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BEN-GURION REPORTS FAILURE TO FORM CABINET; MAPAI TO SEEK ELECTIONS

JERUSALEM, Eeb. 28. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion informed President Ben-Zvi today that he was unable to undertake the task of forming a new Government. After talking to the President for an hour, Mr. Ben-Gurion announced that his Mapai party would ask for the dissolution of the present Parliament and for new general elections.

Mr. Ben-Gurion's visit to the President followed repeated soundings of the Mapai's former coalition partners on the possibility of setting up a narrow coalition Cabinet in partnership with the National Religious party. That party rejected Mr. Ben-Gurion's overtures, which included several concessions to religious bloc demands, because the religious party was not inclined to join without the Progressive party.

The Progressive party, along with two other former coalition parties, Mapam and Achdut Avodah, categorically refused to rejoin a Government headed by Mr. Ben-Gurion. They contended that Mr. Ben-Gurion had slurred their Ministers when he condemned a report by a Ministerial Committee last December 25 clearing Pinhas Lavon of responsibility for a 1954 security mishap when he was Minister of Defense.

Before calling on the President, Mr. Ben-Gurion attended a caucus of the Mapai party which decided against naming another leader as Premier-designate. Mr. Ben-Gurion had proposed, in a letter to several Mapai Ministers, that he would resign the party leadership so that Finance Minister Levi Eshkol could form a Government. Mr. Eshkol has been described by the Progressives, Mapam and Achdut Avodah as acceptable to them as Prime Minister.

Opposition Wants Elections in May; Mapai Suggests October

As new elections became likely, maneuvering began over the timing. The opposition parties were reported today as seeking early elections. They claimed that elections could be held within three months, before the end of May. Mapai negotiators reportedly had already started talks with partners in the outgoing coalition to obtain a majority in the Knesset for a bill suggesting that the elections be held in October.

The declared goal of Mapai was to hold new elections after the trial of Nazi mass murderer Adolf Eichmann, scheduled to begin April 11, and after the High Holy Days. It was clear that Mapai leaders hoped that the later the election, the more the voters would have the chance to forget Mr. Ben-Gurion's battle against Pinhas Lavon, the Mapai rival forced out of his post as secretary-general of the Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation, by Ben-Gurion.

Mr. Ben-Gurion's offer to resign the leadership of his party and his place as Premier to Mr. Eshkol was unanimously voted down last night at an urgent meeting of Mapai members of the Cabinet summoned in Tel Aviv by Yosef Almogi, Mapai party secretary. He called the meeting after Mr. Ben-Gurion wrote privately to several of the Ministers expressing his readiness to resign and retire to his Negev retreat at Sde Boker.

Ben-Gurion Explains His Proposal to Resign in Favor of Eshkol

At the meeting of Mapai Ministers, he explained he had been pressed by party leaders to withdraw his demand that Mr. Lavon should be excluded from the list of Mapai candidates for the next Knesset. He said he could not change his refusal against sitting with Mr. Lavon and he had therefore decided to resign and thus make it possible for Mr. Eshkol to form a new Government.

Debate on his proposal lasted until several hours past midnight. Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told him: "You should not present the party with threats to resign, for you know well that the party will not accept your resignation and go to the polls without you."

The decision of the Mapai Ministers to reject Mr. Ben-Gurion's resignation proposal may be brought before the Mapai secretariat for formal ratification. The decision, in any case, was interpreted as acceptance by the Mapai leadership of Mr. Lavon's ousting. Two of Mr. Lavon's allies, Mayor Mordechai Namir of Tel Aviv and former Education Minister Zalman Aranne, took part in the meeting and voted to reject Mr. Ben-Gurion's resignation offer.

The Cabinet, which evaded discussion last week of new elections, will discuss the issue at its regular meeting on Sunday.

MOROCCAN RABBIS LEAD JEWISH STREET PROCESSION MOURNING DEATH OF KING

PARIS, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A procession of several hundred Casablanca Jews, led by rabbis wearing prayer shawls over their heads, filed through the city's streets today in mourning for King Mohammed V.

Jews in public processions in other cities chanted the traditional prayer for the dead in mourning for the King who died on the operating table Sunday. Several hundred Jews assembled at the walls of the palace in Rabat to say prayers. These were the first Jewish public manifestations in Morocco.

(In Washington, Ambassador El-Mehdi Ben Aboud of Morocco today announced that the American-Moroccan community has selected two of its members, one Jewish and the other a Moslem, to attend funeral services in Rabat for King Mohammed V. The Jew, Solomon Bohbot, and the Moslem, Mohammed Kabbaj, left New York by plane last night, the announcement said.)

The Paris daily, France Soir, reported today that Moroccan Jews were frightened by the possibility that the sudden death of King Mohammed V might affect them adversely.

The paper declared that the 200,000 Jews and the 200,000 Frenchmen living in Morocco had realized, since Morocco attained independence, that it was the late King who assured stability within the country and who protected their safety. Some of them were reported as now fearing that his death might lead to internal friction and troubles which might affect their status.

GERMAN PARLIAMENT TO CONDEMN EICHMANN IN RESOLUTION PRECEDING TRIAL

BONN, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Political sources reported today that the West German Parliament, acting before the opening of the trial on April 11 of Nazi mass murderer Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem, will pass a joint resolution condemning the crimes committed by Eichmann and his aides.

The plan for the resolution, it was reported, reflected concern of West German political leaders about the possible impact of the findings of the trial on West Germany's position in the "western family of nations." They were reported fearful that "old wounds" would be reopened and that world opinion would react to the trial revelations by condemning the German people.

Reports have been circulating in Berlin that the East German regime will mark the opening of the trial with publication of a new list of persons involved in the Nazi regime who are now in the West German administration, diplomatic service and judiciary. The list, it was reported, will be published in many languages, including those of Asian and African countries.

In a related development, the eighth of a series of 14 programs on the Third Reich, "The SS State," was telecast today on the West German television network. The series was produced by the Stuttgart and Cologne broadcasting stations. The 40-minute film on the SS depicted the terror exercised against the churches and the political foes of the Nazi regime, with special attention to the persecution of Jews.

The film opened with a portrayal of the "boycott" of April 1, 1933 and traced the hate-mongering of Julius Streicher's pornographic and anti-Semitic publication "Der Stuermer" and the ensuing "spontaneous actions" instigated against Jews in Germany by Nazi storm-troopers and the SS. The film then showed the "final phase" of the persecutions, covering the Nuremberg race laws of 1935 and the burning of synagogues in November 1938. The program ended with an account of the murder of Jews by SS execution squads "behind the lines of advancing German troops" and in the extermination camps of Auschwitz, Treblinka and Maidanek.

Austrian Cabinet Decides to Send Observer to Eichmann Trial

VIENNA, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The Austrian Cabinet decided today to send a high police official, Josef Wiesinger, to Israel to attend the trial of Adolf Eichmann as an observer.

A spokesman said that since Eichmann lived in Austria for many years, it was of the "utmost interest" to Austrian officials whether any of the information to be revealed during the trial, which will begin April 11, will be connected with that country.

DR. MAZAR TO RESIGN AS RECTOR AND PRESIDENT OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Benjamin Mazar will resign both as rector and as president of the Hebrew University because of poor health, it was reported here today.

The resignation reportedly will be submitted to the university board of governors when it meets in March. The post of rector is that of the academic head of the university while the presidency is more an administrative position.

Professor Nathan Rottenstreich, the present Dean of Humanities, was reportedly being considered for the post of rector, but there is as yet no candidate under consideration for the university presidency, according to the reports.

ISRAELI LEADERS SEEK TO PREVENT STRIKE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The threat of a strike of secondary school teachers, set for Sunday, spurred a meeting today of Education Minister Abba Eban and Aharon Becker, the new secretary-general of the Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation.

The two officials were seeking a solution to the key problem of changing the relationship between the pay of the elementary school teachers, organized in the Histadrut, and that of the secondary school teachers, organized as an independent union, to make possible an increase in pay for the secondary teachers.

The Education Ministry was reported meanwhile to be pressing the Secondary School Teachers Association to cancel the strike. The Ministry said a walkout would only hamper negotiations and prejudice the progress "already made."

EX-COMMANDER OF NAZI CAMP CHARGED WITH 'BATHING' INMATES TO DEATH

FRANKFURT, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A witness in the trial of Karl Chmielewski, former Nazi SS officer and commandant of the Gusen concentration camp, testified today that Gusen camp inmates, chosen as "unnecessary eaters" by Chmielewski, were "bathed to death" in sub-freezing temperatures while the camp commander "watched with satisfaction."

The witness, Franz Cihal, who was a prisoner at Gusen from 1939 to 1945, said that he saw ill-looking inmates selected by Chmielewski "bathed" by SS men for 20 to 30 minutes in the winter of 1940, a treatment which resulted in the deaths of 90 percent of the victims. Mr. Cihal also testified that, in the summer of 1940, prisoners no longer able to work were drowned in a water tank on Chmielewski's orders.

A second witness, who was not identified by name, said that after a "bath" killing in the winter of 1941-42, nearly 300 bodies were taken to a crematorium. He said that he had to carry away some of the bodies from the camp.

KENNEDY DESIGNATES KLUTZNICK AS U.S. DELEGATE TO U.N. ASSEMBLY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- President Kennedy today designated Philip M. Klutznick, American Jewish leader and United States Representative in the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to serve, in addition to his duties on the Council, as a member of the U.S. delegation to the 15th session of the UN General Assembly which opens next month.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was also named to the five-member delegation. The five names were sent to Congress today by the White House. The other three are Ambassador Adlai Stevenson; Charles W. Yost, Deputy U.S. Representative in the UN Security Council, and Francis T.P. Plimpton, Deputy U.S. Representative to the United Nations.

MERIWETHER'S NOMINATION TO EXPORT-IMPORT BANK POST EVOKES PROTEST

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican who serves on the International Finance Subcommittee of the House Banking Committee, today protested the nomination by President Kennedy of Charles M. Meriwether, of Alabama, former campaign manager of retired Admiral John Crommelin, an anti-Semitic agitator, to serve as a director of the United States Export-Import Bank. The White House today sent the Meriwether appointment to Congress for confirmation.

In a personal message to Mr. Kennedy, Rep. Halpern cited Mr. Meriwether's connections with Crommelin and "White Citizens Council" groups. Rep. Halpern asked if the new nominee was unaware that Crommelin, whom he assisted, published attacks on "the Communist-Jewish conspiracy" to "mix the blood of White Christian people of the South with Negroes."

Citing his concern that Mr. Meriwether should be given authority as director of a United States agency dealing with the finance of projects in Israel, African nations, and other countries, Rep. Halpern termed the nomination a "tragic error" that might mar the international reputation of America.

Rep. Halpern asked that the nomination be reconsidered. He said that as a member of the International Finance Subcommittee which handles legislation affecting the Export-Import Bank, he felt assignment of Mr. Meriwether to an international role would "negate our professed goals" of winning friends in underdeveloped Afro-Asian nations.

REP. WALTER, CO-AUTHOR OF PRESENT IMMIGRATION LAW, TO QUIT CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Chairman Francis E. Walter of the House Immigration Subcommittee, co-author of the controversial McCarran-Walter Immigration Act, today made known that he will retire from Congress after the current session, thus removing a principle bottleneck in efforts to liberalize immigration law.

Rep. Walter, Penn. Democrat, said he would not seek re-election because of ill health. This is his 15th term in Congress. His successor as chairman of the important Immigration Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee will be Rep. Michael A. Feighan, Ohio Democrat, from Cleveland. As head of the Subcommittee, Rep. Walter virtually controlled immigration and naturalization policy.

U.S. FIRM TO MANUFACTURE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS IN ISRAEL FOR EXPORT

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Gulton Industries of Metuchen, N. J., has formed an Israeli subsidiary to manufacture in Israel basic electronic products for domestic use and for export. Dr. Leslie K. Gulton, president of the parent corporation, announced here on his return from Israel.

Among the projects under consideration by the Israeli subsidiary is the establishment of plants in Africa to assemble radio components made in Israel, and the export of electronic equipment for use in medical and scientific work.

Aharon Goldstein, president of the Israel Federation of Builders and Contractors, reported here today of plans by Israel to build five cities in the Negev to form the industrial and mining hinterland for the projected new port of Ashdod. He said that apart from such special development and construction projects, regular construction in Israel for housing and for industrial and public purposes would amount to \$1,000,000,000 during the next four years. He welcomed participation by American builders and capital in the construction projects.

ISRAEL'S EXPORT OF GOODS TO CANADA REACHED \$2,500,000 LAST YEAR

MONTREAL, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Israel exported \$2,500,000 worth of goods to Canada last year, against imports from this country totaling \$6,500,000, it was reported here by Yechiel Narkiss, Israel's Trade Commissioner in Canada.

Mr. Narkiss reported on the trade between the two countries at a reception at the Israel Consulate General for 500 Montreal wholesalers and importers, trade and community leaders, at which the guests sampled a variety of Israeli food products being sold on the Canadian consumer market.

Fresh gladioli were especially flown from Israel by El Al for the reception, at which Israel Consul General Pinhas Eliav, served as host. Various displays enabled the visitors to see the variety of Israel products which are currently being exported to Canada, including fashion apparel for men and women and giftware.

ISRAEL WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF 6,000,000 IN 40 YEARS, OFFICIAL SAYS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Israel will have a population of approximately 6,000,000 in the year 2000 of whom about 1,000,000 will be Arabs, it was predicted here tonight by Michael Doron, representative of the Israel Prime Minister's Office for Research Programs in the United States.

Addressing a meeting of the American Technion Society at the Hotel Astor, Mr. Doron expressed the view that "only through science and technology can Israel hope to provide sustenance and a high standard of living for this greatly expanded population."

Mr. Doron, who is currently carrying out an Israel Government mission in this country designed to encourage American Government, industrial and research agencies to increase the flow of research contracts to Israel, said that this increased population will come about from natural causes, as well as from an expected immigration of more than 1,000,000 Jews from Eastern Europe and from Africa. He reviewed the wide range of research projects currently underway in the laboratories of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, as well as other institutions of higher learning and research in Israel.

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION PAYS DIVIDENDS TO U.S. STOCKHOLDERS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A total of \$662,410 in dividend checks was mailed today to some 10,000 United States stockholders of Palestine Economic Corporation. This was the largest single dividend disbursement in the 35-year history of PEC, representing a five percent return for the year 1960 on the \$25 par value common stock outstanding as of last December 29. Dividends for the previous year were at the rate of four percent and totaled \$482,251.

Accompanying the checks was the company's Annual Report which notes "an encouraging picture of headway being made" in Israel and which lists over \$18 million in assets in industrial, agricultural, commercial and other enterprises. PEC president, Joseph Meyerhoff, stated that the company "seeks to set the pace for constructive new private enterprise that will encourage, lead and inspire the business community for the benefit of Israel as a whole."

ISRAEL MAISELS, SO. AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER, NAMED JUDGE OF HIGH COURT

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Israel Maisels, a prominent barrister and a leader of the South African Jewish community, will become a judge of the High Court of Southern Rhodesia, effective next May, it was announced here today. Mr. Maisels, 55, is a former president of the South African Board of Jewish Deputies and is currently a vice-president.

(The Guardian of Manchester, commenting today on the appointment, described Mr. Maisels as a strong foe of apartheid who has championed the rights of the African in South Africa.)