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JEWS FROM CONGO CONTINUE TO REACH BELGIUM; MANY FLEE TO NO. RHODESIA

BRUSSELS, Belgium, July 17. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees from strife-torn Congo continued to arrive here today by plane, many of them from Leopoldville and Luluabourg. The refugees from Luluabourg reported that by now all Jews there have left the city.

Reports received here from the province of Katanga in Congo indicated that the Jews of Katanga have all moved to Rhodesia. A part of their property was pillaged, but no casualties were reported. Jews in Elisabethville were also reported to be moving to Northern Rhodesia, leaving all their belongings behind.

Military authorities here have received reports that many Jews from Elisabethville have reached the Belgian military base at Kamina, Congo, and are anxious to be repatriated to Belgium. On the other hand, Jewish refugees arriving here reported that at Asumbura the situation has returned back to normal.

The Rhodesian Jewish Board of Deputies sent a mission from Bulawayo by plane to Northern Rhodesia to arrange all possible assistance to Jewish refugees from Congo reaching there.

A United Nations aircraft reached Congo today from the headquarters of the United Nations troops on the Israel-Egyptian border carrying material needed to help set up the UN forces in Congo. The plane also carried two UN military radio operators who are to help establish communication for the United Nations in Congo.

KENNEDY WANTS NASSER TO CARRY OUT U.N. DECISIONS AGAINST SUEZ BLOCKADE

LOS ANGELES, July 17. (JTA) -- Senator John Kennedy, Democratic candidate for President of the United States, made it clear at his press conference here yesterday that he would expect the United Arab Republic to carry out the decision of the United Nations against the existing anti-Israel blockade of the Suez Canal. He said this would help to clear the atmosphere for bringing about an Arab-Israel peace.

Senator Kennedy expressed his view when he was told that there was an "apparent contradiction" between the Democratic platform pledging stronger support to the United Nations and encouragement of Arab-Israel peace negotiations "which are unacceptable, of course, except for compliance with long-standing UN resolutions."

The Presidential candidate replied: "I don't think that that's in any way paradoxical, those two positions. What we would like is that the agreements and the position of the United Nations taken in regard to Suez and other matters, that they would, that those provisions would be carried out. That's our desire as a preliminary to having a peaceful solution to the problems which separate the Arabs and the Israelis.

"I think that the platform intends to put emphasis on our desire to have peace in the Middle East. One of the ways with which we can get peace is to have the directives of the United Nations carried out. And then, that having cleared the atmosphere, we hope that it would be possible for them to join. Not only is there a United Nations position on Suez but there's also of course constant work by the United Nations on resettling the refugees."

GOLDA MEIR TO PRESENT PLAN ON SETTLING DIFFERENCES WITH ARGENTINA

TEL AVIV, July 17. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, disclosed yesterday she would present to the Cabinet a plan to resolve Israel's differences with Argentina over the seizure of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann.

Mrs. Meir made the disclosure to correspondents at the Lydda airport on her return from a six-week tour of the United States and Canada. She declined to give any details of the plan but expressed confidence that relations between Argentina and Israel would return to their former friendly level. Argentina has refused to accept Israel's apology for the abduction of Eichmann as representing the "adequate reparation" which the United Nations Security Council urged Israel to offer.

ISRAEL ARMY MUST BE STRONG TO DETER ARABS FROM STARTING WAR, PERES SAYS

TEL AVIV, July 17. (JTA) -- Israel has no intention of starting a war against her Arab neighbors but cannot rule out the possibility that one of those neighbors may start a war against Israel and must, therefore, make the Israel Army the strongest possible deterrent force, Deputy Defense Minister Shimon Peres said last night.

Speaking at a meeting at Sokolow House, the high official of the Defense Ministry cited recent speeches by President Nasser of the United Arab Republic and Major Amir, Nasser's deputy in Syria. He said those speeches had included "critical dates for action" to exterminate Israel.

He pointed out that Israel's security position had changed radically since the 1956 Sinai campaign when security problems were of an immediate nature which called for immediate action. Since then, he said, a new danger had developed which Israel could not ignore. The danger developed from the fact that the United Arab Republic had accumulated "huge quantities" of new arms and had built a large-scale network of airfields, workshops and arms stores, as well as roads and railways with a specific goal.

He said the goal was to change the UAR army into a mobile, aggressive force on the pattern of the army of "one of the big powers" whose military technicians are training the UAR army. These developments had imbued the Egyptians with a feeling of strength and "an illusion of power." When Egyptian leaders become saturated with such feelings, the Israel official said, there comes talk about target dates such as "the day is near to free Palestine for the Palestinian Arabs."

ISRAEL CABINET ORDERS USE OF EMERGENCY LAWS AGAINST EL AL STRIKERS

JERUSALEM, July 17. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today empowered the Minister of Transport Yitzhak Ben-Aharon to invoke emergency regulations against El Al airmen now overseas in connection with a strike declared by the aircrews of El Al, Israel's national airline. The strike was not approved by the Histadrut, Israel's Federation of Labor.

The strike brought about the grounding of all El Al airliners in Lydda and at the London airport. The strikers demand higher wages. Prior to today's action by the Cabinet, the Minister of Transport sought legal advice as to whether the Government can force the El Al air crews to bring in aircraft grounded abroad. The striking crews may, under the emergency regulations, be ordered by the Minister of Transport to return immediately as conscriptees for national service under pain of severe penalties.

Foreign passenger planes, by arrangement with El Al, were today taking passengers booked with El Al to Rome from where the passengers will be brought to their final destination. Meanwhile, El Al issued a statement saying: "Unjustified demands for higher wages and other demands resulted in a wildcat strike by air crews and all El Al aircraft at Lydda are grounded. The strike was not approved by the Federation of Labor."

The Histadrut also issued a statement declaring that it would not deal with the strikers unless they resume work. The Israeli press, in leading articles, called upon the strikers to return to work in order to enable quiet negotiations of their claims. However, representatives of the strikers stated that "our claims are already pending nine months."

CABINET APPROVES AGUDAH LABORITE LEADER AS MEMBER OF GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, July 17. (JTA) -- The Cabinet authorized Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion today to invite Benjamin Mintz, leader of the Poalei Agudat Israel party, to join the Cabinet as Minister of Posts. Participation of the Orthodox workers party in the Government Coalition is expected to be announced tomorrow in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

This will be the first time that Poalei Agudat Israel takes part in the Government although the parent body, Agudat Israel, did participate in previous Cabinets when Rabbi I. M. Levine was Minister of Social Welfare.

Mr. Mintz, a former journalist, and currently Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, is reported to have promised Mr. Ben-Gurion his party's support for the electoral reforms the Premier is seeking to introduce. Premier Ben-Gurion tried unsuccessfully to introduce during the last Knesset a district representation system in place of the country's proportional representation.

The ultra-Orthodox Agudat Israel faction bitterly criticized Mr. Mintz for his action in joining the Government. Agudah leaders had organized protest meetings during the negotiations between Premier Ben-Gurion and Poalei Agudat Israel. Cabinet approval for the new Minister was obtained over the objections of Mapam and Abudat Avodah Ministers.

National Religious party Ministers, who were lukewarm toward the inclusion of Poalei Agudat Israel in the Government coalition, supported the invitation to Mr. Mintz with the understanding that the Cabinet voting balance would be unchanged as far as they were concerned, since the new Minister is filling a post held heretofore by Mapai.

AUSTRIA SCORED BY DR. GOLDMANN FOR FAILURE TO INDEMNIFY NAZI VICTIMS

NEW YORK, July 17. (JTA) -- The failure of the Austrian Parliament, before adjourning for the session yesterday, to enact compensation measures for Nazi victims from that country "has shattered our confidence in Austrian good will for dealing with the subject of indemnification," it was stated here today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Committee on Jewish Claims on Austria. Dr. Goldmann spoke in the name of the 23 national and worldwide Jewish organizations making up the Committee.

"So far, the Austrian Government has neglected to enact the measures essential to provide even minimal compensation, among them the obligations it shouldered under the terms of the state treaty which granted it independence in 1955 and freed it from occupation by the four major powers," Dr. Goldmann said.

Over the past five years, Austrian Government representatives have given Committee members assurances on many occasions that the necessary legislation would be enacted at an early date. The most recent, Dr. Goldmann pointed out, were given him less than two months ago, when he conferred with leading members of the Austrian Government in Vienna. They assured him that their Government was resolved to get comprehensive indemnification legislation through the Austrian Parliament by July 15, the adjournment date.

"It is a tragic disappointment that these assurances have not been honored," Dr. Goldmann stated. He stressed that Nazi victims from Austria, in the scores of thousands, have received no compensation whatsoever from the Austrian Government for losses and injuries suffered in that country over 20 years ago. Thousands of others from Austria have received merely minimal benefits by way of compensation. "The bitterness of spirit with which Nazi victims from Austria will greet the newest development is fully understandable," Dr. Goldmann concluded.

CANADA WILLING TO ADMIT JEWISH IMMIGRANTS FROM MOROCCO AND TUNISIA

MONTREAL, (JTA) -- "Sympathetic consideration" is being given by the Canadian Government to a request made by the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Immigration Aid Services to admit to Canada Jewish immigrants from North Africa, it was reported here by CJC leaders.

The Canadian Jewish Congress was advised by Ellen L. Fairclough, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, that the Government is prepared to make a special provision for the admission of immigrants from Morocco and Tunisia where they have close relatives in Canada able and willing to sponsor them.

"The Department will accept applications by Canadian residents for the admission from Morocco and Tunisia of the same classes of close relatives admissible from Israel, that is: The husband, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, as well as the husband or wife and the unmarried children under 21 years of age of any such son, daughter, brother or sister, as the case may be, the father, the mother, the grandparent, the unmarried orphan nephew or niece under 21 years of age, the fiance or fiancée," the Minister informed the Canadian Jewish Congress.

"The Department will also deal with unsponsored cases of exceptional merit from these countries who may apply through the British consuls or forward their applications direct to Immigration Branch Headquarters in Ottawa for consideration. In both types of cases, Orders-in-Council will be sought for authority to grant admission in individual cases where necessary.

"It will not be necessary for the Canadian Jewish Congress or Jewish Immigrant Aid Society to accept responsibility for these cases," the Minister stipulated. "In the sponsored cases the sponsors themselves will accept the usual responsibilities; in the unsponsored cases of exceptional merit the prospective immigrants themselves will be assessed and, if admitted, will be treated as other unsponsored immigrants to Canada."

The Minister added that the arrangements which he outlined "will also apply to other minority groups in Morocco and Tunisia as well as persons of Jewish origin."

CULTURAL HONOR PRIZE OF MUNICH CITY AWARDED TO PROF. MARTIN BUBER

MUNICH, July 17. (JTA) -- The cultural honor prize of the City of Munich was awarded here to Prof. Martin Buber in a festive ceremony at the Academy of Arts.

Mayor Hans Vogel cited the personal and philosophical achievements of the Israeli scholar. Other speakers recalled the great contributions of Jewish citizens to Munich's cultural life before the Nazi rise to power and expressed the hope that a cultural interchange between Munich and Israel would soon become a reality.

BOY SETS FIRE TO SYNAGOGUE IN GERMANY; EXTINGUISHED BY FIREMEN

LUEBECK, July 17. (JTA) -- Police reported here that an eight-year-old boy tried to set fire to the doors of the Luebeck synagogue this week but the fire was discovered and doused by firemen before serious damage was done. A complaint was filed against a storekeeper who sold matches to the boy.

PROTESTANTS, CATHOLICS, JEWS URGED TO APPROVE BIBLE READING IN SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, July 17. (JTA) -- A suggestion that Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders get together to approve a mutually acceptable version of the Bible for use in public schools, was made at the three-day annual meeting of the National Council of Churches Committee on Religion and Public Education held here.

Taking part in a panel discussion on the version of the Bible that should be used in states where daily Bible readings are required or permitted in the public schools, the Rev. Walter Abbott, editor of religion and humanities of the Jesuit weekly "America," said that he sees eventually a "common translation of the Bible acceptable to all faiths."

Predicting that it would take 25 years for this to come about, he called in the meantime for Protestant, Catholic and Jewish authorities to approve acceptable passages for use in the public schools. He asserted, "I'm sure this could be done."

COLLEGE BOARD TESTS FOR JEWISH STUDENTS NOT TO BE HELD ON SABBATH

IOWA CITY, July 17. (JTA) -- At least one special date will be set aside nationally for graduates of high schools who are unable to take college board examinations on the regular Saturday date, it was announced here.

In announcing this new plan, Dr. Paul J. Mather, president of the American College Testing Program of the University of Iowa said that "It is certainly never going to be our intention in any way to interfere with the religious affiliations of individuals when there is a matter of conflict with testing."

The college boards tasks indicate a student's aptitude for college studies and are used by universities and schools throughout the country.

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND UNITED JEWISH FUND IN TOLEDO MERGE

TOLEDO, Ohio, July 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish Community Council and the United Jewish Fund of Toledo were merged this week into the Jewish Welfare Federation of Toledo bringing under one head the planning and fund-raising operations for the Jewish community in Toledo and Lucas County. The Federation will be responsible for conducting the United Jewish Fund Campaign and also will be the central coordinating, social planning and community relations organization in Toledo and Lucas County, Ohio.

The merger follows a pattern increasingly evident through the country and was embarked upon in order to streamline the community's structure. The signing of the agreement culminates several years of negotiations conducted by a joint Committee of the Jewish Community Council and United Jewish Fund. President of the Federation will be Arthur H. Edelstein, former president of the United Jewish Fund. Burt Silverman, former president of the Jewish Community Council will be vice-president.

NAZI-FIELD MARSHAL KESSERLING DEAD; ORDERED ARDEATINE MASSACRE IN ITALY

BONN, July 17. (JTA) -- Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, the Nazi officer who ordered the massacre in 1944 of 335 "hostages" in the Ardeatine caves near Rome, died at Bad Nauheim last night at the age of 74.

Kesselring, who was commander of the German forces in Italy during the Second World War, was sentenced by a British military court at Venice in 1947 to be shot for his part in the massacre. The sentence was first commuted to life imprisonment and then to 20 years. He was acquitted of being a major Nazi offender by a German denazification court in 1952 and released by British authorities for health reasons in the same year.

The former Nazi officer ordered the arrest and execution of 10 Italian hostages for each of 32 Germans who were killed in an ambush by partisans near Rome in March 1944. A group of 335 Italians, including many Jews and a Roman Catholic priest, were rounded up after the incident. With their hands tied behind their backs, the hostages were loaded aboard trucks and taken to the Ardeatine caves on the outskirts of Rome.

After the group was unloaded at the caves, each hostage was shot in the back of the neck and the heap of dead and dying was thoroughly sprayed with machine-gun fire to insure the death of all. The caves were then blasted shut with explosives.

RABBI EPSTEIN, FOUNDER OF HEBREW THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, DIES; WAS 83

CHICAGO, July 17. (JTA) -- Rabbi Ephraim Epstein, founder of the Hebrew Theological College, a predecessor of the Jewish University of America in Skokie, a Chicago suburb, died here Friday at the age of 83.

Rabbi Epstein helped to organize the Orthodox Zionist movement in this country. He was also a founder of the Federated Jewish Charities here, which later combined with the United Jewish Charities to become the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.