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AMBASSADOR HARMAN DECRIES ARAB TALK OF 'WIPING OUT' ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Avraham Harman, newly-appointed Israel Ambassador to the United States, said tonight in his first public address here that Arab talk of wiping out Israel is less realistic today than it was eleven years ago when "that policy was tried out by the Arabs and failed."

Defense vigilance, Ambassador Harman declared, is a great drain on Israel's manpower and financial resources. "But, in accepting this burden as they always have and always will, the people of Israel will never forget what it is that they are defending--the right of their children to live freely and their right through their own efforts and hard work, to live a better and fuller life," he emphasized.

Mr. Harman spoke at a reception in his honor which was held by the American Zionist Council, information arm of the American Zionist movement. The supper-meeting, held at the Hotel Commodore, was the first opportunity for the Zionist leadership in New York to welcome the newly-appointed Ambassador. More than 600 persons attended. Other speakers were Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization and chairman of the Jewish Agency, who spoke of the friendly relations existing between the United States and Israel, and Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, who presided.

"The Middle East is still, unfortunately, an exception to a historic process which all men of good-will hope will develop and gain strength," Ambassador Harman said. "This process involves the conduct of direct communication both as an expression of a desire to reach a settlement of disputes and as an essential condition for an approach to such a settlement."

"In relation to the Arab-Israel situation the preparedness for such a direct communication is still lacking on the Arab side and instead, one still hears wild talk from the highest Arab quarters, of preparations to wipe out Israel. Anybody visiting Israel today will soon convince himself that this talk is even less realistic than it was eleven years ago."

Mr. Harman went on to describe important advances by Israel in recent years, particularly in those areas which "are the sure foundation of national strength." After referring to the increase in economic production and the export of Israel goods and services, he spoke of Israel's advances in education. He also said that Israel is not likely to rest content with the advances already made in the field of scientific research.

Referring to the election campaign now being conducted in Israel, Mr. Harman said it was "proof of Israel's democratic system." Two aspects of the pre-election campaign which he found "positive and encouraging" were that among the campaigners and the audiences, the "place of locally-born and educated youth was much more pronounced than in past years," which he described as "an indication of the rooted quality of Israel's growing citizenship," and also that relatively new immigrants were "already providing political and civic leadership on a national and local level."

Dr. Goldmann Sees Mutual Understanding Between U.S. and Israel

Dr. Goldmann declared that Ambassador Harman is assuming his post at a time when there are no great problems in the relations between Israel and the United States. "There was hardly a period," Dr. Goldmann said, "when Israel-American relations have been so friendly and based on full mutual understanding as is the case now and there is every reason to hope that this will continue."

The world Zionist leader asserted that American Jewry and the Zionist movement in this country "will have the opportunity to benefit from the advice of Ambassador Harman on the problems of organizing the relationship between American Jewry and Israel in the various fields of cooperation."

Speaking of the Ambassador's familiarity with American Jewish life which he gained as Israel's Consul-General in New York for several years beginning in 1953, Dr. Goldmann declared that this awareness of the intricate problems of American Jewry will help

him "make a great contribution in cementing and shaping the forms of cooperation between Israel and the American Jewish community."

Dr. Goldmann characterized the new ambassador as one of those Israeli statesmen who, having the fullest understanding of the problems of American Jewry and the Zionist Movement, sees the need for "cementing the links between Jewish communities all over the world and Israel. He has remained, in this respect, a Zionist in the fullest sense of the word."

GERMANY ASKS FOR EICHMANN; LONDON DOUBTS HE IS IN KUWAIT

LONDON, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- A British Foreign Office spokesman reported today that Britain had been asked by West Germany for the extradition of Adolf Eichmann, former head of the "Jewish Section" of Hitler's Gestapo, who was reported to be hiding in the British-protected sheikhdom of Kuwait on the Persian Gulf.

The spokesman added that there seemed to be no evidence that Eichmann, who was responsible for the orders on which 6,000,000 European Jews were murdered, was in Kuwait.

(In Jerusalem, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today started action in connection with reports that Eichmann was hiding in Kuwait. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, in reporting this, declined to give any details. It was assumed that the activities included a study of all reports of West German authorities, as well as of governments in close touch with Kuwait.)

(In Bonn, a spokesman for the West German Ministry of Justice said today that Eichmann's whereabouts were still unknown. The spokesman was asked about the reports that West German authorities have informed Israel that they have discovered that Eichmann is residing in Kuwait. His reply was, that while it was assumed that the top Nazi war criminal, who disappeared after the war, fled to the Middle East, he has not been traced.)

SOVIET POLICE START SEARCH FOR ARSONISTS IN SYNAGOGUE FIRE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Soviet police have launched an intensive search for the arsonists who fired the synagogue and cottage of the caretaker of the Jewish cemetery in Malakhovka, a Moscow suburb, according to information reaching here today.

Despite vehement denials by Kol Haam, the Communist daily here, it was reported reliably here that the arson and the spreading of anti-Semitic leaflets in the area by the arsonists not only definitely did happen but also that it was widely known in Moscow where the news spread quickly among Moscow Jews.

Israel circles are convinced that the Soviet regime did not intend the arson and might have been shocked by it. They felt, however, that Soviet authorities should look into a possible connection between the arson and the anti-Semitic tone of many articles published in various Communist newspapers in Russia, particularly in the Ukraine.

FRENCH STATE-OWNED COMPANY ENDS OPERATIONS IN ISRAEL; BOWS TO ARABS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- The decision of the Renault company to end operations in Israel, reportedly because of Arab boycott threats, brought top level discussions in the Israel Government today.

The French firm, which is owned by the French Government, has a partnership with the Kaiser-Frazer operations in Israel and operates a plant in Haifa where assembly takes place with imported and locally made parts of the Renault Dauphine and other small automobiles which are exported to Asia and Africa.

Although the official reason given for the decision to halt operations was economic considerations, it was known that the Arab Boycott Committee had threatened a complete boycott of all Renault imports unless the operations in Israel were stopped. Israel officials were reported as viewing the decision with gravity, particularly because the company is state-owned.

ISRAEL BUYING THREE NEW FISHING VESSELS; TO OPERATE IN VARIOUS SEAS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Israel is buying three new fishing vessels, each designed and built for climate and work conditions in a different part of the world, it was reported here today.

One ship with special cooling facilities will be based at Israel's southern port of Eilat and will fish in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. Another vessel, to be operated by the Israel-Japan Fishing Company, will work the Atlantic Ocean and will be specially equipped for freezing tuna. The third ship will fish off the coast of West Africa and will be equipped to manufacture and freeze fishmeal and to prepare dried fish.

PROSECUTOR TO APPEAL FOR BAN ON NAZI SONG RECORD TO HIGHER COURT

FRANKFURT, Oct. 14, (JTA) -- A pledge to seek a reversal of a new court decision holding that a record of Nazi addresses and songs was not harmful was made today by the Frankfurt state prosecutor.

A lower court decision last May had ordered a ban on the American-made recording, called "Speeches and Songs of Nazi Germany" which had enjoyed a brisk sale. The records were confiscated. However, the Frankfurt High Court on Monday held that the record had no anti-Semitic tendencies and rejected a request of the prosecutor to make the confiscations permanent.

The issue will probably be taken now to the federal court in Karlsruhe, the highest in West Germany. Pending the ruling of the Karlsruhe court, the public prosecutor can either release the copies of the recording he still holds or continue to confiscate any copies placed on sale. No statement has been made by the public prosecutor's office as to which course will be pursued.

TEEN-AGED ANTI-SEMITES ARRESTED IN VIRGINIA; LINKED TO NEO-NAZI GROUP

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Oct. 14, (JTA) -- The existence of a "Nazi Storm Troop" of about 20 high school boys was disclosed here today as police made known the arrest of three teen-aged anti-Semites. The group was suspected of recent activities involving defacement of property with anti-Jewish slogans, arson and theft of rifles and ammunition.

Police said some of the youths were linked with George Lincoln Rockwell, self-styled commander of a neo-Nazi organization in nearby Arlington. Rockwell, a former naval officer, has spread anti-Jewish propaganda in the nation's capital area for about two years. Youths aged 14, 17 and 18 are accused in the fire bombing of the home of the Vice-Mayor of Alexandria. Anti-Jewish and Nazi slogans were pasted on the doorway.

At a Juvenile Court hearing today, the 14-year-old pleaded guilty to arson charges. Sentencing was postponed for two weeks. Juvenile Court jurisdiction was waived on the 17-year-old who was ordered held for Grand Jury action on charges of conspiracy and violation of probation. The 18-year-old, Lloyd J. Conner, was held for the Grand Jury on arson and burglary charges.

The father of the 14-year-old revealed the existence of the Nazi "Storm Troopers" at the local high school. He indicated the movement was inspired by Rockwell. Alexandria school superintendent T. C. Williams announced that he would launch an inquiry. Informants stated the group included Rockwell's disciples and was supplied with Nazi insignia, swastika arm bands and anti-Jewish material in pamphlet form.

The Vice-Mayor, whose home was the target of arson and anti-Jewish propaganda, is a non-Jew. His wife, also a Christian, is a Juvenile Court judge.

\$200,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR JEWISH SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

NEW YORK, Oct. 14, (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board today reported that Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs throughout the country have made available over \$200,000 in fellowships, scholarships and work-study plans to qualified people seeking financial aid for graduate social work education for Jewish Community Center work.

"This compares with barely \$20,000 in 1955 when the JWB began its nationwide recruiting effort to crack the shortage of professionally trained Jewish Community Center personnel," the JWB emphasized in a study of financial aid programs for social work education open to students seeking careers in Center work. It revealed that more than 100 students will be the beneficiaries of such grants from JWB regional sections and affiliated Centers and from JWB's Presidents Club and the National Association of Jewish Center Workers beginning with the current academic year.

Last year grants went to 90 students as compared with 29 for 1955-56. There were, however, 25 qualified individuals interested in professional careers in Center work who could not be helped last year because sufficient scholarship and work-study plans were unavailable. The JWB Year Book, in which these facts are reported, also notes that for 1958-59 JWB received more than 800 inquiries from persons interested in training for Center work positions. This compares with fewer than 50 inquiries in 1955-56.

In a study of membership trends, the Year Book found that individual affiliation with Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs is rapidly being replaced by family memberships. One out of every three Centers affiliated with JWB now enrolls members on a family basis. "There is a strong trend toward making family membership mandatory for the enrollment of children under 14, a growing tendency toward requiring it for teenage enrollment and a fairly general policy of making it optional for all other age groups, including young adults and older adults," the Year Book notes.

In four out of five Centers where adult membership is contingent upon family membership, the JWB study found that the same requirement applies for children under 14 and for teen-agers. Sixty percent of the Centers having family membership plans report that their total enrollment increased markedly in most age groups since they discontinued individual memberships. The majority of Centers, however, still have arrangements for accepting persons of every age group as individuals.

FEDERAL COURT HEARS JEWISH ARGUMENTS AGAINST SUNDAY BLUE LAWS

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- A special three-judge federal court hearing a suit attacking the constitutionality of Pennsylvania's recently-amended Sunday blue laws was told yesterday that compelling Jews to observe Sunday as a day of rest was the equivalent of forcing them to recognize Christianity.

Testimony to that effect was presented by Dr. Sidney B. Hoenig, Professor of History at Yeshiva University as the first opposition witness. The suit was started by Two Guys from Harrison, a discount store in Allentown, Pa. The court is made up of U.S. Circuit Judge William H. Hastle and District Judges George A. Welsh and John W. Lord, Jr.

Dr. Hoenig said that in the eighth century, church officials dominated civil authorities and forced the observance of Sunday. He said the writings of St. Augustine showed Sunday was considered by Christian scholars as a spiritual day rather than a day of rest. He also noted that for Jews Saturday is the rest day of the week.

"If a Jew is compelled to recognize Sunday as a sabbath, it would be basically forcing him to recognize the resurrection of Jesus," Dr. Koenig testified. The suit charges that the blue laws, which were recently stiffened with higher fines, are unconstitutional, favor one religion, are arbitrary and have been enforced in a discriminatory way.

CHICAGO MAYOR URGED TO END SHOWING OF NATIVITY SCENE AT CITY HALL

CHICAGO, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- The City of Chicago was urged today to end a practice of exhibiting on the main floor corridor of City Hall, a portrayal of the Nativity Scene during the Christmas period. The appeal was made by six organizations and five individuals. The organizations included three Jewish groups and the individuals, one rabbi.

Their statement said that a Creche had been exhibited at City Hall for the past eight years despite the belief of many organizations and individuals that "this display of a religious symbol on public property violates the American constitutional principle of separation of Church and State as set forth in the first amendment of the Federal Constitution and the Bill of Rights in the Illinois Constitution."

The statement said that officials representing the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Jewish Congress, the Chicago Board of Reform Rabbis, the Chicago Area Council of Liberal Churches, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Jewish War Veterans and the Chicago Council of Traditional Synagogues met with Mayor Richard J. Daley last June 9 to discuss the problem.

"The conference fully reviewed the constitutional and religious grounds" against such a display, the statement said, adding that "after a full and frank discussion, Mayor Daley told the group that he would take this matter under consideration." The participants in the conference said that the statement was being issued, five months after the meeting with the Mayor, "so that there may be public understanding and discussion of this situation."

The signatories added that they were urging "the city officials and our fellow citizens who are responsible for this annual display to take those steps necessary to maintain the spirit and the letter of religious freedom in our community by keeping our public buildings free from displays of religious symbols."

DR. JOSEPH SCHWARTZ NAMED TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF DROPSIE COLLEGE

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization, and an authority on Semitics and Semitic Literature, was elected as a member of the board of governors of Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning, it was announced by Dr. Abraham A. Neuman, president of the college, and Judge Horace Stern, chairman of its board of governors.

Dropsie College is one of the country's leading institutions specializing in higher Jewish and Semitic learning. It is a non-sectarian college under Jewish auspices for postgraduate studies.

Dr. Schwartz, who studied for the rabbinate at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Seminary, now Yeshiva University, holds an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from that institution. He received the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Yale University, and served on the faculties of the American University in Cairo and Long Island University.

MEYER NISSIM, FORMER JEWISH MAYOR OF BOMBAY, DIES IN INDIA; WAS 77

BOMBAY, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Meyer Nissim, a former mayor of Bombay and a prominent bank official who was active in Jewish communal affairs, died here today at the age of 77.

Born in this city, Mr. Nissim served at various times as chairman of the Central Jewish Board of Bombay, president of the Jewish Relief Association and treasurer of the United Israel Appeal. In 1958 he was invited by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion to come to Israel for the country's tenth anniversary.