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THREE JEWS ARRESTED IN MOROCCO FOR CONTACT WITH RELATIVES IN ISRAEL

PARIS, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Two Moroccan Jews were detained by Casablanca police as they were about to board a ship for France, it was reported here today. The arrest followed a search of their luggage which revealed photos and correspondence with a relative in Israel. Another Jew, who had accompanied the two to the harbor, was also arrested.

Another report said that a complaint to the Moroccan authorities that police officers had resorted to physical coercion to extract from a group of Jews information regarding their sons' emigration to Israel has been dismissed by the District Attorney of Morocco as "unfounded" and the file closed.

Several months ago the Moroccan police in Fez arrested three Jews and interrogated them as to the circumstances surrounding their sons' departure for Israel. In the course of the questioning the police beat them with sticks. Later a complaint, supported by a medical certificate, was lodged by one of these men, David Levy, against the police officers. Now the District Attorney of Fez informed Mr. Levy that a police investigation of his complaint had shown the charge to be unfounded. He had, therefore, ordered the file to be closed.

U.S. REPORTED FAVORING REACTIVATION OF U.N. PALESTINE COMMISSION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The United States delegation here still favors reactivation of the Palestine Conciliation Commission as an instrument for dealing with the Arab refugee problem, it appeared today. Israel is not in favor of such reactivation.

Indonesia and Pakistan, which have co-sponsored a draft resolution dealing with the Arab refugee problem, were seen here today as likely to revise their own draft so as to provide for reactivation of the PCC as desired by the U.S. delegation.

A move by Ahmad Shukairy, head of Saudi Arabia's delegation here, to inject a discussion of Israel's right to freedom of passage through the Gulf of Akaba was effectively sunk today in the General Assembly's Legal Committee.

The Committee had before it an item proposing a study of "Juridical Regime of Historic Waters Including Historic Bays." Mr. Shukairy utilized his right to debate that proposal and delivered a long speech claiming that the Gulf of Akaba was an Arab Sea. He denied Israel's right to use the Gulf.

Today a resolution sponsored by five of the 82 members in the Committee suggested disposal of the item by referring it to the International Law Commission with a recommendation that the ILC handle the matter of historic waters "as it deems appropriate." The delegations co-sponsoring the resolution are the representatives of Greece, Mexico, Chile, Japan and Liberia. Contrary to Mr. Shukairy's suggestion for urgent action, this resolution would postpone a study for years.

Shabtai Rosenne, Israel's delegate in the Committee, who informed the group yesterday that Israel considers the right to freedom of passage through the Gulf of Akaba as unchallengeable, took the floor again today to say that Israel does not think that "historic waters or historic bays" can be "subjected to a single legal regime." The Legal Committee will continue debate of the five-nation resolution tomorrow and is expected to adopt it.

ISRAEL PRESIDENT TALKS WITH PARTY LEADERS ON FORMATION OF CABINET

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- President Ben-Zvi today began the customary formal consultations with party leaders before calling on one of them to try to form a new coalition Government. He was expected to appoint David Ben-Gurion for the task.

The Prime Minister met last night with General Zionist leaders despite flat statements by Mapam and Achdut Avodah leaders that they would not join a coalition in which the General Zionists were participants. The Prime Minister said again that he wanted a broad coalition including both the General Zionists and the two left-wing parties.

NASSER SEEN AS SEEKING NEW ANTI-ISRAEL ISSUE TO COVER UP DIFFICULTIES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser is trying to divert attention from his difficulties in the Arab world by announcing his opposition to Israel's implementation of the Jordan River irrigation project, Israeli circles declared here today.

Colonel Nasser was reported by Cairo dispatches to have issued a statement opposing Israel's irrigation project. Observers here, however, are of the belief that he is in desperate need of an anti-Israel issue to cover splits inside the Arab bloc.

Colonel Nasser's plan to stem Syrian opposition to the merger with Egypt inside the UAR are understood to have run into great difficulties. The Egyptian ruler also fears the effects of the reported move by Iraq to revive the plan for a "fertile crescent," a move that would join together Iraq, Jordan and the Syrian region of the UAR.

To offset these dangers to UAR hegemony, Col. Nasser is apparently trying to center attention on the Jordan River issue, hoping thereby to create a new "emergency" around which he might rally Arab forces for a "unity" move against Israel.

ARAB LANDS USE ISRAELI TERRITORY AS ROUTE FOR SMUGGLING NARCOTICS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Israeli territory is used as "an important land route" for illegal traffic in forbidden narcotics from Lebanon through Syria, Jordan and the Negev into Egypt, according to a study from a special five-man committee of experts which reported its findings to the United Nations Secretary General here today.

The special narcotics mission was appointed by Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld earlier this year and surveyed the illegal traffic in narcotics through visits to Afghanistan, Cyprus, Jordan, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, the Trucial states, Turkey, Syria, Egypt and Yemen.

"There is a large-scale traffic," the committee reported, "flowing from the north through Jordan, over the Israeli border, across the Negev desert, then over the Israel-Egyptian border and on to a market in Egypt. The smugglers' efforts along this route are well organized and coordinated but there is no cooperation whatever between enforcement forces.

"The reason for this situation is a well-known political one, and thus beyond the scope of the mission to comment on -- it can only point out that while the situation exists the smugglers have all the advantage," the report stressed.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT URGED TO INTRODUCE EQUALITY FOR ALL RELIGIONS

ROME, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- A memorandum of the Italian Evangelical Churches, urging revision of the Italian Penal Code to place all religions on an equal level in matters of offenses against religious activity, has been submitted to the Italian Ministry of Justice.

The memorandum, which was prepared by the federal council of the Evangelical churches, also was submitted to the Special Parliamentary Committee for the Reform of the Italian Penal Code.

The memorandum stated that the suggestions and requests "aim at harmonizing the new code with constitutional principles and with the renewed Italian conscience." The memorandum was concerned with paragraphs of the 1930 Penal Code, issued during Mussolini's regime, which deal with punishments for offenses chiefly against "the religion of the state," meaning Catholicism.

The memorandum urged that the articles, which establish prison terms of one to three years for offenses against "the religion of the state," should be changed to provide equal punishment to "whoever prevents or disturbs public religious functions or offends those professing a religion, and also if the offenses are aimed against a religious cult other than the Catholic." This was proposed as in conformity with "the principles of equality, of the equal dignity of all citizens and of the equal freedom of all religious faiths as established by the Constitution" of Italy.

The memorandum urged abrogation of Article 406 which provides that such offenses, if non-Catholic religions are involved, are punishable "but with lighter sentences," a distinction which constitutes an offense and an injury to the equal social dignity of all Italian citizens, as established by Article 3 of the Constitution.

Another revision urged by the memorandum concerned Article 724 which provides fines for public abuse of "the Divinity, the symbols and the persons venerated by the religion of the State." Extension to cover all religious adherents in Italy was proposed.

The memorandum also proposed that the ban on "religious faiths in contrast with public order," now under consideration for inclusion in the new code, be charged to the prohibition of "rites which are against public morality." This proposal was motivated by the fact that local police ban or suspend religious ceremonies of non-Catholics on grounds that these disturb public order and offend the feelings of the Catholic majority.

WEST GERMAN MINISTER CHARGED WITH BEING A NAZI AND KILLING JEWS

HAMBURG, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Charges that Theodor Oberlander, West Germany's Minister for Expellees and War Victims, had been active in Hitlerian racist activities were printed here today in Der Spiegel, one of the leading news magazines in West Germany.

Dr. Oberlander had been accused by leftist newspapers published in East Germany of the mass murder of Polish intellectuals and Jews in Lwow, Poland, during the summer of 1941. Der Spiegel today reveals that he was affiliated with the psychological warfare section of Hitler's SS and SA units, and was the author of articles calling upon "racially superior" Germans to fight against "inferior" Slavs and Jews.

(At Tel Aviv, today, Moshe Reiss, a Jewish survivor of the Nazi Ghetto in Lwow, told newspapers that Oberlander had several hundred Jews, including rabbis, killed during the first few days of Germany's occupation of Lwow. Later, he said, "many thousands of Jews were rounded up, and 5,000 were killed near Lwow. Those actions took place under Oberlander's orders. I am shocked to hear that he denies these facts now," Mr. Reiss stated, adding that he is willing "to go anywhere to testify to these facts under oath."

GERMAN AUTHORITIES CONFISCATE ANTI-SEMITIC FILM SOUGHT BY SAUDI ARABIA

LUEBECK, Germany, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- A copy of the banned, anti-Semitic film, "Jud Suess," was confiscated by police here today when a squabble developed between the owner of the film and a prospective purchaser.

A German film dealer was reportedly ready to sell the copy of the Nazi film to Prince Ben Abdul Asis al Saud, a brother of King Saud of Saudi Arabia, for \$150,000. When representatives of the Saudi Arabian prince withheld payment, associates of the dealer began questioning the authenticity of the film, and reported to police. The police authorities then discovered that the copy was authentic, and promptly confiscated it.

CHARGE THAT JEWS 'ESCAPE' NON-WHITE CITY NEIGHBORS HELD UNWARRANTED

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Albert L. Gordon, prominent Boston rabbi and sociologist, today took sharp issue with charges that Jews were moving to the suburbs to "escape" their non-white city neighbors. The author of the sociological study "Jews in Suburbia," addressed the 46th annual meeting of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, now taking place here.

"Far more important" changing social and economic factors account for the move to the suburbs of both Jews and Christians, Dr. Gordon said. He predicted, however, that the "escapists" among those moving out of the cities will find within the next decade that "there are fewer places to which to run." Dr. Gordon spoke in opposition to the criticism voiced last month at the General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations by Marvin Braiterman, a Baltimore attorney.

Declaring that the "escapist" charge leveled against Jews is unwarranted, Rabbi Gordon said: "Although it is true that the move to suburbs may constitute escapism for some people, there are many other far more important reasons why Jews began moving to suburbs, not the least of which are the factors associated with the increasing number of marriages, larger families, changing housing needs, improved economic income, better transportation and the desire for improved status."

He added that "it is proper, however, to advise the minority who 'escape' to the suburbs in order to avoid contact with non-whites that the invasion of erstwhile white neighborhoods by non-whites is only just beginning." The improvement in opportunities for non-whites to acquire better education, technical skills, better jobs and higher status, "makes inevitable their desire for better housing and living conditions," he asserted.

Dr. Gordon noted that there are some people, "Jews and non-Jews alike, who will attempt to run from it all for awhile." He then predicted that within another decade there will be fewer places to which "escapists" can run. "What I have said," he added, "with respect to non-whites applies equally to those who are seeking to flee from communities into which Jews are moving. We will all have to accept the basic fact that we shall have to come to terms with reality."

Irving Ferman, executive vice-chairman of the President's Committee on Government Contracts, addressing the ADL meeting, said that discrimination in employment is still the "most basic and crucial problem faced by minority groups in the United States." He also urged volunteer agencies in the civil rights field to place "greater emphasis" on equality of opportunity in employment.

Voting, education and housing equality are "important to the dignity" of minority group members, Mr. Ferman said. "But the leaders of social minded groups should recognize the fact that the first responsibility of a family head, whether he belongs to a minority group or not, is to look out for the economic welfare of his family--to see that they get their bread and butter. It seems to me that equal if not greater emphasis should be placed by volunteer agencies in the civil rights field on equality of opportunity in employment for all minority group members."

40,000 TO ATTEND CHANUKAH FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK FOR ISRAEL BONDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- An anticipated 40,000 persons will attend the annual Chanukah Festival for Israel which is arranged by the Israel Bond Organization for December 21 and January 4 at Madison Square Garden, it was announced today.

The festival will climax the 1959 effort to raise \$15,000,000 through sales of Israel bonds. Admission is free to bond purchasers. The Inbal Dance Theater troupe will perform at the two festivals. Other attractions will be Edward G. Robinson, Eartha Kitt, Nathan Milstein, Jan Peerce, Jennie Tourel and Ed Sullivan. Music will be provided by 60 players of the New York Philharmonic.

ORT DIRECTOR ARRIVES IN U.S. FOR TALKS WITH J. D. C. ON 1960 BUDGET

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Max A. Braude, director general of the World ORT Union, arrived from Geneva today for discussions with the Joint Distribution Committee and American ORT officials concerning the financing in 1960 of the more than 600 trade schools and other vocational programs which ORT conducts in 19 countries. The ORT budget for 1960, Mr. Braude estimated, will be over \$6,000,000. Over 35,000 persons are receiving training in ORT schools this year, he said.

Mr. Braude, who visited Poland recently, said that the ORT activities in Poland "have met with a resounding welcome among Polish Jews because economic conditions indicate the necessity of occupational training." He also reported that in Israel, ORT is the largest factor in vocational education in the country. He warned, however, that the larger numbers of youths graduating from the primary schools each year and the many more applying for admission to the vocational high schools are far in excess of the capacity of Israel's vocational institutions.

FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING TELEVISION IN ISRAEL STUDIED IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Harry Zinder, director of Kol Israel, the Israel Broadcasting Service, arrived today from Europe to explore with U.S. experts the feasibility of establishing a television service in Israel. Mr. Zinder discussed these possibilities with European services and organizations, and will continue talks in Europe on his return there in the middle of December.

In addition, Mr. Zinder will contact consultant firms in the United States to assist the Israel Broadcasting Service in the construction of a new broadcasting building in Jerusalem. Israel, at present, has only a government radio service.

WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM FORMS EUROPEAN BOARD IN LONDON

LONDON, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The European Board of the World Union for Progressive Judaism has been constituted and has adopted a constitution, it was announced today. After transfer of the central office of the world Reform group to New York early next year, the European board will direct activities on the continent from its office here.

The Hon. Lily Montagu was elected president of the board. Rabbi J. Soetendorp and M. Greilsammer were named co-chairmen and Dr. S. C. Lewsen was elected honorary treasurer. Delegates from France, Germany, Switzerland, Holland and Britain are members of the European Board.

CAPTAIN GOLDBERG RETIRES AS CHIEF DISTRICT CHAPLAIN OF U.S. NAVY

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Captain Joshua L. Goldberg, chief chaplain of the United States Third Naval District, was honored today by the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board on the occasion of his retirement from the Navy. He will retire at the end of this year.

The citation to Rabbi Goldberg, the first Jewish chaplain to be named a district chaplain by the Navy, lauded his "splendid record of achievement as rabbi and chaplain." Chaplain Goldberg, who came to the United States in 1916, was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. He was awarded a citation with commendation ribbon by the Navy for outstanding service in World War II, among many honors.

DAIA, CENTRAL BODY OF ARGENTINE JEWRY, CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- A dinner marking the 25th anniversary of DAIA, Argentine Jewry's communal federation, was held here in the presence of the Israel Ambassador, Dr. Arie Levavi and Jewish communal leaders. Dr. Abraham Mibashan, DAIA president, traced the history of the federation from its establishment in 1934 and described the role of the organization in representing the Jews of Argentina and in supporting world Jewry through crises in various parts of the globe.

Other speakers included Dr. Levavi, Emilio Gutkin, president of the Buenos Aires Kehilla, Antonio Klein, general secretary of the Argentine Zionist Federation, Dr. Nicolas Rappaport, a former president of the DAIA, Hirsch Trivaks, former secretary of DAIA, Mark Turkow, representative of the World Jewish Congress, Henry Levy, director of the Joint Distribution Committee in South America, and others. Greetings were read from Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress.