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ISRAEL POLICE START DIRECT QUESTIONING OF EICHMANN IN JAIL

JERUSALEM, June 8. (JTA) -- Israel police officers today started direct questioning of Adolf Eichmann--Nazi leader who directed the annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews--in his cell in a jail in the Northern part of the country. He will be questioned from four to five hours a day. Until now he was writing his version of his Nazi career or dictating it on a tape recorder.

Eichmann was reported to be answering all questions without resistance and was understood to have no special requests for his interrogators. His spirits were reported to be very low. The Government Press Office published today for the first time a picture of Eichmann taken in the Israel prison. His Israel photograph resembles those recently published in American newspapers but he appears somewhat older.

Pinhas Rosen, Israel's Minister of Justice, confirmed today that several months will be needed to prepare for trial the case against Eichmann. Speaking to a group of visiting West German journalists, Mr. Rosen also hinted that an attorney from abroad will have to be Eichmann's defense attorney. It had previously been reported that two leading Arab Israeli attorneys had been approached to handle the defense assignment and had turned it down.

The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, defeated today a motion by the right-wing Herut party expressing opposition to Justice Minister Pinhas Rosen's request to the Israel press to avoid comment which might prejudice the forthcoming trial of Eichmann. The vote was 29 to 20.

Mr. Rosen spoke against the motion, declaring that the Nazi war criminal must be tried in accordance with the law. He added that the law made no distinction between criminals accused under regular or extraordinary circumstances. The Cabinet Minister added a warning that the press could be liable to contempt charges if it condemned Eichmann before conviction.

Ben-Gurion, Other Ministers Get Threatening Letters on Eichmann

Threatening letters in connection with Eichmann's arrest continued to arrive today addressed to various members of the Israel Cabinet. More than a half dozen have been received at Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's office written in various languages, some from France and some from Germany. Some of the letters were mailed in Israel and while these also were turned over to the Security Service, it was believed they were the work of pranksters.

The Israeli press published today a report, which it said was based on the notes Eichmann is writing in his cell in a jail in northern Israel, that as Nazi Gen. Erwin Rommel's troops advanced on Cairo during the second World War, the SS political section prepared lists of leaders of the Palestine Jewish community for execution on the first day of entrance of German troops into Palestine.

According to the report, the lists were prepared in cooperation with Nazi agents then in Palestine. The SS also had prepared lists of those to be arrested on the first day and was working on an "overall plan" to deal with the Jewish population of Palestine. This latter plan was developed in cooperation with the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, the war criminal Haj Amin Husseini.

Deterioration in Argentine-Israel Relations Feared over Eichmann

BUENOS AIRES, June 8. (JTA) -- Substantial efforts were reported underway here today to prevent any deterioration in the traditionally good Argentine-Israel relations in the wake of the Argentine Government's displeasure with Israel's explanation on the removal of Adolf Eichmann from here to Israel.

The situation which has developed both for those relations and for the position of Argentine Jewry as a result of the Government's indication of dissatisfaction with Israel's note was termed "delicate." A Jewish leader qualified this by calling it "critical." The nationalistic Tacuara movement has been distributing leaflets in connection with the new developments, denouncing Argentine Jewry in typical Nazi style.

It was indicated that hopes rested on obtaining from the Argentine Government a careful study of the whole situation and a gradual petering out of the anger created by the Israeli note. Jewish sources here, while endorsing Israel's position in general, have indicated that they feel the issue was not handled by the Israel Government with sufficient care and discretion.

AMBASSADOR REID REPORTS TO EISENHOWER ON ISRAEL; MEET IN WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, June 8. (JTA) -- Ambassador Ogden Reid, American envoy to Israel, told President Eisenhower today that the progress Israel is making is due to the pioneering spirit manifested by the kibbutzim. The Ambassador reported in person to the President at the White House today.

The Ambassador also consulted with State Department officials on developments in Israel and the Near East. The pending trial of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann was among the topics discussed, it was learned. Mr. Reid said he returned from Israel for a brief visit because his wife's mother was undergoing an operation.

CONCERN EXPRESSED IN U.S. CONGRESS OVER EGYPT'S ANTI-ISRAEL BLOCKADE

WASHINGTON, June 8. (JTA) -- Rep. Samuel E. Stratton, New York Democrat, today expressed concern in the House over United Arab Republic boycott and blockade tactics against Israel. He said many Congressmen shared his concern about Arab campaign being waged "against the independence and survival of Israel."

The United States, he declared, "should never in any way, either directly or indirectly, do anything to support or assist in this vicious kind of campaign." He called attention of Congress to an editorial in the Rochester (NY) Democrat and Chronicle attacking chairman J. W. Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for siding with UAR President Nasser against Israel.

GOLDA MEIR MEETS WITH HAMMARSKJOLD; DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, met here for more than one hour today with Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, for a discussion of world problems in general and the effect of those problems on the Middle East situation. She was accompanied at the conference by Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative here.

Insisting that the visit was only "a courtesy call," Mrs. Meir declined to reveal any details of the subjects discussed during the conference that lasted an hour and ten minutes. Prior to meeting with Mr. Hammarskjold, the Israeli Foreign Minister, in reply to a question as to what the United Nations was doing now in regard to the United Arab Republic's anti-Israeli blockade of the Suez Canal, said: "That's what I'll ask Mr. Hammarskjold."

ISRAEL WILL CONTINUE TO DEMAND PASSAGE THROUGH SUEZ, GOLDA MEIR SAYS

NEW YORK, June 8. (JTA) -- Israel's Foreign Minister Golda Meir told an Israel bond audience of 500 tonight that Israel will continue to withstand all Arab efforts to block its economic development.

Addressing Jewish business, religious and community leaders who attended a testimonial dinner in her honor, Mrs. Meir said: "We do not acquiesce, we do not accept the blocking of the Suez Canal. We will go on demanding our rights and demonstrating the rights that we have through that international waterway. It is not Mr. Nasser's private river."

"The objective of the Arab blockade," Mrs. Meir continued, "could not be implemented because of Eilat. If we cannot send our cargoes through the Suez Canal, we can send them through the Straits of Eilat." Citing the difference between Israel and its neighbors, the Foreign Minister said:

"Our neighbors are accumulating tanks and planes and big guns instead of giving their people the means for a more decent life and a higher standard of living; instead of giving their children schools and hospitals. We in Israel hate to spend a dollar on arms and military equipment. But as long as we are encircled by states and leaders of states who have vowed to destroy us and drive us into the sea, we must be prepared--and thank God we are."

JEWISH AGENCY TO PLAN IMMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, June 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive today named a special sub-committee to prepare a detailed plan on centralizing in one office all matters of immigration and absorption of immigrants from Western countries. The step was taken following a report to the plenary meeting of the executive that an estimated 1,000 American Jews will settle in Israel this year, compared with 650 such immigrants last year.

S. Z. Shragai, head of the Jewish Agency immigration department, also reported that in the first three months of this year, 200 American Jews settled in Israel compared with 130 in the same period in 1959. The meeting also was told that 18 percent of all American Jewish youth who visit Israel for study courses or seminars ultimately return for permanent settlement.

Mr. Shragai also reported on the work of a joint Jewish Agency-Israel Government committee, headed by Giora Josephthal, the Israel Minister of Labor, which deals with immigration from the United States and Canada. This committee hopes to bring hundreds of urgently needed American and Canadian professionals to Israel. Nearly 5,000 such professionals are registered with the Jewish Agency in New York as interested in the possibility of continuing their careers in Israel, the plenum was told.

ESHKOL DENIES IN KNESSET THAT ISRAEL PLANS DEVALUATION OF CURRENCY

JERUSALEM, June 8. (JTA) -- Israel Finance Minister Levi Eshkol flatly denied today reports that Israel's currency would be devalued. Speaking in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, he said categorically that the Government was not contemplating any such action. He cited Israel's growing reserves in foreign currency.

The Finance Minister also issued a warning to all economic sectors in Israel that "if we continue to demand higher living standards, we will never properly develop our country." Speaking at the opening session of the fourth convention of the Engineers Union, he criticized the continuous demands of professional groups--engineers, physicians and teachers--for higher wages. He was joined in this criticism by Pinhas Lavon, a top leader of the Histadrut.

Asserting that he feared that "we have been eating up our future homes during the past few years," the Finance Minister told the engineers that Israel could not expect to match the salaries earned by engineers and architects in other countries. He added that living standards could not continue to rise indefinitely as long as Israel remained dependent on outside assistance.

Mr. Lavon also rebuked the engineers for their demands for higher wages and urged them to look at the question from the national viewpoint. He said that higher wages could be considered when Israel reaches the productivity level of other countries.

JEWS FROM BALTIC LANDS REGISTER CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION FROM RUSSIA

TEL AVIV, June 8. (JTA) -- A British-Russian property exchange agreement today spurred former residents of Latvia and Estonia here to start registration of claims for compensation for property confiscated or nationalized by the Soviet Union when it annexed the two Baltic countries.

The agreement, covering exchange of Russian property in Britain for the property of British citizens in Latvia and Estonia, was based on an order in the British Parliament approved in 1959 which mentions Palestinian residents of up to May 15, 1948 as beneficiaries of the exchange pact.

Considerable discussion developed in Israel as to whether this included not only the people who owned property in the Baltic countries but also their inheritors. Questions on this point have been forwarded to British authorities. Many Israelis owned substantial properties in the two countries and there are still more Israelis whose late parents had property which was confiscated or nationalized by the Soviets.

ITALY NEGOTIATES WITH GERMANY ON COMPENSATION FOR NAZI VICTIMS

ROME, June 8. (JTA) -- Negotiations were reported proceeding today between Italy and the West German Republic on grants of individual compensation for Italian victims of religious and racial persecution by the Nazis.

Compensation is to be based on the number of working days lost because of the persecution in line with the pattern developed for similar situations in Belgium, Denmark and Luxembourg. It was estimated that the number of prospective beneficiaries of such compensation in Italy is between 2,000 and 3,000. Although only 300 of the 7,000 Jews deported to Nazi Germany returned to Italy, the larger figures include all surviving relatives who would be likely to receive the West German compensation funds.

TWO HIGH GERMAN OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF 'DRASTIC' ANTI-SEMITIC ACTIVITIES

COLOGNE, June 8. (JTA) -- Two high officials of the Federal Ministry for Refugees were accused here today of "drastic" anti-Semitic activities under the Nazi regime. Both men have been serving in the Ministry under Dr. Theodor Oberlaender, former Cabinet head of the Ministry, who resigned recently under fire as an alleged Nazi collaborator.

The accused are Werner Ventzki, chief of the Ministry's Berlin section, and Dr. H. Goldschmidt, head of the Ministry's foreign section, with headquarters at Bonn. Significantly, the charges against the two officials were printed in the "Rheinischer Merkur," a weekly periodical considered close to the Adenauer Government and close to the Christian Democratic Union, the dominant party in the Federal Government.

According to the newspaper, Ventzki had been the Nazi-appointed Mayor of Lodz, Poland, during the period when the Jewish ghetto was established in Lodz and 270,000 Jews were exterminated. Goldschmidt is accused of having been the deputy chief of the Nazi administration in Hungary, whence thousands of Jews had been sent to death camps. The newspaper, after citing the wartime Nazi records of the two officials, demanded that "all offices of the Federal Republic must be swept clean of persons who were connected" with the persecution of Jews during the Nazi regime.

GERMAN POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED FOR INSULTING JEW IN PUBLIC PLACE

AUGSBURG, West Germany, June 8. (JTA) -- Josef Holzmann, a 34-year-old police officer, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment on charges of libel filed after he insulted a Jewish patron at a bar. He was accused of calling out to the patron: "They forgot to gas you but the Adenauer era will soon be past and then it will be your turn."

ZIM-ISRAEL LINE MARKS 15TH ANNIVERSARY; ANNOUNCES EXPANSION PLANS

NEW YORK, June 8. (JTA) -- The Zim-Israel Navigation Company marked its 15th anniversary yesterday by announcing plans for the addition to its fleet within the next three years of two new passenger vessels and 11 cargo ships. Dr. Naftali Wydra, Zim's managing director, said that Israel's merchant fleet would reach the 1,000,000-ton mark by 1970.

Dr. Wydra also announced plans for the inauguration next month of Israel's first direct ocean service to the Pacific Coast with the sailing from Haifa of the freighter Natanya for West Coast ports. One of the vessels to be added to the company's fleet will be a 23,000-ton passenger liner to be built at a cost of \$15,000,000. Dr. Wydra said. The liner, which will be ready in 1963 for service on the New York-Haifa run, will be a fully air-conditioned luxury vessel accommodating 1,000 passengers.

The Israeli shipping official also announced that the company will take delivery next May of a 6,500-ton passenger vessel to enable the line to increase its Mediterranean cruise service out of New York. The new cruise liner, under construction at Nantes, France, will accommodate 650 passengers. It will be named the Moledet (Fatherland.)

Eleven cargo ships totaling 149,000 tons are to join the Zim Line's fleet before the middle of next year, Dr. Wydra said. At present the company's fleet consists of 33 passenger and cargo vessels totaling 189,000 tons.

CANADIAN MAYOR SEEKS TO CHANGE ELECTIONS LAW AFFECTING ORTHODOX JEWS

OUTREMONT, Que., Canada, June 8. (JTA) -- An effort to change the election law of the Province of Quebec, so that elections need not be scheduled on days when some citizens cannot vote because of religious holidays, will be made by the Outremont City Council acting on a request from Jewish organizations here, the Mayor announced here today.

Last spring, municipal elections in some wards in this city were held on the last day of Passover. According to Mayor Romauld Bourque, "we were all extremely disappointed that the elections this year happened to take place on a Jewish holiday." The provincial election law forbade a change in the date when the conflict with Passover had been pointed out by local Jewish organizations.

Mayor Bourque said today: "If it is humanly possible, we will see that there is no recurrence of this incident." Meanwhile, the City Council has passed a resolution petitioning the Provincial legislature to amend the election law, permitting the Council to change an election date. "We hope that the Legislature will grant our request," the Mayor declared, "and at the same time make this bill one that will cover the whole Province of Quebec."

NEW ISRAEL AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN CANADA TO TAKE UP HIS POST

OTTAWA, June 8. (JTA) -- Israel's Ambassador designate to Canada, Yaacov Herzog, arrived here today and was welcomed at the airport by representatives of the Canadian Secretary of State and the Governor General. On arrival here, Mr. Herzog declared:

"I deem it a great honor to have been appointed Israel Ambassador to this country. I have heard much of Canada's remarkable internal development and growing contribution to world peace and international cooperation. The people of Israel feel that the successive governments of the Canadian people appreciate the theme of redemption which is the essence of Israel's revival. In continuing the tradition of my distinguished predecessors, it will be my earnest endeavor to cement yet further the ties of friendship between the two peoples."

DR. VOVSI, EMINENT SOVIET PHYSICIAN, DIES IN MOSCOW; WAS ARRESTED BY STALIN

LONDON, June 8. (JTA) -- Dr. Miron Semenovitch Vovsi, an eminent Soviet physician who was arrested in the 1953 "doctors' plot," has died in Moscow at the age of 62, the Soviet radio announced today. The cause of death was not given. The broadcast said the body will lie in state tomorrow at Botkin Hospital, one of the most important in Moscow.

Dr. Vovsi had been arrested along with other Jewish doctors and was charged with espionage and sabotaging the health of Soviet leaders. He was released with 14 other physicians three months later, after the death of Stalin. Dr. Vovsi was fully rehabilitated and decorated with the Order of Lenin on his 60th birthday in 1957.

BOOK OF J. T. A. CORRESPONDENT PRESENTED TO ISRAEL PRESIDENT

JERUSALEM, June 8. (JTA) -- A volume of selected articles by the late Berl Coralnik, made up of features he wrote for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency as its chief correspondent in Jerusalem over three decades, was presented today to President Ben-Zvi.

The book, "The Grey and the Silver," was presented by a deputation of the Jerusalem Journalists Association of which Mr. Coralnik was president for many years.