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ISRAEL'S FIRST SUBMARINE LEAVES ENGLISH BASE FULLY ARMED FOR COMBAT

LONDON, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel's first submarine, the 800-ton "Tanin," left the British Naval Base in Portsmouth harbor on its 16-day cruise to Israel. The submarine, manned by a full complement of 56 officers and men, was fully armed with thirteen 2,000-pound torpedoes and "ready for combat."

The day of departure started at 7:30 a. m. when the Tanin's crew took up stations aboard the vessel while frogmen carefully inspected the hull in what an Israel staff officer called "a customary precautionary measure."

One hour later, the crew of the sister submarine, the "Rahav," paraded through the British base carrying Israel's navy flag and drew up on the pier facing the camouflaged submarine. As the colors were raised on the deck, Seaman Yehouda Haim, a 23-year-old Yemenite cook, intoned in the ship's galley an informal blessing for the ship's voyage.

Commander Yosef Dror, captain of the Tanin, arrived on the pier, accompanied by the commanding officer of the British naval base. After inspecting the Rahav crew and a British guard of honor, Commander Dror was piped aboard. Col. Yuval Neeman, the Israel military attache, and Lt. Cmdr. Nathan Sofer, the naval attache, assisted at the ceremony.

Another crew under the command of a lieutenant from Kibbutz Ein Harod, is being trained in England for the final takeover of Rahav, the second submarine purchased from the British. The crew of the Rahav, like the crew of the Tanin, is a true cross-section of Israel's population. They include Jews from North Africa, Persia, Poland, native-born Israelis, and South Africans. All of them are volunteers.

ISRAEL OPPOSES REACTIVATION OF PALESTINE COMMISSION; NOTIFIES U.S.

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel opposes reactivation of the Palestine Conciliation Commission by the United Nations, as demanded by the Arab states in the Arab refugee debate at the UN, it was learned here today.

The government's view regarding revitalization of the PCC is understood to have been relayed this morning to United States Ambassador Ogden R. Reid, who was summoned to the Foreign Ministry for a conference with Foreign Minister Golda Meir.

Israel is understood to see no opportunities for peaceful negotiations arising from a revitalization of the PCC. The key to the refugee situation, in Israel's view, lies in the persistent Arab refusal to recognize the Jewish State. The Israeli belief is that the Arab representatives at the UN seek revival of the PCC as a "smoke-screen" masking their refusal to consider any reasonable solution of the refugee problem.

Mrs. Meir today signed an agreement on behalf of Israel with the United Nations Special Fund providing for the allocation by the fund of \$320,000 for a flood-prevention project. The Government's share of the cost of the project will amount to 1,200,000 Israel pounds (\$672,000). Israel is the first country to receive an allocation from the Fund.

U. N. Relief for Arab Refugees May be Extended Another Three Years

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A compromise resolution dealing with the Arab refugee problem, extending the life of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the Palestine Refugees, for a three-year period beyond the present expiration date of June 30, 1960 appeared to be making headway here today with the consent of the United States delegation and the Arab representatives.

At present, the General Assembly's Special Political Committee, which has been wrestling with the Arab refugee problem for nearly a month, has before it a draft resolution co-sponsored by Pakistan and Indonesia calling for a five-year extension of UNRWA. The United States delegation has let it be known that it wants the mandate to be extended for no longer than two years.

The compromise draft, which may be introduced tomorrow, would accept a three-year extension for UNRWA, but would provide that UNRWA's mandate be reviewed after two years. Thus the Assembly would commit itself to take a fresh look at the entire Arab refugee problem not later than the Assembly session of 1961. The compromise draft may also include a clause calling upon UNRWA to undertake "revision" of its relief rolls.

ISRAEL STRESSES ITS RIGHTS TO THE GULF OF AKABA AT U.N. ASSEMBLY

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel today gave a one-minute reply to a three-hour Saudi Arabian attack against Israel's right to freedom of shipping through the Gulf of Akaba and the Straits of Tiran.

Shabtai Rosenne, Israel's delegate on the General Assembly's Legal Committee, took the floor in the Committee this morning after Saudi Arabia's Ahmad Shukairy concluded a long, quasi-judicial address which he started yesterday in an effort to "prove" that freedom of shipping in the Gulf of Akaba can be enjoyed only by the three Arab coastal states -- Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United Arab Republic.

Mr. Rosenne, in reply, told the Committee only that Israel's position "as one of the four coastal states on the Gulf of Akaba" was made clear in the General Assembly on March 1, 1957 and in the records of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea held last year. On both those occasions Israel had made it clear that it considers the waters in the Gulf of Akaba free to all shipping of all nations including Israel.

TWO ARAB INFILTRATORS KILLED IN GAZA AREA; ARABS KILL U.N. SOLDIER

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Two infiltrators from the Gaza Strip were killed today by an Israel army patrol, the Israel Army spokesman announced today. The patrol intercepted a group of three Arabs who refused to halt and opened fire instead. The third Arab fled across the border. Two members of the patrol were wounded and treated in a nearby hospital.

(The United Arab Republic was blamed by United Nations officials today for the killing last Saturday of a Canadian United Nations Emergency Force soldier, Ronald Allen of Halifax, Nova Scotia. He died from wounds he suffered when his jeep was fired on during a routine patrol of the Sinai border.)

JORDAN ASKS ITALY TO PREVENT SELLING U.S. SURPLUS ARMS TO ISRAEL

ROME, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- The Government of Jordan has formally asked the Italian Foreign Ministry for guarantees that arms surpluses left in Italy by the United States occupation army after World War II will not be sold to Israel, it was reported today.

The Agenzia Diplomatica news agency said that the request was accompanied by a warning that Jordanian-Italian relations might otherwise be "compromised."

The news agency also reported that the Italian Foreign Ministry, while not replying with a precise commitment, let it be known that the matter of surplus arms would be examined and that Jordan's request would be taken "into consideration."

ISRAEL PLANS TO INVEST \$200,000,000 IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED INDUSTRIES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- The Israel Government plans to invest at least \$200,000,000 in the next five years in government-owned companies, it was indicated here today.

One-third of loans to be made hereafter from the Israel Development Budget to government-owned industries will be in the form of share capital and the other two-thirds will be 14-year four-percent loans, it was announced. Previously, the Government gave medium-term loans at commercial interest rates which produced heavy financial burdens for the companies.

The Government also plans to convert existing loans into share capital and long-term loans in an effort to make such companies more attractive to private investments, particularly from abroad, by improving the financial positions of such industries.

ISRAEL AND FRANCE SIGN CULTURAL PACT; TALKS LASTED SEVERAL YEARS

PARIS, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A cultural accord between Israel and France, which had been in the negotiation stage for the past several years, was signed yesterday at the Quai d'Orsay. Mordechai Shneerson, Israel's Minister in Paris, signed for Israel, while M. de Carbonel signed on behalf of France. Under the agreement French will become the most favored foreign language in Israel's primary and secondary schools.

NEW ISRAEL FREIGHTER LAUNCHED IN GERMANY; BUILT UNDER REPARATIONS PACT

LUEBECK, West Germany, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A new freighter, built for the Zim-Israel Navigation firm, was launched here today. The vessel, named "Natanya," with a capacity of 5,600 tons, can reach a speed of 14.7 knots. The ship was constructed by the Orenstein-Koppel Werft company here under terms of the reparations agreement with Israel.

ISRAEL TOP ENVOYS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES SUMMONED FOR CONSULTATIONS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Israel's top envoys from various parts of the world have been summoned home for consultations but Foreign Ministry officials said the simultaneous arrivals were only a coincidence and not part of any special conference.

Observers said the arrivals presumably were connected with forthcoming changes of heads of several major Israel Embassies. Arye Harel, envoy to Soviet Russia, and Gideon Raphael, Israel envoy in Brussels are already here. Ehud Avriel, the envoy to Ghana and Arye Levavi, the ambassador to Argentina, were due later this week.

RE-TRIAL OF 40 JEWS STARTS IN TANGIERS; JEWISH LEADERS WORRIED

ROME, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A re-trial of 40 Jews on charges of participation in illegal Jewish emigration from Morocco, scheduled to get underway today in Tangiers, is provoking grave concern among Jewish leaders in Mediterranean countries.

Zachariah Shuster, European director of the American Jewish Committee, said here today that the 40 defendants were tried for the first time two months ago, and were given sentences of up to one year in jail. The re-trials were ordered when the public prosecutor in Tangiers moved for more drastic penalties.

The Moroccan Government, which had allowed emigration for the 200,000 Jews in Morocco, clamped down a ban in July 1, 1957, ending emigration almost completely.

EFFORT TO BAR JEWS FROM TEACHING HEBREW AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY FAILS

LONDON, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A last-ditch effort to bar Jews from teaching the Hebrew language and the literature of the Old Testament at Oxford University was defeated yesterday by the university's governing board.

Two weeks ago, the Congregation of the university, its governing board, approved a by-law that the Regius Professorship of Hebrew should no longer be confined to the Canon of Christ Church, thus opening appointments to Jewish scholars. At a meeting of the Congregation yesterday, a canon of the Church of England proposed an amendment which would without naming Jews, automatically have barred them from the chair. It was defeated by a vote of 145 to 41.

Prof. G. R. Driver, Oxford Professor of Semitic Philology, speaking against the amendment, said it was "obviously aimed at the exclusion of Jews." He also said "I would be the last to exclude" a Jewish scholar from the professorship.

AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- In the last few months "the Soviet Union's campaign against Jews and Judaism has intensified," according to a report from Moscow in this week's issue of Life magazine. The lengthy report, illustrated with photographs, was written by Life correspondent Patricia Blake. It says that, within recent months "all over the country synagogues have been raided and newspaper articles have appeared attacking Jews as 'thieves' and 'enemies of socialism.'"

In all of Russia, Miss Blake reports, only 18 boys, who are students at a make-shift yeshiva conducted in one of Moscow's three synagogues, are "permitted any education in the traditions of Judaism." According to the writer, only 3,000 siddurim--Hebrew prayer books--have been printed in Russia since the Bolshevik revolution of 1917, "and only a few hundred were ever distributed.

The Life writer reports that Jews are not allowed to serve as officers in the army or as officials in the government. In Kiev, where there are 180,000 Jews, local authorities have turned the central synagogue into a public theater. Only one synagogue remains in Kiev, Miss Blake reports, and that one occupies an "old ramshackle building." The Jews in Kiev, the writer reports, have no kosher butcher shop, and were forbidden to bake matzos last Passover. "Many people" who took a day off last Passover to celebrate the holiday were arrested, according to the report.

In spite of the persecutions, many Jews including young men in their twenties, told the Life correspondent that they "feel like Jews." The correspondent reports that among Russian Jews she found a good deal of interest in Israel, and that she was told "maybe one day they will let us go to Israel."

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST EMPLOYMENT OF JEWS BY INSURANCE FIRMS REPORTED

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- "Some perceptible decrease" in discrimination against employment of Jews by the life insurance industry was reported here today by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. However, the report emphasized that "the ancient habit still persists."

The league's report revealed that the liberalization in employment of Jewish executives has taken place primarily in sales functions, but that there still appears to be a "clear pattern of discrimination against Jews" in home office positions. "In the branch offices, primarily concerned with selling insurance, 6.2 percent of all executive employees are Jewish," the report said. "But in home offices, only 3.6 percent are Jewish."

The ADL report, based on a study of seven major life insurance companies which are a principal factor in the industry, was presented at the opening session of its 46th annual meeting at the Savoy Hilton Hotel. The study found significant that, even among the 3.6 percent of Jews employed in company home offices, two-thirds were "clustered" in jobs as actuaries, doctors, lawyers, or accountants, and "hence could not be considered as administrative, front-office, or policy-making employees."

It noted that branch offices were most apt to hire Jews where sales are to be made in cities with large Jewish populations. Five of the seven companies studied have both home offices and sales branches in Greater New York. "In the New York sales branches of these five companies," the report said, "10 percent of executive personnel are Jews; in the home offices, only 4.1 percent."

FEDERAL COURT DENIES APPLICATION OF ORTHODOX JEWS AGAINST SUNDAY LAW

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Federal Judge Mendon Morrill today denied applications made in United States District Court here for a restraining order to prevent New Jersey's Sunday closing law from being enforced against persons who keep Saturday as their day of religious rest and observance.

Judge Morrill's ruling was issued in the case of two Orthodox Jewish merchants, who had challenged the ban on Sunday sales on the ground that the law violates constitutional guarantees of religious freedom.

The next step in the case will be a hearing December 11 by a three-judge federal court here on motions for a temporary injunction aimed at barring enforcement of the Sunday sales ban until its constitutionality has been determined. The case may ultimately be appealed to the United States Supreme Court, American Jewish Congress attorneys said today. The American Jewish Congress sees the issue as a major test case affecting religious liberty and separation of church and state.

FEDERAL COURT IN PENNSYLVANIA RULES IN FAVOR OF SUNDAY BLUE LAW

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A special three-judge Federal court yesterday rejected arguments that Pennsylvania's Sunday sales ban violated the First Amendment on freedom of religion and upheld the law.

The decision clears the way for district attorney's in the state's 67 counties to enforce a 1959 amendment, which spells out items that may not be sold on Sundays and raises penalties to a maximum \$200 fine or 30 days in jail. The ruling was only on the amendment and not on the 1939 blue law banning Sunday sales which had also been challenged.

SCHOOL BOARD REJECTS PETITION ON REFERENDUM FOR PRAYER IN CLASSROOMS

PLAINEDGE, L. L., Dec. 2. (JTA) -- A petition signed by 5,000 residents of this suburban community, calling for a referendum on making mandatory recitation of the "Regens:" prayer in all classrooms in the school district, was rejected last night by the Plainedge Board of Education. The vote was five to two.

The prayer recommended by the New York State Board of Regents also is the subject of a suit brought by a parents group against the Herrick, L. L., Board of Education. The Nassau County Supreme court sanctioned use of the prayer. The decision has been appealed by the parents to the Appellate Division.

The board majority said after the vote that at its next meeting on December 10 it would propose a moment of silent meditation at the opening of the school day in place of the prayer, the text of which is: "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence on Thee, and we beg Thy blessing upon us, our parents, our teachers and our country."

ISRAELI IS FIRST WINNER OF U.S. FELLOWSHIP FOR JEWISH COMMUNITY TRAINING

NEW YORK, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- Shimon Ben-Eliezer of Israel, assistant to the treasurer of the Jewish Agency, has been named the first winner of the Henry Wineman International Fellowships, it was announced here today by Sol Satinsky, chairman of the Fellowship committee. Mr. Ben-Eliezer will study American fund-raising techniques, budgeting and social planning, dividing his time between the national offices of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and local Jewish communities. He will come to America this month and remain here for four months.

The Henry Wineman International Fellowships were established early this year through a grant by the family of the late Henry Wineman of Detroit, as a living tribute to his memory as one of the founders of the Council, and as a vice-president and member of its first board of directors. The fellowships, which are administered by the Council, will bring key community executives from Europe, Israel, South America, and other overseas areas to the United States for training in American Jewish communal service techniques.

Mr. Ben-Eliezer has been granted a leave by the Jewish Agency to enable him to take advantage of the fellowship. In his post as assistant to the treasurer, he has responsibility for relationships with other countries, including the United States, in financing the Jewish Agency, the largest single beneficiary of community federations and welfare funds. His responsibilities include analysis and interpretation of the Jewish Agency's work, preparation of financial materials, liaison with the Jewish Agency's Committee on Control and Authorization of Campaigns in the United States, and preparation of its financial reports.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR AGRON HELD IN ISRAEL; PREMIER DELIVERS EULOGY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 2. (JTA) -- President Ezhak Ben-Zvi, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and other notables took part today in a memorial service for the late mayor of Jerusalem, Gershon Agron, at the end of the traditional 30-day mourning period.

In a brief eulogy, the Prime Minister recalled that Agron was one of the first members of the Jewish Legion to remain after World War I in Palestine as a pioneer. Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, paid tribute to Agron's devotion to the re-birth of Israel. President Ben-Zvi presided at the service held in the Hebrew University.