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JEWS REPORTED ARRESTED IN SYRIA, LEBANON; SOME CHARGED WITH SPYING

JERUSALEM, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Arab newspapers reaching here today from Jordan report arrests of Jews in Syria and Lebanon. The reports state that, in Syria, death sentences had been requested by the Syrian prosecutor for eight Jews charged with allegedly attempting to cross the border into Lebanon "en route to Israel."

The Jordanian press also reports that, in Lebanon, police uncovered "the largest and most dangerous spy ring working for Israel." A Jewish lawyer, Albert Levy, allegedly headed the ring. His closest collaborator is reported to have been Saik Khouri, a Christian Moslem journalist. Both are among the arrested.

Those arrested in Lebanon are charged with "collecting military information" as well as with "helping Jews to escape from Lebanon." They are also accused of being assisted by "Jewish financiers" in Beirut, whose names are not mentioned.

ISRAEL CHALLENGES ARABS AT U. N. TO ENTER INTO IMMEDIATE PEACE TALKS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Arthur Lourie, chairman of Israel's delegation here, today made an offer to enter into immediate peace talks with the Arab states, "without any preconditions."

Mr. Lourie addressed the General Assembly, after Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, Foreign Minister of the United Arab Republic, delivered a sharp, anti-Israel attack in which he accused "political Zionists or Zionizing politicians" of "manufacturing" a case out of Israel's grievance against the UAR's blockade of the Suez Canal. In his attack, Dr. Fawzi specifically named Mrs. Golda Meir and Selwyn Lloyd, respectively Israel's and Britain's foreign ministers, for bringing the "made in Israel" Suez issue before the Assembly.

Answering Dr. Fawzi's insistence that the Suez issue was part of the so-called "Palestine Question," Mr. Lourie directed at the Egyptian the question: "Is his country willing to negotiate with us a settlement of these differences?"

"I can declare here," the Israeli representative continued, "in the name of my Government, that we are prepared to enter into immediate negotiations for a full and final settlement of all outstanding Israel-Arab problems, at any time and place the Arab leaders may wish--and without any preconditions."

Mr. Lourie pointed out that in this year's Assembly, "more than 20 countries from various continents" have supported Israel's insistence on freedom of navigation through the Suez Canal. "Significantly," he stated, "not one single non-Arab country has come forward in support of the claims of the United Arab Republic."

Mr. Lourie recalled that the current Israeli-Arab difficulties originated in Arab rejection of the UN Palestine Partition plan in 1947. "Had the Arab states accepted that decision," he said, "both great Semitic peoples could have benefited." The Israeli concluded his speech by asserting:

"The people of Israel bear the Arab people no grudge. Our sincerest desire is to live and let live--to work with the many others for a better and happier world. Our profoundest hope still lies in the principles of equality and the brotherhood of man. Our hand remains outstretched in peace to our neighbors. It is our hope that the time will not be long delayed when it will be grasped in peace for the benefit of the region and all mankind."

Dr. Fawzi, in his address, had asserted that the UAR was living up to all international commitments regarding freedom of shipping through the Suez Canal, including the Constantinople Convention of 1888 and United Nations declarations and resolutions. He coupled the Canal issue with the problem of the Arab refugees and asserted that Egypt is willing to accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice on the Suez problem.

Iceland today added its voice to the more than 25 member states supporting Israel's case against the United Arab Republic's blockade of the Suez Canal. Thor Thors, chairman of the Icelandic delegation, told the General Assembly that his Government hopes "we can see the freedom of navigation through the Suez Canal re-established according to international law and the Suez Canal Convention of 1888."

BEN GURION REVIEWS ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS; CLARIFIES STAND ON GERMANY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Israel's foreign and internal problems were reviewed by Premier David Ben Gurion in a lengthy interview in connection with the Jewish New Year. The Prime Minister emphasized that, in the world of today, "It is not possible to solve historic problems by military force alone."

In his interview, given to the daily newspaper Haaretz, the Premier went into great lengths to clarify his attitude toward West Germany. Mr. Ben Gurion listed two assumptions: 1. The acts of the Nazis should not be forgiven or forgotten; the entire German people is responsible because what was done under the Nazis was not done by a single person but with the accord of the people of Germany; 2. The sins of the Nazis should not be visited upon the Germans, for that is the race theory. He asserted that he would be ashamed "if that race theory were to infect us."

Mr. Ben Gurion denied that the present Germany was the same as the generation of Hitler. "I think," he said, "that East Germany's people are murderers and scoundrels because they feel no responsibility for what was done. But West Germany's people recognize the responsibility--even those who have not done these things."

Asked how the same generation could be both responsible and not responsible for what was done by the Nazis, Mr. Ben Gurion said: "The younger generation is different. Morally, Nazism is not ruling Germany and, in my opinion, will not rule. I do not hate the German youngster because his father was a Nazi."

The Premier asserted that Israel should win the German peoples' friendship, just as it is trying to win the friendship of other people. In reply to a question, he stated that he is against Israelis studying in Germany and is also against the use of the German language in Israeli schools. However, he said, he favored having German tourists visit Israel, declaring "in my eyes, the German people is like any other people." He said he would be ready to visit Germany for political reasons, but would not choose Germany for a private trip.

Asked about Israel's sale of arms to Germany, he said: "I am proud of it because I regard it as a revenge against the Nazis." After further discussion of this point, he stated "I think that what are often called irrational considerations are the true considerations. My irrational consideration was to sell arms. First of all, I consider this a revenge against Nazism--that Jewish arms are supplied to the German Army."

Differs with Dayan and Eban on Expressing Israel's Policy

Discussing Israel's political situation, Mr. Ben Gurion said he would not express Israel's policy either the way it has been expressed by former Gen. Moshe Dayan or by the former Ambassador to the United States, Abba Eban. "We must understand the balance of world forces," he stated, "and must assume that we have sufficient deterrent force and, if fighting is inevitable, enough power to win."

The Premier defended reprisal attacks against Arab states prior to the Sinai campaign of 1956, excepting the Kibiyah attack. He denied that Israel's attack against Syria in Lake Tiberias spoiled Israel's chances for getting arms from the United States.

The Premier asserted his conviction that Nasser does not want peace "since he only talks peacefully to foreigners not seriously engaged in the peace effort, but refuses to talk peace in speaking to persons engaged in a serious effort."

Coming to internal Israeli problems, Mr. Ben Gurion said the ethnic absorption of immigrants may take two generations. He claimed that the religious political parties in Israel are actually alien to Judaism and are the result of a Catholic environment from which many Ashkenazi leaders immigrated to Israel. He praised the Oriental, Orthodox Jews who, he said, can be the most pious but still greatly tolerant. However, he added, the time has not yet come for fundamental decisions on religious matters, therefore compromise is needed.

Discussing Israel's social system, the Premier asserted: "I personally am extremely opposed to private ownership, today more than in the past. But the central issue today is the ingathering of the exiles, the building-up of the country, and I am willing to utilize the love of money if I can help build up the country in this way."

Mr. Ben-Gurion declared that, if the Mapai Party obtains 51 percent of the vote in the coming elections to the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, only one law would be adopted by the Knesset--changing the electoral system to the Anglo-American type of constituency. Then, he said, the Knesset would be dispersed for a new election under that system.

U. N. OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE KILLING OF ISRAELI BY JORDANIANS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- United Nations observers today began investigating the murder of an Israeli shepherd, killed yesterday by Jordanians near the Israel-Jordan border. The body was found 200 yards inside Israeli territory by a search party when the flock returned to the Yad Hannah settlement without the shepherd. Two members of the search party were wounded when the Jordanians opened fire from across the border. The Israelis returned the fire and the exchange lasted for several hours, until UN observers arrived and arranged for a cease-fire.

EGYPT NOT RETURNING CONFISCATED PROPERTY TO EXILED FRENCH JEWS

PARIS, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- None of the Frenchmen repatriated from Egypt after the Sinai campaign of 1956, most of whom are Jews, have yet received "the least bit of the assets" they left behind, even when these assets were not dissipated by Egyptian take-over managements, it was reported here today.

The report was made by the Superior Council of Frenchmen Abroad at its 13th session. The Council is a consultative group which advises the French Government on problems affecting Frenchmen in overseas countries. A. de Carbonnel, secretary general of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, presided.

The report, which made it clear that the return of Jews to Egypt is prohibited by the United Arab Republic, said that they therefore were unable to return to Egypt to make arrangements for their abandoned property. There are about 800 such French Jews.

The Council was expected to make recommendations to ease these problems for consideration by the French Foreign Ministry "in the context of French-Egyptian relations," a spokesman for the Ministry said. France and the United Arab Republic last year reached an agreement on the disposition of and indemnification for properties of Frenchmen who had to leave Egypt.

It was also reported here today that the UAR has set October 29 as the final date for filing of applications for déséquestration of properties taken over by the Egyptian Government after the Sinai campaign.

VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY COMPLAINS AGAINST INSUFFICIENT INDEMNIFICATION

VIENNA, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- The Vienna Jewish community, in a statement issued on the eve of the Jewish New Year, said that many problems of indemnification of Jewish victims of the German occupation of Austria remained unsolved and appealed for public support of the "just cause" of its claims for compensation.

William Krell, general secretary, speaking in the name of the Jewish community, declared at a press conference that there were foes of such compensation in both coalition parties and that both parties gave greater weight to mass opinion on the problem than to its solution.

He repeated the Jewish community's demand for compensation for Austrian synagogues wrecked by the Nazis valued at 140,000,000 schillings. He noted that the Government had replied to a proposal for a lump sum settlement of less than 50,000,000 schillings with an offer of only 10,000,000 schillings.

He urged an amendment in legislation for the welfare of victims to expand its benefits and enactment of measures to enable collecting agencies to reclaim heirless property to use it for the rehabilitation of victims of Nazism living in Austria. He emphasized that legislation enacted to date does not meet legitimate demands for indemnification. He cited as an example the fact that almost nothing has been done in Austria in compensation of Nazi persecutees.

The Jewish Community official expressed dissatisfaction with the \$6,000,000 fund set up by the Austrian Government, asserting that it benefitted only a few people living almost entirely abroad.

U. S. JEWISH LEADERS MEET WITH AUSTRIAN MINISTER ON JEWISH CLAIMS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- A delegation representing the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria conferred here with Dr. Reinhard Kamitz, the Austrian Finance Minister. The Jewish leaders stressed that thousands of Austrian Nazi victims had received merely minimum benefits by way of indemnification from the Austrian Government. Many thousands of others have received nothing at all for losses and injuries suffered in Austria, over 20 years ago.

The Jewish leaders urged the Austrian Government to expand the scope of existing indemnification laws, through comprehensive amendments. They also called for indemnification to the Jewish communities in Austria for their justified claims arising from the destruction of synagogues and related institutions during the Nazi era. On Sept. 16, a Claims Committee delegation had also conferred with Dr. Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Foreign Minister.

The delegation members were: Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman; Jacob Blaustein, honorary president of the American Jewish Committee; Saul Kagan, secretary of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria; Dr. Nehemiah Robinson, director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, World Jewish Congress; and Seymour J. Rubin, foreign affairs counsel of the American Jewish Committee.

10,000 JEWS REPORTED LIVING IN VILNA, ONLY ONE SYNAGOGUE FUNCTIONING

NEW YORK, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- The city of Vilna, capital of Lithuania, and for many years a glorious center of Jewish learning, has only one synagogue now, according to a report from Vilna to the New York Times. About 10,000 Jews remain in the city. In 1941, by the time of the Nazi invasion of Lithuania, Vilna was recorded as having a Jewish population of 80,000, including approximately 15,000 Jewish refugees from central and western Poland.

ROSH HASHANAH OBSERVED IN MANY LANDS; HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS GREET JEWS

NEW YORK, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- American Jewry observed Rosh Hashanah this year in traditional manner, combining solemnity and prayer with appeals for the support of the most important Israeli and other Jewish causes, special prayers for Jews behind the Iron Curtain and hopes for world peace in general and peace in the Middle East in particular.

Several hundred speakers on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal and Israel bonds addressed many synagogues across the entire country yesterday. Most of the addresses and appeals for sound financial support of Israeli causes were combined with Yizkor services.

In the large cities throughout the country every available hall, auditorium, even makeshift gathering places especially fitted for High Holy Days was crowded with worshippers. Special services were held for American Jewish servicemen in all Army, Navy, and other military installations in all parts of the world. These services were arranged by the National Jewish Welfare Board which had sent hundreds of rabbis, many of them flying thousands of miles, for this purpose.

JERUSALEM, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Synagogue and public halls converted into synagogues were crowded all over Israel during the Rosh Hashanah services, with President Izhak Ben Zvi attending the services in the Rehavia Synagogue here. The only Reform congregation here had 120 worshippers. Women were also called to the Torah in the Reform synagogue and the sermon on the second day of the holiday was delivered by a woman.

Many Israelis in Negev settlements ushered in the new year in new homes which were rushed to completion in the last few days before the holiday. Celebrations were held on the eve of Rosh Hashanah in Sderot and Ofakin, Negev urban centers, to mark the completion of housing for families who had previously lived in tents and cottages in ma'abarot.

Professor Abraham Kosuji of Japan who came to Israel last month to complete his conversion to Judaism, attended synagogue services in Jerusalem. A special prayer was offered in his presence for the Japanese Emperor.

LONDON, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- About 2,000 Jews crowded into Moscow's synagogue during the Rosh Hashanah services, according to press reports received here from the Soviet capital. The reports indicated that there were more younger people among the worshippers than in the last two years, but noted that the average age of the worshippers seemed to be above 50.

VIENNA, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Chancellor Julius Raab, Vice-Chancellor Bruno Pitterman and other ministers of the Austrian Government have sent New Year messages to Austrian Jewry.

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- President Arturo Frondizi extended New Year greetings to Argentine Jewry in a message sent to Dr. Abraham Mibashan, president of DATA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry. President Frondizi emphasized in his message his acknowledgment of the Jewish community's "fruitful and constant contributions to the spiritual and material progress" of Argentina.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- President Juscelino Kubitschek of Brazil in a New Year message, praised Israel's people and the Jews of Brazil as an "example of devotion for our fatherland."

BONN, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- West Germany's new President, Dr. Heinrich Lübke, sent a Jewish New Year greeting this week-end to the Jewish community of Germany, declaring it is his "sincere desire that the promising beginning for the re-establishment of unblemished co-existence in the common Fatherland will continue to grow in the year ahead." Other federal officials who sent warm greetings to the Jewish community included Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

ARYEH SHENKAR, PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL'S MANUFACTURERS ASSN., DEAD

TEL-AVIV, Oct. 5. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Aryeh Shenkar, president of the Israel Manufacturers Association for many years and owner of the Lodzia Textile Company, who died this week-end at the age of 82. Prime Minister David Ben-Burion eulogized Mr. Shenkar, who was a director of the Bank Leumi and headed many financial and industrial enterprises.

Born in Russia, Mr. Shenkar headed a textile firm in Kiev before emigrating to Israel in 1924. He was vice-president of the Standards Institute of Israel and a member of the Government Standing Committee for Trade and Industry.