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U.S. WOULD WELCOME DIRECT ARAB-ISRAEL TALKS, SECRETARY HERTER SAYS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Christian A. Herter told a press conference today that the United States would welcome direct Arab-Israel negotiations if the two sides could agree upon it. He referred to an offer made by Israel at the United Nations yesterday to negotiate a complete settlement of the Palestine issue with the Arabs "at any time and place" they choose and with no strings attached.

At the same time Mr. Herter declined to restate the American position of the anti-Israel blockade of the Suez Canal. He said he had expressed himself recently and "very succinctly" at the United Nations on this matter.

Mr. Herter stressed he had no knowledge that would indicate direct Israel-Arab conversations were in the offing. He explained that he referred to Israel's offer at the United Nations to hold such discussions. He said Israel's offer at least raised the question anew.

The Secretary of State said he did not know whether talks were possible. He thought the question of Arab-Israel negotiations was one of primary concern to the parties involved. But he made clear the United States would welcome a mutually-acceptable discussion between the Israelis and the Arabs at the United Nations or elsewhere.

COMMUNIST CHINA ATTACKS ISRAEL; SAYS JEWISH STATE SERVES U.S. INTERESTS

LONDON, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Communist China today utilized the election campaign in Israel to attack the Israel Government in a Peking radio broadcast in the English language beamed to Asian and African countries.

"With the general elections in Israel less than two months away," the broadcast said, "the Ben-Gurion Government is now under heavy fire for its policy of serving imperialism as a spearhead against the national independence movement in the Middle East and its military adventurism toward neighboring countries."

The broadcast said that "Israel is becoming a base for U.S. big business for their economic expansion in Africa and Southeast Asia." It emphasized that "tires, chemicals, and cement produced by American-owned or controlled factories in Israel are being exported to these areas in increasing quantities as Israeli goods to disguise United States economic penetration."

The Peking broadcast also alleged that "Israel economic and military ties with West Germany are growing" and that this is "causing much concern and indignation among the Israeli people, many of whom were victims of Nazi terror." It quoted the election manifesto adopted by the Israeli Communist Party with all its allegations against the present Israeli Government.

U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE CLOSES WITH ARAB-ISRAEL VERBAL DUEL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. 6. (JTA) -- A verbal duel between an Arab spokesman and Israel today closed the three-week general debate in the UN General Assembly. Ahmed Shukairy, Minister of State for Saudi Arabia, took the floor near the end of this afternoon's session to reply to Israel's offer for unconditional peace negotiations with the Arab states made here yesterday by Israel's delegation chairman Arthur Lourie.

Mr. Shukairy said the Arab states will not accept Israel's offer to negotiate a peace because Israel and "Zionist gangsters" destroyed the right of self-determination in Palestine. He said there is no such thing as a Jewish nation.

Mr. Lourie rose to reply, declaring "whether there is or is not a Jewish people is answered by the fact that 6,000,000 of my people went to their doom only because they were members of the Jewish people."

One of the final speakers in the general debate was the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, this year's chairman of the Moscow delegation, V. V. Kuznetsov. He avoided making any reference to the Suez Canal issue or to the Middle East in general. Preceding Russia in the general debate were Spain and Paraguay. Both supported Israel's general position on the Suez issue, bringing the total count of member states backing Israel to 27.

GOLDA MEIR RETURNS TO ISRAEL; REPORTS ON ISRAEL'S STAND AT U.N.

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, declared here last night on her return from the United States that Israel had gained at the United Nations General Assembly by raising the point that the Suez Canal blockade was a menace not only to Israel but to many Asian and African nations as well.

She also declared, in an airport interview, that Israel had made clear at the Assembly her position that she would not give up her right to passage of cargo and ships via the canal.

LIST OF IMPRISONED LEADER OF HAIFA RIOTS APPROVED FOR ELECTIONS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- The Israel Central Elections Committee today approved the list for the next elections to the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, headed by David Ben-Haroush, the self-styled leader of the North African immigrants who is serving a two-year jail term for participation in the Haifa riots last July. Altogether 24 lists have been approved by the committee.

The Israel Broadcasting Service meanwhile began preparations to enable Ben-Haroush to broadcast the platform and goals of his list, in accordance with an arrangement which provides that all qualified lists be given radio time.

The Interior Affairs Committee of the Knesset today endorsed unanimously the findings of a public inquiry committee on the North African immigrant rioting in Haifa last July and urged the Government to implement recommendations aimed at speeding up the absorption of such newcomers.

The committee, completing its discussion of the disturbances, also recommended the creation of a special authority with responsibility for advancing the integration of the various immigrant groups in Israel.

ALGERIAN ZIONISTS TO SEEK AMNESTY FOR NORTH AFRICAN JEWS IN ISRAEL

ALGIERS, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Algerian Zionists have decided to appeal to President Izhak Ben-Zvi to grant an amnesty to all those involved in the recent clashes in Haifa and Beersheba, it was reported here today. The administrative committee of the Algerian Zionist Federation is drawing up a petition to be presented to President Ben-Zvi of Israel.

The Zionist Federation has heard the director of the Economic Department for Europe of the Jewish Agency, M. Pravotiner, explain the background of the disturbances during a meeting organized by the Federation. Fifteen Jewish students who recently returned here from a visit to Israel, gave an account of the situation as they found it. The meeting also heard a report by Mr. Lazarus, director of the World Jewish Congress in North Africa, on his talks with Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Congress.

The only Jewish publication in North Africa, L'Information Juive, devoted practically its entire last issue to the recent incidents in Israel. The Algerian Rabbinical Council has decided to send an urgent appeal to religious institutions in Israel, asking them to use their influence to find a "just" solution to intercommunal tensions.

BRITISH CATHOLIC DELEGATION TO VISIT ISRAEL; HAS ARCHBISHOP'S APPROVAL

LONDON, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- A British Catholic delegation is due to pay a ten-day visit to Israel this month with the approval of the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Godfrey. The delegation, which will tour the country and visit Christian communities, will include Dor Bernard Orchard, chairman of the Bible Association, and the Reverend Reginald Fuller, secretary of the Association.

The Catholic clergymen will be the guests of the Foreign Relations Department of the Jewish Agency which has cooperated with the Israel Ministry for Religious Affairs and the British Chief Rabbi, in preparing the tour.

TEKOAH, ISRAEL'S REPRESENTATIVE AT U.N., NAMED AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Yosef Tekoah, Israel's permanent representative to the United Nations during the past year, has been named Ambassador to Brazil, the Israel Foreign Ministry announced today.

The 34-year-old diplomat studied law at the University L'Aurore in Shanghai and later at Harvard University. Married and the father of two children, Mr. Tekoah is scheduled to leave for Rio de Janeiro at the end of the current UN General Assembly session, where he will succeed Aryeh Aroch, now Israel's Ambassador to Sweden.

Mr. Tekoah's appointment was considered a move toward further strengthening of Israel's relations with Latin American countries and as a direct outgrowth of Foreign Minister Golda Meir's highly successful tour of major Latin American countries earlier this year.

RELAXATION OF U.S. IMMIGRATION LAWS URGED BY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Modernization of immigration laws, including abandonment of the national origins quota system, was suggested today in a report issued by a Republican committee on program and progress.

Published by the Republican National Committee, the new recommendations urged a policy for national security and peace in which "immigration laws must be an aid and not a hindrance to an effective foreign policy." It was recommended that immigration laws be made "a source of renewal and replenishment of the springs of creative activity in our own society."

The committee said: "We recommend a regular review and modernization of our present immigration laws. Time and conditions have made obsolete the national origins laws of 35 years ago." The committee proposed that "a careful study of these changes should be the first step toward a more realistic modernization of our immigration laws."

'MOSES AND AARON' OPERA SUCCESS IN GERMANY; ANTI-SEMITES NOISY

WEST BERLIN, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- A performance of Arnold Schonberg's opera, "Moses and Aaron," last night, as one of the events of the West Berlin Festival Week, enchanted most of the audience.

A small group which protested noisily against the opera was described by Walter Karsch, West Berlin Daily Tagenspiegel critic, as anti-Semitic. He wrote that the anti-Semitic outbursts were aimed not only at Schonberg and his opera but also against the conductor, Herman Scherchen, a Jew.

ISRAELI HASSIDIM PERMITTED BY RUSSIA TO VISIT GRAVE OF THEIR REBBE

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Three Israeli disciples of one of the great Hassidic rabbis of all time, Rabbi Nahman of Bratzlav -- "the Bratzlaver Rebbe," today received visas from the Soviet Embassy here to visit the grave of the rabbi.

The Bratzlaver Rebbe is buried in Uman, in the Kiev District. Two years ago, 12 Jerusalem disciples of the rabbi applied for visas to permit them to worship at the grave they hold sacred. Today, without explanation for the delay, or for the reason why only three of the 12 applicants were chosen, the three were summoned to the USSR Embassy and given visas. They were told they should go to Kiev, where detailed arrangements for visiting Uman would be made.

STRIKING NEW YORK LONGSHOREMEN UNLOAD ISRAELI ESROGIM AS EXCEPTION

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- Striking longshoremen in Brooklyn, headed by Anthony Anastasia, gave special consideration this morning to a cargo of eight cases of Israeli esrogim tied up aboard the S.S. Zion of the Zim lines and unloaded the esrogim in time for distribution among American Orthodox Jews who will use them during the forthcoming Succot holiday.

The longshoremen's action came in response to a plea by Gregory Bardacke, executive director of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut. When Mr. Bardacke brought to the attention of the leader of the striking longshoremen the fact that the perishable goods are for religious use and their delayed unloading would cause great financial losses to the Israel farm workers, he responded readily and the esrogim were quickly unloaded.

NEW YORK CITY NAMES NEW PUBLIC SCHOOL AFTER HENRIETTA SZOLD

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- A new elementary school, P.S. 134, bearing the name of Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah, was dedicated today in the presence of more than 1,000 members of Hadassah. The four-story, 1,185-pupil school in Manhattan is believed to be the only school in the New York city public school system bearing the name of a leading Zionist personality.

Speakers at the dedication included Dr. Miriam K. Freund, president of Hadassah, Charles H. Silver, president of the Board of Education, and Dr. Jacob Greenberg, Deputy City Superintendent of Schools.

DE GAULLE SPONSORS 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF ALLIANCE ISRAELITE

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- General Charles de Gaulle, President of the French Republic, has accepted the honorary sponsorship of the celebrations that will mark, in June 1960, the 100th anniversary of the Alliance Israelite Universelle. This was reported today by Marcel Franco, president of the American Friends of the Alliance.

Mr. Franco added that the celebrations will be world-wide and that delegates from Jewish communities of both the old and new worlds will come to Paris during the month of June to participate in them. It is expected that all the important sectors of American Jewry will be represented at the Paris meetings by their leaders.

JEWISH AGENCY ANNOUNCES FIRST AMERICAN NATIONWIDE BIBLE CONTEST

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- The first nationwide American Bible Contest will take place in May 1960, it was announced here today by Dr. Samuel M. Blumenfield, head of the department of education and culture of the Jewish Agency, which sponsors the project in cooperation with the Israel Bible Society of Jerusalem. All schools and youth organizations who wish to enter contestants are invited to submit their applications to the Jewish Agency, not later than November 15.

The first American Bible contest, which follows upon the widely-hailed success of a number of Bible quizzes being held in Israel, aims to promote greater interest in the reading and study of the Bible among young people throughout the United States and seeks to strengthen the role of Bible studies in the school curriculum. Dr. Azriel Eisenberg, executive vice president of the Jewish Education Committee and former president of the National Council for Jewish Education, has accepted the chairmanship of the project. Leading rabbis, educators, and Bible experts in the United States and Israel have agreed to serve as sponsors and consultants.

All students of Jewish schools--Yeshivot, day-schools, Talmud Torahs, congregational schools, one-day schools, or members of Jewish youth organizations are eligible to participate in the contest. There will be a junior group for young people between 12 and 14 years of age and a senior group for those between 14 and 17. For students who have a command of the Hebrew language and have studied the Bible in the original, the contest will be conducted in Hebrew.

A separate contest in English will be offered for those who have little or no command of the Hebrew language but have studied the Bible in English. The contest will test broad general knowledge of the Bible as well as detailed knowledge of specific sections. A free trip to Israel and other valuable prizes will be awarded at the end of the contest.

NEW YORK CHANGES COLUMBUS DAY PARADE IN DEFERENCE TO YOM KIPPUR

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- The coincidence of Yom Kippur and Columbus Day this year led to changes today in the schedule of the annual Columbus Day parade to avoid disturbing the worshippers at Temple Emanu-El which is located midway in the route of the parade on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.

Yom Kippur services are held at the Temple from 10 a. m. until sunset. The parade will begin at noon. In deference to the services, parade officials said that the reviewing stand will be moved south three blocks away from the Temple. While the paraders are marching through a six block area, at the center of which the Temple stands, no music will be played.

The east and west streets between Fifth Avenue and the next north-south lane, Madison Avenue, will be kept clear throughout the day to permit unimpeded arrival and departure of worshippers. Both sides of Fifth Avenue on the street on which the Temple is located will be kept clear of parade spectators.

DR. MAX BEER HONORED BY LEADING U. N. MEMBERS FOR JOURNALISTIC WORK

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Oct. (JTA) -- Dr. Max Beer, United Nations correspondent for the Neue Zurcher Zeitung, was honored here today at a luncheon marking the 50th anniversary of his career. Dr. Beer had covered the League of Nations from its inception to its dissolution, and has been covering the UN since its birth. At one time he acted as JTA correspondent.

More than 100 leading members of the UN General Assembly and Secretariat, as well as members of the press, participated in honoring the veteran journalist. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Victor A. Belaunde, President of the Assembly; UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld; Dr. Nahum Goldmann, as president of the World Jewish Congress, which is accredited at the United Nations as a consultative, non-governmental organization; and Miss Pauline Frederick, president of the United Nations Correspondents Association. Among telegrams and cables greeting Dr. Beer were messages from Dr. Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of West Germany, and from other statesmen.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY GETS \$40,000 FOR RESEARCH IN MENTAL HEALTH

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA) -- The department of psychology at Yeshiva University's Graduate School of Education announced today receipt of a grant of \$40,000 from the National Institute of Mental Health for continuation of a research program in learning and memory.

Dr. Irvin Rock, chairman of the department, said that the grant would permit continuation of the research for another 27 months. He said the experiments seemed to indicate that the effectiveness of learning by drill was open to question.