had agreed to return the mail, he said, in order to fulfill international postal regulations under which mail in transit is considered the property of the sender and not of the addressee.

### PROPOSE FIVE-YEAR, HALF BILLION DOLLAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NEGEV

JERUSALEM, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- A five-year plan for the Negev, which envisages a population of 100,000 by 1964, was unfolded here today at the fourth session of the Government Technological Advisory board.

The plan would require an investment of 900,000,000 pounds (\$500,000,000), of which 500,000,000 pounds would come from Government and Jewish Agency sources and the remainder coming from amortization funds and profits already accumulating from development enterprises in which the Government has 200,000,000 pounds invested.

The Director General of the Ministry of Development, Mr. Menahem Bader, who disclosed the details of the plan, called for top priority to be given the development of the Negev, which he called the "treasure house" of the State's resources.

He said that last year's gross profits from development enterprises neared 30,000,000 pounds. This year's profits were expected to reach 40,000,000 pounds, the Director General said. High dividends were expected from the Electric Corporation and Fertilizers and Chemicals of Haifa. The potash works, which until two years ago was in the red, has realized a two-million pound profit since then. The southern port of Eilat already accounted for two-thirds of the country's crude oil imports, Mr. Bader declared.

Development Minister Mordechai Bentov told the session that Israel was no longer an underdeveloped country but had the highest per capita income in Asia--over \$800 annually as compared to \$120 annually in Japan.

## Z.O.A. ASKS U.S.S.R. TO PERMIT RE-UNION OF RUSSIAN JEWS IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The 62nd annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America closed today with adoption of a resolution calling on Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev to "assure to the Jews of the Soviet Union equal treatment accorded to other nationalities." Mr. Khrushchev was asked to permit "those who want to join their families and fellow Jews in Israel to do so."

Other resolutions adopted saluted President Eisenhower for his efforts "to find a road to peace with justice"; urged the U.S. Government "to continue the grant-in-aid program and other economic assistance to Israel" and to "use its influence with the World Bank to obtain iron-clad guarantees for free Suez Canal transit for the shipping of all nations, including Israel, before granting any financial aid to improve the canal."

The Government was asked to help end the "illegal boycotts and blockade that are carried on by the Arab states against Israel and firms and individuals friendly to her."

The ZOA went on record "to make the encouragement and promotion of the investment of private capital in Israel "a prime function; to strengthen synagogue life in America "as a bastion of our faith", and to promote the Hebrew language and culture in American homes."

The ZOA resolved "to expand and develop its relations with the World Zionist Organization, the World Confederation of General Zionists and General Zionist organizations throughout the world."

Abraham A. Redelheim, of New York, was re-elected president of the organization for a second term. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, of New York, and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, were elected honorary presidents. Dr. Max Nussbaum, of Hollywood, Cal., was re-elected chairman of the National Executive Council, and Max Bressler, of Chicago, associate chairman. Abraham A. Goodman, of New York, was elected chairman of the Administrative Committee. The convention adopted a budget of \$1,225,000 for annual operations in this country and in Israel.

### President Eisenhower Stresses Need for Goodwill

President Eisenhower invoked the memory of Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism, in expressing hope for "a just and productive peace in the Middle East" in a message to the convention. He said that "as Americans we can make our greatest contribution toward attainment of this goal by encouraging an atmosphere of mutual understanding and goodwill among the people of that area. Only in such a climate can mankind's dream for progress and security be realized."

Vice-President Nixon said in another message to the convention that the natural friendship which the American people hold for the people of Israel forms a secure foundation for the warm relations between the two countries.

Sen. Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, who addressed the convention, urged the Arab world to make "three substantial contributions to world peace" on the eve of the Khrushchev-Eisenhower meeting. He asked resettlement of Arab refugees in Arab states; unrestricted use of the Suez Canal, and an end to Arab blacklisting of American firms because of the religion of their officers.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, a member of the Jewish Agency executive, rejected "the anti-Zionist notion" that "American Zionists must sever ties with fellow Zionists in Israel because they are Israelis." He proclaimed "our firm resolve to maintain and foster the integral unity of the world-wide Jewish people, based upon our millennial history, our common faith, our spiritual and cultural legacies."

A basic change in Israeli economic policy, to encourage private Jewish investment, was urged by Leon Dultzin of Israel, director of the economic department of the World Zionist Organization and member of the Jewish Agency executive.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice-president of State of Israel bonds, told the ZOA that bonds helped Israel "emerge from the depths of austerity to the threshold of prosperity as the country that has gone from shortages to surpluses."

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, described the extent of human needs that must be met in Israel "while absorption continues to be an "overwhelming" problem but "one that can be met." He said that in Israel there were some 400,000 recent immigrants still not fully absorbed. The major part of the UJA effort was directed at helping them become self-sufficient. He reported that "another 30,000 entered Israel recently. They are starting the absorption process from scratch. Some 85,000 still live in Israel's ma'abarot immigrant shanties."

## JORDANIANS RELEASE YOUNGSTER ABDUCTED FROM JERUSALEM STREET

JERUSALEM, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- A 12-year-old boy, kidnapped by two Jordanian soldiers last Wednesday evening as he was playing on a Jerusalem street about 100 yards from the Jordan-Israel demarcation line, was returned to Israel Saturday night at the Mandelbaum Gate.

The abduction had led to a sharp protest by Israel to the Mixed Armistice Commission and an investigation by the United Nations authorities who confirmed the complaint and ordered the Jordanians to return the boy. He said he had first been taken to Bethlehem and then to a prison in the Old City of Jerusalem where an Arab officer tried to interrogate him.

## 62 JEWISH CANDIDATES SEEK COMMONS SEATS IN BRITISH ELECTIONS

LONDON, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Sixty-two Jewish candidates appear on the Conservative, Labor and Liberal Party lists in Britain's general elections scheduled for October 8, a survey disclosed today.

Twenty-two of the candidates - 20 Laborites and two Conservatives - are seeking reelection in the constituencies they represented in the last House.

Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of British fascist movements for a quarter of a century is again a candidate for Parliament and is campaigning nightly in the Notting Hill area, scene of recent racial disturbances. Mosley's party is seeking to capitalize on resentment in the area against immigration from the West Indies by blaming the Jews for the situation and there is a certain amount of anti-Semitism in its campaigning.

## REPORTS ON JEWISH STATUS IN SOVIET UNION DISCLOSE BIAS PATTERN

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- The Soviet Union formally considers the Jews to be a nationality, as evidenced by the documents each Soviet citizen must carry, but "despite this formal recognition, the Soviet Government deprives its Jewish citizens of even the minimal cultural and spiritual privileges enjoyed by all other Soviet nationalities and religious groups," the weekly review, "The New Leader, said today in a special issue devoted entirely to the status of the Jews in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Government, the review declared, "provides the Jews with neither the means for maintaining a full cultural life nor the opportunity to assimilate completely. In short, the effect of its policy has been to constitute Soviet Jewry a peculiarly marginal category of citizens and to isolate them from normal existence."

The review charged that while there has always been a strong campaign against religion, "examination of the Soviet press in the last three years, however, reveals a concerted propaganda campaign to single out Judaism and Jews for special opprobrium." The double-barrelled campaign, it charged, on the one hand, vilifies the Jewish religion and, on the other "perpetuates the traditional anti-Semitic stereotypes of Jews."

### Jews in Russia Treated Like 'Security Risk'

Harrison J. Salisbury, veteran Moscow correspondent of The New York Times, in an article in that paper dealing with the position of the Jews in the Soviet Union, declared that "active anti-Semitism or active persecution of Jews no longer is carried out by the Soviet Government. The situation of the Jew in Russia, like that of any Soviet citizen, is far better today than in the final years of Stalin's life.

But the consequences of official anti-Semitism and its widespread dissemination among the population are far from ended. Indeed, only fumbling and half-hearted efforts have been made by the government to face up to the reality of the problem. Anti-Semitic tendencies are still alive and powerful."

Discussing the regime's attitude on this, the correspondent said: "Why has Khrushchev failed to act in forthright and principled fashion against anti-Semitism? There are those who suggest that it is because he himself has inherited the anti-Jewish attitudes so common in the Ukraine, where he grew up.

"Others suggest that Mr. Khrushchev fails to act because anti-Semitism, actively propagated for many years, has become a popular policy. The fact is that the Khrushchev Government, like the Stalin Government, treats the Jewish population as a national security risk. There seems little prospect of any positive action by Mr. Khrushchev to correct this situation in the near future.

"The Soviet Union has embarked on a foreign policy favorable to the Arab states and antagonistic to Israel. Jewish cultural and emotional ties to Israel have fed Soviet suspicions concerning Jewish loyalty to the Soviet Union," Mr. Salisbury said.

### Contrasts Jewish Status in Russia and Poland

Will Maslow, general counsel of the American Jewish Congress, who led a group of 25 on a tour of the Soviet Union and Poland last month, reported to the national administrative committee of the congress that in Russia, "the sole remnant of a once-great Jewish community consists of a few solitary synagogues attended by a handful of old men and women, and, within 20 years or less, even these will be gone. This," he said, "is the bitter fruit of the Soviet effort to obliterate organized Jewry in the USSR."

In Poland, by contrast, Mr. Maslow reported, the Polish Government had undertaken a "remarkable series of steps aimed at encouraging a strong and healthy revival of community life among the estimated 40,000 Jews in Poland, all that remain of some 3,000,000 who lived in the country before the Nazi invasion."

Young Jews born under the Soviet regime and educated under Communism are deeply disturbed by Soviet anti-Semitism, Meyer L. Brown, president of the Farband Labor Zionist Organization told a special meeting of Farband leaders last night on his return from the Soviet Union. He said that he had found the suppression of all Jewish cultural endeavor remained as stringent as in the days before Premier Nikita Khrushchev took power.

## FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMAN TELLS HADASSAH HE HAS FAITH IN ISRAEL'S FUTURE

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- Former President Harry S. Truman expressed his belief today in the "glorious future" awaiting Israel and said that when he first extended it recognition in 1948 "I was only expressing the sentiments of the people of the United States."

In a filmed address to the opening session of the 45th national convention of Hadassah, attended by more than 2,500 delegates and guests, Mr. Truman urged that "we must strive abroad as well as at home to defend human rights and to expand the enjoyment of freedom." He lashed out against hatred and bigotry and characterized as "our enemies" those who seek "to set group against group, faith against faith, to create prejudice and to spread hate and distrust among our people."

Dr. Miriam K. Freund, national president of Hadassah, announced that a freedom bell to be erected atop the \$25,000,000 Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Kiryat Hadassah will be named in honor of Mr. Truman.

President Eisenhower, in a special message to the convention, hailed Hadassah for "its programs of welfare service and education" which, he said, "reveal the vitality of its faithful membership."

Premier David Ben Gurion, in a message to the convention, said that "great tasks still lie ahead" in the "rebuilding of our land and the refashioning of our people" which were made more difficult by the absence of peace and by the continued threat to Israel's security.

Mr. Truman told the convention that among the nations of the world were two great free governments, the United States and Israel, that will continue the fight against totalitarian government. "These two governments stand for the belief that governments are organized for the benefit of the people whom they serve. The totalitarian governments or dictatorships stand for the belief that the people are to be exploited for the dictator. They believe that the dictator's whim is all that counts."

In discussing the State of Israel, Mr. Truman said that "it has never seemed to me that I deserved any special credit as an individual for what I did about Israel when I was President of the United States. In recognizing the new State of Israel and giving careful consideration to its needs and its problems after 1948, I believe that I was only expressing the sentiments of the people of the United States regardless of political party or religious belief."

Mr. Truman said that "I had faith in Israel before it was established. I have faith in it now. I believe it has a glorious future before it not just as another sovereign nation, but as an embodiment of the great ideals of our civilization."

## PIONEER WOMEN CALL FOR U.S. ACTION AGAINST SUEZ CANAL BLOCKADE

CLEVELAND, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- A resolution calling on the United States Government to support measures to halt the Arab boycott against American citizens and the blacklisting of American firms was adopted here today at the opening session of the 16th biennial national convention of the Pioneer Women, women's Labor Zionist organization. The resolution hailed action in the United States Senate incorporating the Morse anti-bias amendment in the Mutual Security Appropriations Bill.

A resolution called for "the most vigorous action" by the U.S. Government and the United Nations to bring the "intolerable aggression" of the United Arab Republic against Israel to an end. It demanded reaffirmation of the principle of unobstructed passage through the Suez Canal for the ships of all nations.

The 600 delegates to the parley expressed appreciation for continued American aid to Israel. Earlier, they attended ceremonies at the Cultural Gardens where the organization presented a bronze plaque to the City of Cleveland.

## REFORM TEMPLES LAUNCH DRIVE TO WIN OVER UNAFFILIATED JEWS

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (JTA) -- A drive aimed at winning unaffiliated Jews to the Reform branch of Judaism will be undertaken by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Reform group announced here today.

The program, under the joint auspices of the Union, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, will start with a four-day preaching mission at Tremont Temple in the Bronx on September 23 and will include talks by prominent Reform rabbis and question and answer periods.

In announcing the program, Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath, president of the Union and one of the speakers at the opening rally, estimated that there were 2,500,000 unaffiliated Jews in this country, out of a total American Jewish population of nearly 6,000,000.