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HAMMARSKJOLD URGES U.S. AND BRITAIN TO ACT ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUES

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold today virtually challenged the members of the United Nations, particularly Britain and the United States, to take specific actions in the Security Council or the General Assembly to halt "deterioration" of the Middle East situation with regard to Arab-Israel disputes.

Mr. Hammarskjold was asked at a press conference here to comment on statements dealing with the Middle East made yesterday by President Eisenhower in Washington and by Britain's Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd in the House of Commons in London. Mr. Eisenhower had reiterated United States dependence on the United Nations to enforce the principle of freedom of shipping through the Suez Canal. Mr. Lloyd had stated that he saw a "dangerous situation" existing now in the Middle East. Both expressed hope that the United Nations would solve the Middle East problem.

"I think," Mr. Hammarskjold said, "the reactions are natural as regards the role of the United Nations, and I firmly hope that this expression of views--that is to say, that the United Nations carries a responsibility--will be followed, on the part of those who have made the statements, by appropriate reactions and actions in the United Nations and in support of the United Nations. As regards Mr. Selwyn Lloyd's evaluation, I have only just seen it and I do not know exactly on what basis he wishes to put his evaluation.

"You know as well as I do the various facts at the moment. It is definitely a situation with symptoms which indicate a deterioration. As to United Nations action, you know that such action can take different forms. It can be action in the Security Council or in the General Assembly or through the Secretary-General. There is an area, so to say, reserved for each of these various types of action.

"I can do some things--which I have tried--that are easier for the Secretary-General to do in the ways available to him than for the other organs. There are things which the other organs can do and the Secretary General cannot do. It is a question for everybody who has responsibility in this case to judge when we pass from a situation which should be handled by the means available to the Secretary General to a situation which requires action by one of the other organs.

"My own feelings is that there is a certain tendency at present in some quarters to forget this difference of responsibilities and to expect from the Secretary General action which rightly belongs to the Security Council. I have done and will continue to do what is possible for me to keep this situation on the rails with the means at my disposal and with the support, or lack of support, which I have to register," Mr. Hammarskjold emphasized.

(The London Times declared editorially today that the problem of passage of Israel ships and goods through the Suez Canal should be taken out of Mr. Hammarskjold's hands by the United Nations itself if the Security Council were not to look completely helpless in the matter. The influential London newspaper said the issue could no longer be left to the Secretary General's private negotiations.)

Says He Will Make Public Report on Israel-Syrian Clashes

Mr. Hammarskjold was asked about the statement made in Syria this week by United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser, who challenged Iraq to send its armies to support the Syrians in their current dispute with Israel.

"We see in the area," he replied, "a so-called shuttle between actions and counter-actions, between statements and counter-statements. It is a chain reaction. The general distrust has not diminished. Any move, however innocent, brings forth counter-moves. We must break the chain reaction. How? It is difficult to say. We must come to grips with both sides."

Asked about the "condemnation" of Israel voted this week by the Syrian-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, at a meeting at which Israel was not represented, Mr. Hammarskjold said that all of the facts regarding the recent Israel-Syrian border clashes have not yet been reported. He pointed out that Col. Raymond Pirlot, chairman of the Syrian-Israel MAC, had made a statement of his own deploring rearmaments by both Syria and Israel in the demilitarized zones along the Israel-Syrian border.

He said he expected a full report on these border clashes from the UN Truce Supervision Organization, possibly next week, and would make that report public when received here.

STATE DEPARTMENT ASSURES HOUSE COMMITTEE ON U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, (JTA) -- C. Douglas Dillon, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, today told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Israel is specifically included among nations to receive special assistance this year.

Testifying before the committee, Mr. Dillon fulfilled a pledge made by the State Department to Congress last year to restore Israel to the special assistance list. An attempt was made last year by the executive department to cut Israel out of the special assistance program.

Mr. Dillon meanwhile told the committee that even though the United Arab Republic bars Israeli cargo from the Suez Canal, the United States cannot deny aid to the UAR. He said such aid is in our own national interest in connection with our Near East policy.

A number of committee members criticized the Nasser regime and urged Mr. Dillon to have the State Department take a firmer stand against Arab boycott and blockade practices.

GOLDA MEIR REITERATES ISRAEL'S DETERMINATION ON PASSAGE THROUGH SUEZ

HAIFA, Feb. 18, (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, reiterated today that Israel would not give up the right of free passage through the Suez Canal and would fight for this right.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Haifa Press Association, which was held aboard the S.S. Israel in the port, she said she hoped that the day was not far distant when Israel flag ships would pass freely through the Suez waterway.

She said the outcome of the case of the Inge Toft, the Danish vessel detained by Port Said authorities for nearly nine months and allowed to sail after its Israeli cargo was confiscated, should prove the worthlessness of any declaration or promise by UAR President Nasser.

"The Inge Toft, which is now docked here for repairs, symbolized Israel's determination not to yield its right of free navigation in all international waterways," Mrs. Meir said. She met the captain and crew of the Inge Toft and expressed her appreciation for what they had undergone in the "trying conditions" of the Port Said detention.

ISRAEL BANK SEEKS 20,000,000-POUND LOAN FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18, (JTA) -- A loan of 20,000,000 pounds from the counterpart funds of the United States to the Bank for Industrial Development is now under negotiation, it was reported here today.

The talks are being held by Pinhas Sapir, Israel Minister of Commerce with John Haggerty, director of the United States Operations Mission in Israel, and Jack Bennet, financial expert who is preparing a survey of uses for the loan at the request of the Government.

SOVIET NEWSPAPER ATTACKS MINSK SYNAGOGUE LEADERS; VOICES CHARGES

FRANKFURT, Feb. 18, (JTA) -- Radio Liberty reported today that another attack on the Jewish religion has been published in a Soviet newspaper, Sovetskaya Byelorussia, the official daily organ of the Byelorussian Communist Party Central Committee.

The article, "Under the Arches of the Synagogue," described "venality and corruption" in the Minsk synagogue and charged that worshipers were being cheated by a "small clique" which overcharged for seats and for the right to read certain prayers and that the clique staged "drinking parties" in the synagogue after services.

The article reported that "the clique" at one time considered the problem of Aron Lipschitz of Vilna, a mohel who wanted to establish himself in Minsk and perform ritual circumcisions "at 500 rubles a case." The article quoted a synagogue leader as indicating that there were still Jews in Minsk who wanted the religious ceremony and that he was sure the mohel "will manage to find some more."

The article sought to give the impression that the problem in transferring the mohel from Vilna to Minsk involved hoodwinking the local Soviet authorities. The synagogue leader was quoted as declaring that "for appearances sake," the mohel planned to set up a "poultry slaughtering business" and it was hoped that the Soviet authorities would approve the transfer and the mohel's "new occupation."

CANADIAN JEW TO REPRESENT U.S. AT DISARMAMENT PARLEY IN GENEVA

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Feb. 18, (JTA) -- William Epstein, a Canadian Jew employed by the United Nations in a top post in the Secretariat, will be Deputy UN Representative at the 10-nation Committee on General and Complete Disarmament which will convene March 15 at UN headquarters in Geneva, it was officially announced here today by Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld.

Mr. Hammarskjöld said that Mr. Epstein will be the deputy to Undersecretary Dragoslav Protitch, who will head the UN representation at the Geneva sessions. Mr. Epstein is chief of the Secretariat's section on Conventional Armaments and Enforcement Measures.

BONN PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES GOVERNMENT'S 'WHITE PAPER' ON ANTI-SEMITISM

BONN, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- A proposal that West Germany establish diplomatic ties with Israel was offered in Parliament today by a leader of the Social Democratic party in debate on the Government's White Paper on the hundreds of anti-Semitic incidents which followed the Christmas Eve daubing of the Cologne Synagogue.

The proposal was one of a series of steps urged by Prof. Carlo Schmid, vice-president of the Bundestag, on the Government to demonstrate its determination to wipe out all elements of anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism in West Germany.

In presenting the White Paper, Gerhard Schroeder, Minister of the Interior, said that while the police investigations at local and federal levels had not verified suspicions that the anti-Semitic incidents were organized, "there is evidence to show that the Communists exploited them to discredit the Federal Republic and to create discord between the partners of the Western Alliance."

He called the incidents a "vicious offense against the efforts toward reconciliation and tolerance demonstrated by the Federal Republic with words and deeds" toward the Jews. He announced the intention of the Government to create a commission of educators, scientists and leaders in public life to study means of improving political education in West Germany. He also said the Government would act against rightist groups by all means at its disposal.

Prof. Schmid asserted that anti-Semitism should not be viewed as an isolated problem and that "wherever a Jew is insulted, the principles of democracy are attacked."

Declaring that such actions should be considered treason against the state, he also listed as a step the Government should take the removal of all persons from office who had been affiliated with the Nazis.

A Free Democratic deputy, Mrs. Lueders, stressed the responsibility of the German people toward the Jews and lauded the "humane and tactful attitude" expressed by world Jewish leaders and Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion in the face of the anti-Jewish excesses.

U.S. JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS DECLARE THEIR STAND ON MARCEAU'S PLAY

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Charges of Nazi collaboration against French playwright Felicien Marceau today brought the second cancelation by a Jewish women's organization of theater parties for his play "The Good Soup."

The continuing controversy about the play, which opened in Washington Monday night and which was scheduled to open in New York on March 2, also evoked a statement from the playwright to producer David Merrick. The playwright, who has consistently denied the charges, promised he would soon send an "extensive statement" to clarify his position.

The American Jewish Committee issued a statement today declaring: "In the absence of persuasive evidence that Marceau's play 'The Good Soup,' whose author is suspected of having been a wartime Nazi collaborator, reflects or promotes his political or ideological beliefs, rejection of the play would not be justified. The play should be judged by its substance and on its artistic merits rather than by its author's alleged political activities repugnant as they might be. However, we recognize that organizations representing special constituencies may not wish to be regarded as supporting by their group action an author whose convictions which may not be expressed in his writings, they deem obnoxious."

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations disclosed it had received many inquiries from its members about theater parties for the play and suggested that "The Good Soup" was "frightful and transitory." The UAHC comment, made by its vice-president, Rabbi Jay Kaufman, also declared that entertainments should not be judged on the basis of the political affiliations of their creators and that Judaism's teachings "forbid such trial by boycott." Rabbi Kaufman also said that "other plays should lay prior claim to the attention of religious and other serious groups."

The first organization to act was the Westchester Shore section of the National Council of Jewish Women which withdrew from a contract for a theater party. The second organization was the Women's League for Israel, which canceled two theater parties.

WHITE HOUSE PARLEY ON YOUTH URGED TO DISCUSS ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The recent eruption of anti-Semitic incidents in the United States should be taken up at the White House Conference on Children and Youth as a juvenile delinquency problem, Mrs. Charles Hymes, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, urged today. The conference opens on March 23.

The incidents "should not be relegated to the limbo of forgotten events," Mrs. Hymes told a meeting of the organization's executive council.

BROTHERHOOD WEEK TO START SUNDAY IN 10,000 COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Brotherhood Week opens Sunday under sponsorship of the National Council of Christians and Jews in more than 10,000 communities throughout the United States, with urgent appeals for action against bigotry, prejudice and discrimination.

In a call for community participation in the goal of the 1960 observance, "Brotherhood--Believe It! Live It! Support It!"--President Eisenhower said: "As Americans, as fellow human beings, we share a common brotherhood. This does not make life easy, but it provides the basis for a strong and productive national life. In our land and around the world, such a spirit can advance the highest hopes of the family of man."

Proclamations also have been issued by governors and mayors throughout the country for the 27th annual observance. Special religious services were scheduled for the week end and through the week by synagogues and churches. Radio and television stations will carry brotherhood messages in song, story, panel discussions and dramatizations. The 13,500 motion picture theaters have organized a Brotherhood Week campaign to enroll 50,000 new members in the Conference of Christians and Jews.

CANADIAN JEWS DISCUSS SHORTAGE OF JEWISH TEACHERS; PLAN HIGH SCHOOL

VANCOUVER, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- An education advisory committee to promote cooperation among the Jewish schools in this region was organized here this weekend by the Pacific region of the Canadian Jewish Congress. Representatives of Jewish schools and Talmud Torahs in this city and neighboring suburbs participated in the meeting.

In addition to aiding inter-school cooperation, the committee will undertake an educational campaign directed at the Jewish community, to emphasize the need for Jewish education and its availability. Plans were made also to cope with the problem of the shortage of Jewish teachers, and the possibility was discussed of organizing a Jewish school for children of high school age.

N. Y. UNIVERSITY OFFERS FELLOWSHIPS IN HEBREW AND JUDEO-ARABIC STUDIES

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- New York University today announced that it is offering five full-time, three-year graduate fellowships in Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic studies. The recipients will begin their programs at the university in September.

Awarded under the National Defense Education Act, the new fellowships are intended to help students prepare for doctorates in Hebrew or Judeo-Arabic studies in the department of Hebrew culture and education of NYU's School of Education. Each carries a stipend of \$2,000 for the first year, \$2,200 for the second year, and \$2,400 for the third year, plus \$400 a year for each dependent, and recipients will pay no tuition fees.

Applicants for the fellowships should have a bachelor's degree from a recognized college or university but not more than half a year of graduate work beyond the bachelor's level. Applications must be filed by March 1.

PLANS FOR HENRIETTA SZOLD CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE APPROVED IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Golda Meir served as chairman today at the first meeting of the Israel Committee for the Henrietta Szold Centennial. The committee approved a series of observances to be held throughout the world, commemorating the birth of the founder of Hadassah and the Youth Aliyah movement. The worldwide commemorative events will be under the aegis of a presidium which includes Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT APPROVES EL AL PLAN FOR ACQUISITION OF JET LINERS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The Israel Government approved in principle the acquisition by El Al National Airlines of jet airplanes for its passenger service, it was announced here by Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, Minister of Transport. He said that El Al will be operating jet liners this year. A special commission is now studying various proposals to acquire such planes, he stated.

FIRST JEWISH CONGREGATION IN ALASKA DECIDES TO JOIN REFORM MOVEMENT

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Congregation Beth Shalom, the first synagogue to have been established in Alaska, has decided to affiliate with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Reform synagogue federation, it was reported here today. Services at the Anchorage congregation, which was founded 17 months ago, are conducted by Lenard Bazell, a lay leader.

HERBERT SUSSMAN, LEADER OF GALICIAN JEWS IN U.S., DEAD; WAS 78

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held today for Herbert B. Sussman, a Jewish communal leader, who died here Tuesday at the age of 78. Mr. Sussman was founder and president of the United Galician Jews of America, chairman of the Landsmanschaft division of the United Jewish Appeal and a member of the executive committee of ORT. In 1946, Mr. Sussman headed a commission investigating conditions among Jewish survivors in Poland and helped establish relief programs there.