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FRENCH CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR BEN-GURION MEETING WITH DE GAULLE

PARIS, May 12. (JTA) -- The French Government announced today that Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel will meet with President Charles de Gaulle here on June 14.

The two statesmen will have lunch together on that date. Mr. Ben-Gurion will also meet with Prime Minister Michel Debre and Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville.

Mr. Ben-Gurion will remain in France until June 17. The remainder of the program for his stay has not yet been announced. Following his visit to France, he will go to The Netherlands and to Belgium.

SABBATH TRAFFIC BARRED FROM ORTHODOX DISTRICTS OF JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- Four sections of Jerusalem largely inhabited by Orthodox Jews will hereafter be closed to general traffic on the Jewish Sabbath, the city administration decided today.

The sections include Mea Shearim, and three other religious quarters. Signs will be posted at the entrance of these sections. Residents of the Mea Shearim quarter have clashed repeatedly with non-observant Jews and police over violations of the Sabbath.

The only traffic which will be permitted will be that of the Army, police, United Nations, consular officials, doctors, fire engines and hospital vehicles.

The city authorities also approved closing off sections of a main Jerusalem thoroughfare during Sabbath services at the Yeshurun Central synagogue.

PAPYRI FOUND IN JUDEAN CAVE IDENTIFIED AS LETTERS FROM BAR KOCHBA

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- Eleven letters, written by Simon Bar Kochba, leader of the Jewish revolt against the Roman Emperor Hadrian in 132-135 A. D., have been found in a cave near the Dead Sea, it was announced here last night.

The letters are considered one of the most important archaeological discoveries in recent years and one of the most significant ever made in connection with the Bar Kochba revolt. The archives were found by one of the four teams operating under direction of Professor Yigael Yadin, in the Judean hills near the Dead Sea where, tradition holds, Bar Kochba's bands made their final stand against the Romans.

Professor Yadin made the announcement last night at the home of President Izhak Ben-Zvi, to a group which included Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, Brigadier Chaim Laskov, the Israeli Chief of Staff and other outstanding Israeli personalities.

The 11 letters, written on papyrus, were found, bundled together, in a woman's leather bag uncovered in a cave high above the Hever canyon which leads to the Dead Sea. Other objects in the bag included thread, a mirror and cosmetics.

Some Letters Well Preserved; Two in Greek, Rest in Aramaic

Seven of the 11 letters, Prof. Yadin reported, had been opened. Two were written in Greek and the remainder in Aramaic. Three of the letters were well preserved, with not a word missing, and three others were fragmentary. The seventh letter was in a state of almost complete preservation. Four letters await opening.

The letters were written by Bar Kochba to his deputy commander, Yehonatan Bar Baayah. Most of them ordered Bar Baayah to requisition provisions or to arrest certain persons and bring them before the commander.

Professor Yadin (who commanded the Israeli liberation forces in the war of for Israel's independence in 1948 and who frequently testified that much of his strategy was based on that of the Jewish generals of old) said he believed that the letters had been written before the revolt against the Romans had been crushed and that they had been taken into the hide-out in the Judean hills by Bar Baayah when he took refuge there.

The Dead Sea find corroborated the traditional view that Simon Bar Kochba, leader of the Jewish revolt against Roman rule in Palestine, was a stern, energetic man who insisted on obedience. His letters contain orders written in the most direct, often brusque phrasing. Most of them demanded that the orders be carried out "immediately" or "forthwith."

Some of the letters were informally addressed: "From Shimon Bar Kosba" -- the Aramaic form of the Jewish general's name. Others, more formal, opened: "From Shimon Bar Kosba, Prince over Israel." They did not carry his signature but were signed in his name by one of his adjutants.

Professor Yadin told the gathering that the importance of the letters had not been immediately realized because they had been found in a lady's bag and it was not until they had been opened that their significance was recognized. Prof. Benjamin Mazar, president of Hebrew University, announced that more expeditions were being planned to the caves in the Judean hills where the Bar Kochba letters were found.

TIMNAH COPPER MINES, IN NEGEV, ESCAPE SERIOUS FLOOD DAMAGE

TEL AVIV, May 12. (JTA) -- The flash floods which swept down on parts of the Negev Tuesday night did not cause any serious damage at the Timnah copper mines, officials reported today.

While several deep quarries of the copper mine were flooded, the main mine was not affected, and work continued today. The pipeline which brings water for purification of copper was damaged.

Damage was reported substantial in the farming village of Yotvata in the Negev, particularly in fields and in poultry sheds.

CONGRESS PASSES AID BILL ANTAGONISTIC TO U.A.R. SHIP BOYCOTT

WASHINGTON, May 12. (JTA) -- Congress today completed passage of legislation authorizing a \$4,086,300,000 Mutual Security Bill, containing an amendment intended to help lift the United Arab Republic's anti-Israel shipping restrictions.

The amendment expressed the sense of Congress as desiring severance of aid to countries that block the freedom of the seas. It is up to the President to implement the amendment or ignore it.

\$3 MILLION IN GIFTS REPORTED AT SIX U. J. A. EVENTS IN SINGLE NIGHT

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- More than \$3,000,000 in contributions to the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York was recorded tonight as six important campaign divisions held their major fund-raising events of the year. Federal Trade Commission Chairman Earl W. Kintner and U.S. Senator Jacob K. Javits were two of the speakers at the evening's functions.

ISRAEL CREATES SPECIAL AUTHORITY IN CHARGE OF MOUNT ZION

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- A special authority to care for Mount Zion, one of the holiest of places in Israel, will take over this week from the Ministry of Religious Affairs after repeated criticism of the present administration, it was announced today.

The new authority was suggested by the Ministry. It will be made up of representatives of the Prime Minister's office, the Ministries of Religion and the Interior, and the Jerusalem Municipality.

Mount Zion is sacred to Jews throughout the world as the site of King David's tomb. Located on an enclave cutting into Jordan territory, it is the closest point in Israel to the Wailing Wall in old Jerusalem, which is under Jordan control.

Mount Zion also is sacred to Christians, as the site of Christ's last supper.

1959 EXPORTS FROM ISRAEL REACH RECORD TOTAL OF \$177 MILLION

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- Israel's exports in 1959 reached a record total of \$177,000,000 representing an increase of \$37,000,000 over the previous year, according to figures released here today by the Government's Central Bureau of Statistics. Industrial products sold abroad increased by 45 percent over 1958, the figures showed. The rise in exports was accompanied by an increase of only \$5,000,000 in the country's imports, as compared with 1958.

While the tonnage of citrus exports increased in 1959, the fruit yielded only \$46,000,000 as compared with a return of \$49,000,000 from the previous year's citrus crop. The smaller return for 1959 was attributed to lower prices on world markets. The increase in imports, according to the Bureau, represented a considerable rise in the purchase of production machinery, which offset a drop in consumer purchases.

BRITON SEES POSSIBILITY OF ARMS LIMITATION IN MIDDLE EAST

LONDON, May 12. (JTA) -- Declaring that he believed some agreement could be reached among the big powers for the limitation of arms exported to the Middle East, Jo Grimond, leader of the Liberal party, declared here today that he did not think the Soviet Union wants the Middle East "filled with arms."

In his opinion, Mr. Grimond said, the Tripartite Declaration of 1950, in which Britain, France and the United States guaranteed the territorial integrity of the Middle East states, "no longer offers a suitable basis for a Western policy concerning the Middle East."

JEWS BACK CLAIMS CLAIMS OF GERMAN 'GOOD FAITH' PURCHASERS TO COMPENSATION

BONN, May 12. (JTA) -- German Jewish support was reported today for claims for restitution by Germans who bought Jewish property during the Nazi period "in good faith" and then were forced to return the properties to the original Jewish owners in the post-war period.

Dr. A. Seeger, of the Federal Association of Persons Injured by Restitution, disclosed receipt of a letter from Dr. H.G. van Dam, secretary-general of the Central Council of the Jews in Germany, in which Dr. Seeger told the annual meeting of the association, Dr. van Dam backed the claim that the Federal Government should compensate such Germans.

Dr. Seeger reported that the International League in Israel, which he said was dedicated to giving thanks to persons who aided Jews, had also promised support to these claims.

A test claim has been filed by a member of the association in the district court in Frankfurt.

In a related development, letters were published in the current issue of the *Allgemeine Wochenzeitung*, commemorating the 15th anniversary of Nazi Germany's surrender, in which "unsung German heroes" were lauded for aiding Jews during the Hitler Reich period. Karl Marx, publisher, said in a front page article that it was the task of Jews to thank all those persons "who with all their heart and courage sheltered the prosecuted."

LADY ROTHSCHILD WINS CLAIM FOR ESTATE NAZIS SEIZED IN POLAND

LONDON, May 12. (JTA) -- A British-born member of the Rothschild family won a preliminary move today to regain part of one of the largest ransoms ever paid--the \$20,000,000 paid to Hitler by the Rothschild family in 1939 to obtain freedom for Baron de Rothschild, head of the Austrian branch of the family.

Baroness Clarice de Rothschild, 66-year-old widow of Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, succeeded in her preliminary application to the British Foreign Compensation Commission for compensation of about \$250,000 for real estate in Poland.

The property, which includes a castle and 670 acres of surrounding estate, was part of the ransom. It was later confiscated by the Polish Government. The commission ruled that the Baroness had established that the real estate was British at the date relevant to her claim, November 27, 1945.

Baron Louis de Rothschild was kept in prison for 13 months by the Nazis before he was released in 1939 following payment of the ransom.

SWITZERLAND TO ISSUE SPECIAL STAMP TO MARK HERZL ANNIVERSARY

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- The Swiss post office will issue a special Herzl Day stamp on May 15 to commemorate the 100th birthday of the founder of political Zionism.

The stamp will have seven stars within a Star of David and a Lion of Judah. The Swiss post office also will issue first day covers showing Herzl leaning over a Rhine bridge and his statement: "In Basle, I founded the Jewish State." The legend will appear in Hebrew and German.

A central memorial meeting, organized by the Jewish Agency and the Israel Government will be held in the historic Casino Hall of Basle on May 15. The assembly will be attended by representatives of Jewish communities of 12 European countries and it will be addressed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization and Pinhas Rosen, Israel Minister of Justice.

CONSERVATIVE RABBIS STRESS JEWISH RELIGIOUS DUTIES ON CIVIL RIGHTS

LIBERTY, N.Y., May 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Louis Finkelstein, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, urged members of the Rabbinical Assembly at their 60th annual convention today to work for a summit meeting at which there would be "hope for a permanent peace, rather than merely a cessation of the cold war."

Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, of Cedarhurst, L.I., pledged in his inaugural address as the Conservative rabbinical association's new president that his administration would continue traditional Jewish support for human rights for all.

Rabbi Finkelstein said that America was "embarrassed by awareness that we do not come into the court of public opinion with clean hands" on such issues as racial equality. He said that "our religious tradition, both Jewish and Christian" seemed to Negroes "to avoid the issue, which they rightly regard as basic to their very lives."

ISRAEL EMBASSY FETES HERZOG AT GALA WASHINGTON EVENT

WASHINGTON, May 12. (JTA) -- Ranking members of the State Department, the diplomatic corps, the Supreme Court, the Senate and the House of Representatives, and many other prominent Americans tonight attended a gala farewell party at the Israel Embassy here, in honor of Israel's Minister Plenipotentiary, Yaakov Herzog. Mr. Herzog, who has been in his present post since 1957, is leaving for Canada, where he will be Israel's Ambassador at Ottawa.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM HEARS NEW ATTACK ON ZIONIST MOVEMENT

DENVER, May 12. (JTA) -- Clarence L. Coleman, president of the anti-Zionist American Council for Judaism, asserted here tonight that American Jews were becoming "increasingly conscious" that they and their institutions "have been skillfully engulfed by the Zionist political machine."

He told the opening session of the Council's 16th annual conference that American Jews, not having questioned the means by which their help to fellow-Jews was handled, supported a structure of "philanthropy and public action" the full implications of which were "for the first time, become visible." This was a reference to standing charges by the anti-Zionist organization that funds contributed through the United Jewish Appeal were used for political purposes.

He said that during the past year Jews and non-Jews in the United States had given many set-backs to Zionism but nevertheless "evidence abounds that Jewish life in the United States increasingly moves toward greater withdrawal from the mainstream of American life."

"We may be certain that Zionism will intensify its efforts to sell itself publicly as 'no longer political'," he added. "Whether it succeeds or not, the danger is that the self-segregating forms created by Zionism--labeled 'Jewish culture,' 'Jewish survival' and 'Jewish philanthropy'--will be accepted without awareness that this is all 'Jewish' nationalism."

He disclosed receipt of a message from President Eisenhower lauding the group for its "fine record," noting the organization's work "in the fields of education and philanthropy."

ATLANTA TEMPLE, BOMBED IN 1958, TO DEDICATE NEW FACILITIES

ATLANTA, May 12. (JTA) -- Officials of the Temple, target of one of the first synagogue bombing attacks in the South in 1958, announced plans today to dedicate new facilities which replaced damaged portions of the Temple.

The remodeled and expanded facilities will be dedicated during the May 20 weekend. The Temple was bombed in October, 1958, with classrooms suffering severe damage. Plans for the expansion had been in the blueprint stage when the bombing attack occurred. The attack spurred a fund-raising effort which yielded the required funds. An estimated \$22,000 sent by sympathetic non-Jews after the bombing was used to help pay for an assembly area in a Temple addition to be called Friendship Hall. Besides the new facilities, the old section has been completely refurbished. Stained glass windows shattered by the blast have been replaced.

JEWS OF THREE STATES COOPERATE ON PLANS FOR HOME FOR AGED

TUCSON, Ariz., May 12. (JTA) -- The possibility of inter-state Jewish cooperation in the construction of a home for the aging and infirm developed today when the Jewish Community Council of Albuquerque, New Mexico made an unprecedented pledge of \$40,000 for such a home here.

The pledge was made at a conference in Albuquerque attended by Benjamin N. Brook, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Tucson, who reported on a recent study of the problem of the aging and the need for a building for them. The pledge followed.

The El Paso, Texas, Jewish community representative said he would report on the matter to his group to see whether the Texas community would join. While plans for such a home have not yet reached the blueprint stage, the Tucson JCC has made a far-reaching survey of the needs in the area. The study recommended that the plans be pushed promptly.

PHILIP ROTH'S 'GOOD-BYE COLUMBUS' WINS JEWISH FICTION AWARD

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- Philip Roth's "Good-Bye Columbus" was voted the \$250 Harry and Ethel Daroff Memorial Fiction Award for the best work of Jewish fiction in 1959 last night at the annual meeting of the Jewish Book Council of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

The award was one of five with total cash prizes of \$800 for the best 1959 works of Jewish fiction, poetry and juveniles. The Harry and Florence Kovner Memorial Awards of \$100 each went to Dr. Eisig Silberschlag for a volume of Hebrew Poetry, "Arch of My Days," published in Jerusalem; Ephraim Auerbach for his "Golden Sunset," a volume of Yiddish poetry, published in Buenos Aires; and Amy K. Blank for her book of English poetry, "The Spoken Choice."