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STATE DEPT. AND LABOR LEADERS START TALKS ON 'CLEOPATRA' PICKETING

WASHINGTON, May 5. (JTA) -- Talks between the State Department and leaders of the American Federation of Labor-Congress' of Industrial Organizations were initiated today concerning the picketing of the Egyptian ship Cleopatra by maritime workers at the New York harbor in retaliation of the Arab boycott of American ships touching Israeli ports.

Following yesterday's decision of the AFL-CIO executive council to back the picketing of the Egyptian vessel, top leaders of the powerful central American trade union body, made known here today they wanted firm assurances from the State Department that Arab boycott tactics affecting American seamen will be abandoned by the Arab states before calling off the picketing of the Cleopatra.

The AFL-CIO leaders, who designated President George Meany as chief negotiator with the State Department, emphasized that they are concerned solely with the economic interests of American seamen who work on American ships blacklisted by the Arab countries. These seamen suffer from the Arab boycott, the union leaders emphasized. They charged the State Department with obscuring the issue by blaming friends of Israel as instigating the picketing of the Egyptian ship in the New York docks.

The top union leaders disclosed that the State Department was drafting a statement of Administration policy that would satisfy the AFL-CIO leadership. It was understood that high State Department officials indicated willingness to issue a statement promising an investigation into the complaints raised by the Seafarers' International Union and other maritime trade unions and pledging assurance that the rights of the seamen would be safeguarded.

A statement to this effect was drafted yesterday, but the AFL-CIO leaders found it did not provide sufficiently clear-cut guarantees to warrant an end of the picketing. Union leaders have made it clear that the picketing of the Cleopatra was started only after repeated complaints to the State Department by maritime unions against the Arab boycott of American ships manned by American seaman had been ignored.

U.S. Oil and Shipping Companies Seek Pro-Arab Action on Picketing

Assistant Secretary of State William B. Macomber said today that the Arab boycott and blockade practices "are an outgrowth of the Palestine problem, which continues to perpetuate unfortunate circumstances such as those whereby nearly one million Arab refugees are not able to return to their homes."

Mr. Macomber expressed himself on behalf of Acting Secretary of State Douglas Dillon in a letter to Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, explaining the Department's position on the picketing of the Cleopatra. The State Department communication said the Cleopatra case had a negative impact "on our relations with a number of friendly countries."

A number of U.S. oil and shipping companies today jointly urged Federal legislation to protect Arab shipping in American ports and called for an end to the "harrassment" of the Cleopatra in New York harbor. In a communication to chairman J. W. Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the companies expressed fear of Arab reprisals against American business interests. A request was made for hearings on new legislation to protect Arab ships from "acts of private persons" in the United States.

The companies also attacked American labor unions, alleging that "commerce of foreign-flag vessels in U.S. ports may now be conducted only at the sufferance of American seamen's and longshoremen's unions." The membership of the group that petitioned Sen. Fulbright included the Alcoa Steamship Co., American Oil Co., American Trading and Production Co., Atlantic Refining Co., Bernuth, Lembercke Co., Charles Kurz & Co., Cities Service Co., Gotaas-Larsen, Inc.

Also the Gulf Oil Corp., Marine Transport Lines, Naess Shipping Co., National Bulk Carriers, Inc., Richfield Oil Co., Sinclair Refining Corp., Socony Mobil Oil Co., Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, Standard Oil Co. of California, Texaco, Inc., Tidewater Oil Co., and United Fruit Company.

(From Haifa, it was reported that the American tourist ship, the S.S. Brazil, due at Haifa Sunday, will not make the stop. The ship, carrying 270 tourists, had been scheduled also to visit Egypt but that visit was canceled after the UAR imposed a boycott on U.S. shipping.)

WORLD BANK PRESIDENT OFFERS TO ACT AS MEDIATOR IN PICKETING CRISIS

TEL AVIV, May 5. (JTA) -- Eugene Black, president of the World Bank, which recently granted a huge loan to the United Arab Republic to expand the Suez Canal, said here today he would be ready to act as mediator in the crisis which has developed over the picketing of an Egyptian ship in New York harbor.

Mr. Black, who arrived yesterday for a four-day visit during which he will negotiate with Israel officials on an application for a loan from the World Bank, indicated that, if asked, he would talk with UAR President Nasser on the blockade of the Suez Canal to Israel shipping and the counter-blockade against Egypt from American maritime workers protesting UAR blacklisting of American ships stopping at Israel ports. He emphasized that he was prepared to mediate "economic problems arising within political spheres."

At the same time, he declined to comment on a question from reporters as to whether a continuation of the Egyptian blockade against Israel use of the Suez Canal would prevent the UAR from obtaining additional World Bank loans.

Informed sources in Jerusalem indicated that Israel hopes to receive "several score millions of dollars" from the World Bank to expand facilities and production of the Dead Sea potash works. Total expenditures projected for the two projects is about \$120,000, - 000 but Israel does not expect that much since the World Bank provides only a portion of development project budgets with the balance contributed by the Government receiving the grant.

World Bank experts last month finished an on-the-spot preliminary study of the two projects and Israel officials believe their findings were favorable. The exact amount of the projected loan was expected to be discussed by Mr. Black and his host, David Horowitz, Governor of the State Bank, and Finance Minister Levi Eshkol.

The advisory board of the Israel Development Ministry, headed by British scientist Sir Ben Lockspeiser, meanwhile published plans for expansion of the Dead Sea production by 400,000 tons annually. The plans also call for an increase in Dead Sea magnesium production by 60,000 tons and bromine output by 5,000 tons annually. The plan noted that if the project was completed, it would reduce potash production costs by 50 percent and place the Dead Sea works in an excellent competitive position.

HAMMARSKJOLD SAYS HE HAS NO PACT WITH NASSER ON ISRAEL CARGO PASSAGE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 5. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold asserted flatly here today that he never made an "agreement" with United Arab Republic President Gamal. Abdel Nasser about Egyptian permission for passage through the Suez Canal of ships carrying Israeli cargoes.

At a news conference today, he was asked whether he could reveal "the facts" behind the attempt of a Greek freighter, the Astypalea, to transit the Suez Canal last December carrying a cargo that had been purchased F. O. B. Haifa. Israeli circles had asserted that the Astypalea case fell into the category of an agreement purportedly made between Mr. Hammarskjold and President Nasser to allow canal passage for foreign ships carrying cargoes to or from Israel when those cargoes were actually owned by non-Israelis.

The Secretary General replied that "there has never been any agreement and that is well known to both parties." In response to another question referring to the picketing of Egyptian ships and embracing the entire principle of freedom of navigation through the Suez Canal, Mr. Hammarskjold said that he considered trade union action on this issue as a method that touched only the symptoms of the problem and does not go to the roots.

"The methods for reaching a solution," he said, "must be political. This problem is linked up with others - if not legally, then certainly politically. Counter-actions concerned with symptoms do not offer the most effective solution." The Secretary General declined to comment on a reporter's question as to whether the International Court of Justice might fruitfully attempt a solution of the Suez Canal problem.

ISRAEL TO MAKE NO FURTHER ATTEMPTS FOR BEN-GURION-KHRUSHCHEV MEETING

JERUSALEM, May 5. (JTA) -- Israel officials are not planning any additional steps toward a meeting sought by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev following the rebuff from Soviet officials of the request earlier this week, informed sources said here today.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Jacob Malik, in turning down the request, said that statements by various Israel officials made a visit by Mr. Ben-Gurion to Moscow "untimely for the time being."

The Israel Foreign Ministry continued to abstain from comment on the Soviet rejection but Israel newspapers commented ironically on Malik's remark that the Soviet Union wanted friendly relations with all Middle East countries "without discrimination."

The newspapers noted editorially that Moscow makes every possible effort to discriminate against Israel. The editorials also asserted that by rejecting the Prime Minister's bid, the Soviets had lost the last vestige of any moral right to complain about Israel's foreign policy.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ACTS ON EFFECTING RESTITUTION LEGISLATION

VIENNA, May 5. (JTA) -- A six-man Cabinet subcommittee was formed here today to attempt to effect some legislation enabling Government restitution payments to Austrian victims of political and racial persecution suffered under the World War II Nazi regime.

Both partners in Austria's coalition Government, the People's Party and the Socialist Party, have promised time and again that such legislation would be enacted. However, 12 separate attempts to pass an enabling bill have failed in the Parliament. This week, the Jewish Community of Austria and the Association of Resistance Fighters lodged bitter complaints against both parties for their failure to keep their promises.

The subcommittee named today consists of equal members of both parties, and includes Cabinet members representing each of the coalition partners. The subcommittee is headed by Minister for Social Administration Anton Proksch, a Socialist; and Finance Minister Kamitz, of the People's Party.

(In Jerusalem, Dr. Nahum Goldmann said in a radio talk today that the Government of Austria has indicated it is willing to renew talks on providing compensation to victims of the Nazi regime. He also disclosed that he would negotiate with West German authorities on compensation to victims of the Nazi occupation and persecution of Jews in Rumania.)

NON-ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS IN U.S. WILL BE INVITED TO ZIONIST CONGRESS

JERUSALEM, May 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann declared today at a press conference here that Jewish organizations in the United States, South America, Europe and South Africa will be invited to send fraternal delegations to the next World Zionist Congress at the end of this year.

The president of the World Zionist Organization said such delegations will participate in discussions and in committees but will not have any voting rights. The project, he said, which is designed to give a "new look" to Zionism, will be a preliminary step to offering an opportunity for organizations to join the world Zionist movement. He indicated this move might increase Zionist membership by 1,000,000 persons.

He said the world Zionist movement should be regarded as the organizations which represents the majority of the Jewish people and, as such, will ask the Israel Government to manifest support for it. He announced that he and Jewish Agency executive members will meet May 26, with Israel Government and party leaders to formulate closer ties.

Unequivocal support for the Zionist movement by the Israel Government would give a "tremendous fillip" to the movement, he said, and greatly enhance its prestige. Questioned about details of the demands which the Jewish Agency would submit to Government officials, Dr. Goldmann declined to provide any details but cited Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's recent visit to the United States as a symptom of "lack of cooperation" with the Zionist movement.

He said it was "unfortunate" that American Zionists had no role or were by-passed in arrangements for Mr. Ben-Gurion's visit, implying that the Prime Minister's advisors had failed to exploit more fully the historic visit in relation to American Zionism.

DR. PITIGLANI ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ROME JEWISH COMMUNITY; LIVED IN U.S.

ROME, May 5. (JTA) -- The election of Dr. Fausto Pitigliani, lecturer in economics at Rome University and director of the Rome Institute for Economic and Statistical Research, as President of the Rome Jewish Community, was announced yesterday.

Dr. Pitigliani, who lived in the United States from 1938 to 1948, was the organizer and vice-president of the New York Italian Jewish club attached to the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue which was founded to assist Italian Jewish refugees from Fascism in the United States.

SYNAGOGUES IN CHICAGO AND SUBURBS STUDY MEASURES AGAINST VANDALS

CHICAGO, May 5. (JTA) -- A committee representing 22 Chicago North Side and adjacent suburban synagogues began a study today of setting up a system of private guards as a defense against vandals who have despoiled eight synagogues during the past eight weeks.

The committee was organized at a meeting Sunday of 50 delegates called together by Ezras Israel congregation. The delegates also decided to name a committee to set up a council of such synagogues to bring their security needs to the attention of Mayor Daly, the Chicago police department and other public agencies. The committee also would consult with major Jewish communal groups on the problem, the Sentinel, Chicago's English-Jewish publication reported.

The idea of installing private watchman service included consideration of the alternatives of each congregation hiring its own guards or of setting up a congregational pool of volunteers.

PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL MEETS WITH UNITED HIAS OFFICIALS ON IMMIGRATION

SAO PAULO, May 5, (JTA) -- President Kubitschek of Brazil reaffirmed today Brazil's "open door" policy for refugees and immigrants of all origins.

He made the statement during a special meeting with James P. Rice, executive director of the United Hias Service, and Israel G. Jacobson, Latin American director for Hias. Horacio Lafer, Brazil's Foreign Minister, was present at the meeting in the Presidential Palace in Brasilia.

ISRAEL'S 12TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED IN LATIN AMERICA

BUENOS AIRES, May 5, (JTA) -- Receptions were held here in the Israel Embassy in honor of Israel's 12th anniversary. Ambassador Arielev Levavi also marked the occasion with an address over the national radio network. Argentine President Arturo Frondizi cabled a congratulatory message to Israel President Izhak Ben-Zvi while Foreign Minister Taboada greeted Israeli Foreign Minister Golda Meir.

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 5. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 persons participated in an Israel Independence Day meeting here addressed by Israel Ambassador Yosef Avidar. "Jornal do Brasil," a leading Catholic church organ, put out a special edition marking Israel's anniversary.

SAO PAULO, Brazil, May 5. (JTA) -- Three thousand persons turned out last night for a festive Israel Independence Day meeting which also commemorated the centenary of Herzl's birth. The main speaker at the affair was Ambassador Yosef Tekoah who made his first visit to this city since assuming his new post.

SANTIAGO, Chile, May 5. (JTA) -- A public meeting, marking Israel's 12th anniversary, was held here. Yesterday, Israel Ambassador Eliezer Doron received members of the Santiago Jewish community and held an elaborate reception later in the evening for diplomats and Government officials.

PANAMA CITY, Panama, May 5. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Miguel Moreno announced at an Israel Independence Day celebration here that Adolfo Arias, Panama's Ambassador to the Vatican, will shortly be appointed Minister to Israel. He also said that plans were under way to elevate Panama's Legation in Israel to Embassy status. In messages, President Ernesto de la Guardia Jr. and the Archbishop of Panama condemned recent anti-Semitic outbreaks here.

GUATEMALA CITY, May 5. (JTA) -- An Israel Independence Day reception at the Israel Embassy was attended by Government Ministers and senior officials, members of the Diplomatic Corps and leaders of the local Jewish community. In a congratulatory message, Guatemalan President Gen. Idigoras Fuentes declared: "The Guatemalan Government and people reiterate their friendship, appreciation and admiration for the Nation of Israel."

HAVANA, Cuba, May 5. (JTA) -- Nearly 2,000 persons attended a mass meeting marking Israel Independence Day here, which was addressed by Israel's new Charge d'Affaires Shamai Cahana. Cabinet Ministers, Government officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps attended a reception given by the Israel envoy here last night. Favorable comment and sympathy for Israel was evident in Cuban press, radio and television coverage of the anniversary events.

Israel Anniversary Celebrated in Bombay; Governor Attends Reception

BOMBAY, May 5, (JTA) -- The Governor of Bombay and senior Government officials as well as members of the Jewish community attended an Israel Independence Day reception here given by Israel's Consul Michael Michael. The centenary of Herzl's birth was also marked during the celebration.

U.S. JEWISH WOMEN RAISE \$65,000 FOR HEBREW UNIVERSITY'S HIGH SCHOOL

NEW YORK, May 5, (JTA) -- Contributions totaling over \$65,000 towards the fund to build a campus for the Hebrew University Secondary School, an experimental high school in Jerusalem, were announced today by Mrs. Charles Hymes, president of the National Council of Jewish Women.

The amount already raised represents the result of initial efforts by the 240 sections of the Council towards the overall goal of \$500,000 to be raised over a period of four years for the construction of classroom and laboratory buildings for 800 pupils. The selection of the site, adjacent to the campus of Hebrew University, and plans for the construction of the buildings were completed last fall.