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## UNLOADING OF 'CLEOPATRA' STARTS TODAY; NASSER ADAMANT ON BLOCKADE

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- The unloading of the Egyptian vessel Cleopatra--which has been under 22 days of picketing by maritime labor here--will start tomorrow, as a result of a new State Department commitment given to organized American labor during the weekend, promising that fresh steps will be taken by the United States Government to halt the blacklisting of American ships stopping at Israeli ports.

The 22 days of picketing, conducted by the Seafarers' International Union and supported by the International Longshoremen's Association, whose members refused to cross the picket line, started with the arrival of the Cleopatra in New York harbor on April 13. It was estimated here today that the picketing has cost the Egyptian owners of the vessel \$44,000.

The formula to end the picketing was worked out in talks between Acting Secretary of State C. Douglas Dillon, Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, and Arthur J. Goldberg, general counsel of the AFL-CIO. The formal statement by Mr. Dillon of a declaration of principles "which actuate United States foreign policy affecting the American merchant marine" was largely a re-statement of American opposition to Arab blacklisting and restrictions on freedom of the seas and freedom of access to foreign ports.

There was one specific new commitment, however, to the effect that the State Department would consult with the AFL-CIO and its maritime unions, the SIU and the ILA, on developments "affecting American vessels and seamen" in the Middle East.

(Press dispatches from Cairo reported today that United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser has stated publicly that he has no intention of lifting the anti-Israeli blockade of the Suez Canal. He also denounced American Senators who had voted for a clause in the Mutual Security Bill, giving the President discretion to withhold foreign aid from countries that practice boycotts. In his address, Nasser spoke of American aid as help given "in the style of Cohen.")

Paul Hall, president of the SIU, has warned, that picketing of Egyptian ships would be resumed if the State Department failed to produce "practical implementation" of its promises to investigate the union's complaints about abuse of its members in Arab ports. Mr. Hall said his union would also hold the State Department to its promise to intensify diplomatic efforts to protect American ships and seamen against Arab discrimination.

### Eisenhower Consulted by State Dept. on Anti-Blockade Statement

For the first time in the long-simmering dispute over Arab blacklisting and boycotts against American shipping involved in trade or other contact with Israel, the State Department conceded publicly that American seamen had been harassed in Arab ports. The Dillon statement said that the State Department had "renewed" its standing orders to consular officials to be on the alert to help in settling grievances of seamen and other American citizens.

The statement also promised that it would continue to "do what it can" to end Arab-imposed restrictions on movements of ships carrying American foreign-aid cargo, and it pledged that the State Department would do everything possible to protect American interests in foreign trade.

The key point of the declaration was the statement that the State Department would "undertake to investigate fully the grievances of the Seafarers' International Union and, through appropriate diplomatic action with the foreign countries involved, to renew its efforts to assure freedom of the seas and to protect the interests of our shipping and seamen now being discriminated against by the Arab boycott and blacklisting policy."

In a telegram to Mr. Hall asking that the pickets be withdrawn, George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, said he felt that the "good trade union purposes" for which the picketing had been organized had been achieved. He urged the pickets be withdrawn on the strength of the "good faith assurance" given by the Administration.

The State Department declaration was not released until it was discussed with President Eisenhower. It had been discussed in general terms for two weeks by State Department officials and AFL-CIO representatives. Other points made in the State Department statement were: 1. The United States has said repeatedly, and again at the United Nations in September, that it favors freedom of transit through the Suez Canal for all

nations; 2. It is Government policy to protest discriminatory actions against American firms, vessels and citizens, and the State Department "will continue to pursue, by all appropriate and effective means, every avenue whereby private American interests in international trade may be fully safeguarded and restored."

3. The United States Government will not recognize or condone the Arab boycott; 4. Since February, the United States Navy has discontinued a ban against tankers which were, or might be, on the Arab blacklist, for charters to carry oil to naval bases.

#### SENATE-HOUSE BODY APPROVES BAN ON AID TO EGYPT IF BLOCKADE CONTINUES

WASHINGTON, May 8, (JTA) -- A Senate-House Conference committee approved yesterday the Mutual Security aid bill which included a resolution authorizing the President to withhold such aid from the United Arab Republic, if the Suez blockade against Israel is continued.

The clause, approved in the Senate over the strong protests of Senator J. W. Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also had been approved by the House. Since the Senate and House versions--which were sparked by the UAR boycott of the Suez Canal to Israel shipping--were identical, they were not subject to consideration at the conference.

The conference report was scheduled to go back to the House and, if accepted there, will then go to the Senate. Both Sen. Fulbright and Rep. Thomas E. Morgan of Pennsylvania, chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, have promised to seek speedy final passage.

Leaders of six American Jewish organizations have expressed "deep resentment" at charges made by Sen. Fulbright in the course of Senate debate on the foreign aid bill last week. Their sentiments were expressed in a letter to the Senator, signed by: Jewish War Veterans of U.S.A.; Union of orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Jewish Labor Committee; United Synagogue of America; and American Jewish Congress.

#### Ex-Secretary of U.S. Air Force Asks for U.S. Action on Suez Blockade

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. J., May 8, (JTA) -- The United States and other Western Powers must insist at the United Nations that the Arab states end their contention that "a state of war" still exists between the Arab countries and Israel, Thomas K. Finletter, former Secretary of the Air Force, declared here tonight.

Mr. Finletter made the statement at the opening dinner of the three-day convention assembled here at the Concord Hotel by the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. "Western leadership," said Mr. Finletter, "has failed in that it has not insisted on an end to the state of war now being insisted upon by the Arab countries against the State of Israel."

He urged that the U.S.A. and its Western allies not only insist at the United Nations for an end to this "state of war," but also act at the UN "against the interference with traffic in the Suez Canal and against the other menaces of the cold war currently being carried on by Egypt and by other neighbors of Israel."

#### ISRAELIS TAKE ISSUE WITH HAMMARSKJOLD ON 'UNDERSTANDING' OVER SUEZ

JERUSALEM, May 8, (JTA) -- Israeli circles reiterated here today that there had, indeed, been an "understanding" between United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser about the transit through the Suez Canal of non-Israeli ships carrying Israeli-originated cargoes under certain circumstances.

Mr. Hammarskjold, at a press conference last Thursday, had asserted flatly "there has never been any agreement," declaring that "all parties"--meaning Israel as well as the UAR--know there was no "agreement."

Circles here called attention to the difference between the words "agreement" and "understanding," pointing out that "agreement" could mean a formal document signed by both parties. They conceded there may have been no such formal document, but insisted they were told there was "understanding" on the issue.

They said they "were given to understand" that, after visiting Nasser, Hammarskjold had reason to believe that the UAR would permit Suez Canal transit for Israel-made goods if such goods had been purchased f. o. b. Haifa. The Greek freighter Astypalea, which the Egyptian authorities halted in the Suez Canal last December, and which was forced to unload its cargo in Egypt, had carried Israel goods purchased f. o. b. Haifa.

#### TITO SAYS HIS TIES WITH ARABS DO NOT HINDER FRIENDSHIP WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 8, (JTA) -- President Tito told a delegation of Mapam to the recent Socialist League conference in Belgrade that Yugoslavia's relations with the Arab states do not hinder friendly ties with Israel, it was disclosed here today by the returning delegation.

Tito had a 20-minute conversation with Reuven Arazi, Mapam's political secretary, and Yaacov Amit, editor of the party newspaper, Al Hamishmar. He emphasized that Israel was an accomplished fact and it had every right to continue its development.

## GERMAN GROUPS DEMAND EXTENSION OF DATE FOR PROSECUTION OF NAZIS

BONN, May 8, (JTA) -- Leaders of the opposition Social Democratic Party, and the heads of other liberal opposition groups in the Bundestag, today renewed their demands for extension of the statute of limitations which forbids further prosecution of persons accused of major crimes committed under the Nazi regime.

The Cabinet voted at a meeting Friday evening that, "on legal and constitutional grounds," no extension of the limitations statute is feasible. Under German law, the statute of limitations expires in the British zone today and, in the American zone, July 1. The dates were fixed on the expiration of a 15-year period from the date in 1945 when the Nazi regime came officially to an end in the respective zones. The limitation applies to various major crimes up to and including manslaughter, while murder charges may be filed within an additional five-year period.

The spokesman for the Social Democratic Party here stated today that, while he agrees with the Cabinet's decision forbidding retroactive prosecutions, the Socialists feel that the expiration date of 15 years should be dated from the time the German courts actually took over jurisdiction. That jurisdiction was not assumed until 1949. The opposition parties hold, therefore, that the statute of limitations does not expire until 1964.

"The Government's contention," stated the Social Democratic spokesman, "that extension of the statute was unnecessary, because the Central War Crimes Commission and provincial offices of prosecution have already formally initiated action against suspects, is not logical. It must be expected that many names of suspects are not yet known to the authorities."

Meanwhile, today, the Ministry of Justice announced it has rejected the "convictions" of 593 West Germans found guilty of war crimes in East Germany. The Communist regime has notified the ministry here that the 593 "convicted" persons had been found guilty of war crimes charges in courts under the East German jurisdiction. The charges against these persons, the ministry stated, are "propagandistic."

The Ministry also rejected the East German notification that Dr. Theodor Oberlaender, resigned Minister for Refugee Affairs, had been convicted of war crimes and sentenced to life imprisonment after a trial in absentia. On the basis of that conviction, East Germany has demanded Dr. Oberlaender's extradition.

## SOVIET CONVICTS FOUR RELIGIOUS JEWS FOR TEACHING CHILDREN TO PRAY

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- Rabbi Simkha Teper, of the township of Faleschti, in Soviet Moldavia, and a former rabbi in the town, Rachmil Draznin, were tried in a "Comrades Court," convicted of "teaching pupils to pray," and sentenced to be "held up to public ridicule, contempt and scorn," according to a cable from Moscow in The New York Herald Tribune today.

With the two religious leaders, two other Jews were tried on the same charges and also convicted, the Moscow dispatch reported. The trial of the religious Jews, according to the report, was staged publicly in a motion picture theatre where not a single witness testified on behalf of the rabbi and his co-defendants.

By asking Jewish children to pray and soliciting a woman for a contribution to the local synagogue, the convicted Jew had been guilty of "barbaric acts incompatible with Socialist humanism and morals," the court in Faleschti ruled. The verdict also declared that the Jewish religion is fundamentally "not only reactionary but nationalistic."

## CONVENTION OF CONSERVATIVE RABBIS DISCUSSES LEADERSHIP PROBLEM

NEW YORK, May 8, (JTA) -- Conservative Judaism is experiencing great difficulty in recruiting leadership and in training the scholars necessary to maintain its position in the religious life of American Jewry, it was emphasized here tonight at the opening session of the five-day 60th anniversary convention of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, central organization of Conservative rabbis in this country.

Reporting to about 500 rabbis who are attending the convention on a survey he has recently completed on the manpower situation in Conservative Judaism, Dr. Eli Ginzberg, Professor of Economics at Columbia University, emphasized that the same situation exists in all major religious groups today.

"The situation," he said, "is exacerbated by our failure to use properly the leadership that we have. A career which demands the wide variety of skills which the average congregation demands of its rabbi is not likely to attract the 'most able of our young men, who correctly foresee little chance for personal growth, for spiritual development, or even for true service, in a life which is a frenetic round of weddings and funerals, sermons and sisterhood meetings, luncheon speeches and book reviews.'"

The rabbi who permits himself to become entangled in such a schedule does a disservice to his congregation, according to Dr. Ginzberg, since he has no time for the quiet contemplation which alone can produce the insights and understanding necessary for spiritual leadership. On the other hand, the speaker admitted that the pressures put upon the rabbi to serve in all these capacities were almost intolerable.

### J. D. C. SPONSORS TWO-DAY PARLEY ON JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTERS IN EUROPE

BRUSSELS, May 8. (JTA) -- Forty Jewish community leaders from five West European countries agreed here that they must intensify building and expanding the programs of Jewish community centers in their areas.

The decision was made at the conclusion of a two-day conference held here under the sponsorship of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Eleven Jewish communities sent representatives to the conference from Sweden, Belgium, Denmark, Holland and France. All delegates to the conference reported that, wherever community centers have been established, the existing centers are crowded to capacity and their facilities are being used to the utmost.

### NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS ORDERED NOT TO SEND RELIGIOUS NOTICES WITH PUPILS

TRENTON, N. J., May 8. (JTA) -- State Education Commissioner Joseph E. Clayton ruled this weekend that no religious notices may be sent home with public school pupils. The American Jewish Congress, which had objected to notices sent home to Jersey City pupils last January announcing Roman Catholic masses and a Protestant religious retreat, said it was satisfied with Mr. Clayton's action.

The A. J. Congress had condemned the practice of sending home religious notices with public school pupils as a "flagrant violation" of the separation of church and state. In a letter to the superintendent of schools of Jersey City, Mr. Clayton cited laws requiring public school attendance each day and banning religious exercises except Bible reading and the Lord's Prayer.

### N. Y. STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT LAUDS YESHIVA UNIVERSITY'S PROGRAMS

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Frank R. Kille, Associate Commissioner of the New York State Department of Education, said today that his Department's recent action advising the Yeshiva University Graduate School of Education to overhaul its doctoral program, had been misinterpreted by some segments of the public.

In a letter to Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of Yeshiva, Dr. Kille said he wanted to clear up "misinterpretation" and inaccurate statements and declared: "In no way should our recent report reflect on the quality, merit or integrity of the rest of the university and on the competence of the several programs." He noted in the letter that the university had already started making the necessary improvements recommended in his report.

### RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA TO DEAL WITH JEWISH FAMILY PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Council of America today announced the creation of a Beth Din (rabbinical court) to give guidance in the field of marriage and family status to all Jews who require it, regardless of synagogue affiliation.

The Beth Din will deal with marriage, divorce and family counseling problems in accordance with the tenets of Orthodox Judaism. Referrals to the court will be made by local community rabbis of those problems beyond the power and resources of the local spiritual leaders.

A principal feature of the Beth Din will be the establishment of a central registry of vital statistics, where a roster of Jewish marriages and divorces will be recorded, maintained and made available to the rabbinite in every part of the world. Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, president of the RCA, said today that the registry "will be extremely useful in centralizing basic sources of information in the vital areas of marriage, divorce and custody."

### MAYOR OF TEL AVIV HONORED IN NEW YORK BY AMERICAN BANKERS, INVESTORS

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- More than 200 leading bankers, investors and manufacturers doing business with Israel, as well as members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of major Jewish organizations, attended a reception in honor of Mordechai Namir, Mayor of Tel Aviv, tendered by the Ampal-American Israel Corporation.

In welcoming the mayor, Ampal president Abraham Dickstein stressed the role which his corporation had played in developing and cementing economic and financial ties between the business communities of the United States and Israel. Mayor Namir was formerly Israel's Ambassador to the Soviet Union and recently the Minister of Labor in the Israel Cabinet.

### WORKMEN'S CIRCLE CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY; GREETED BY EISENHOWER

NEW YORK, May 8. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower, Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, and Mayor Robert F. Wagner today congratulated the Workmen's Circle, a Jewish fraternal order, for its humanitarian services at the organization's celebration of its 60th anniversary.

In his message, President Eisenhower stated that the Workmen's Circle, "through its broad service to the individual working man and woman, contributes much to the strength of the nation." The Workmen's Circle, founded in 1900, maintains branches in all major urban centers in the United States and Canada, and serves a total of 70,000 Jewish families. It has a network of Jewish schools and institutions for sick and aged members.