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ISRAEL PRESIDENT GETS PROGRESS REPORT ON ATTEMPTS TO FORM NEW CABINET

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24; (JTA) -- Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, who is attempting on behalf of Mapai to form a new coalition government, presented today to President Ben-Zvi a progress report on his efforts.

He informed the President that while his series of talks up to yesterday with leaders of the Liberal party, Achdut Avodah and the National Religious Party had failed to end the deadlock blocking formation of a new government, he intended to continue his efforts.

The Mapai applied pressure yesterday to the leftist Achdut Avodah for a prompt answer on whether it would join the coalition--now that all of its conditions for joining have been met--without its partner, Mapam. Achdut Avodah leaders promised an early reply.

The latest stumbling block, a split in the Mapam-Achdut Avodah united front on negotiations, arose when Mapam began to make new demands. The Finance Minister yesterday told leaders of Achdut Avodah, which has indicated readiness to join a coalition, that "you must now decide whether you are ready to go without Mapam if the latter's negative attitude persists."

Mapai sources were reported today as convinced that Mapam leaders have decided not to join a new coalition for ideological conditions unrelated to the issues that have been raised in more than two months of coalition negotiations. An indication was a demand raised publicly by Mapam urging Israel to adhere to a policy of strict non-alignment in the East-West power struggle.

This demand had not been raised in the Mapam talks with Mr. Eshkol nor was it included in the joint conditions agreed on by Mapam and Achdut Avodah. The Mapam shift was believed to stem from a new appraisal of developments on the international scene. The consensus was that if Achdut agreed to join, Mapam would be compelled to do likewise.

The major unresolved issue in talks with the Liberal party was reported to be that of Liberal insistence on government control of health services. Mr. Eshkol was reported to feel that the Liberal demands on this issue and on the portfolios they wanted were not warranted by their 17 seats in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

In another phase of the coalition situation, the Knesset referred to its Law Committee a bill sponsored by six parties which would limit the period which a Premier-Designate would have to form a government.

The government withdrew today a bill which would have enabled a new Knesset to pick up on pending legislation at the point where the outgoing Knesset had left off. The proposal evoked widespread opposition in Knesset and the withdrawal was made to avoid a defeat for the government.

ISRAEL ARMY DEVELOPS NEW TECHNIQUE COUNTERING SOVIET TACTICS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 24; (JTA) -- Israel's armored corps has developed a new fighting technique, to counter threats posed by Russian tactics being practiced by the United Arab Republic, David Elazar, commander of Israel's armored corps, declared here today. He made his statement in connection with the celebration here of Israel's Armor Day.

The Soviet system, Mr. Elazar said, is based on employing massive follow-up thrusts in the wake of infantry break-through, so as to secure strategic points far behind the fighting lines. Israel's tactics, on the other hand, are now based, according to Mr. Elazar, on the fullest exploitation of the special qualities of the Israeli soldiers and weapons at the commander's disposal.

PROPERTY OF TWENTY OLD JEWISH FAMILIES IN EGYPT REPORTED CONFISCATED

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24; (JTA) -- Twenty Egyptian Jews are among 67 property owners in Egypt whose property has been ordered confiscated in the new move against "reaction" launched by the United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser, according to information received here. The list includes several old, Egyptian-Jewish families such as Cohen, Addas, Banoun, Samouha and Benin.

PROTECTION OF PROPERTY OF EMIGRATING ALGERIAN JEWS DISCUSSED IN PARIS

PARIS, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- France and Israel were disclosed today to have started negotiations to protect possible property rights of Algerian Jews emigrating to Israel;

Most Jews who have left Algeria have chosen to settle in France, a choice understood to be based on their desire to protect their claims to any compensation to be paid either by France or an independent Algeria to departing Europeans;

The current talks, being held at the diplomatic level here, are aimed at securing similar rights of those Algerian Jews choosing to settle in Israel. It was reported that the French were showing an understanding attitude toward the question and it was hoped an early agreement would be reached. At the present, there are about 150,000 Jews in Algeria.

SPAIN REDUCES PRISON TERM FOR ISRAELI JOURNALIST CAUGHT WITH ARMS

PARIS, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- The Spanish Government has reduced the prison term of Zvi Aldouby, an Israeli journalist who was sentenced earlier this year by a Spanish military court to serve nine years in prison after he was arrested on the Franco-Spanish border with several loaded revolvers in his car, it was reported here today.

The Israeli's sentence was reduced to 18 months imprisonment after intervention in Madrid by the French attorney Tixier Vignancourt, who met last week with the Spanish Minister of the Interior. The latter promised to talk with the Spanish head of Government, General Francisco Franco, concerning a possible amnesty which might facilitate Mr. Aldouby's release from prison later this year.

GERMANS LESS OPPOSED TO JEWS HOLDING HIGH OFFICE, POLL SHOWS

NEW YORK, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today reported that a poll of 1,989 persons by a Frankfurt Institute of Public Opinion showed that on May 1961, 40 percent voiced serious misgivings against former Nazis being appointed to important civic posts; 16 percent were dead set against anyone who had left Germany during the Nazi period, and 18 percent opposed a Jewish nominee. Only 15 percent said they would have no misgivings about a Nazi but 33 percent claimed to be unconcerned if a Jew or a former emigrant was named or elected to a high federal post;

However, 22 percent offered no views insofar as Nazis were concerned, 26 percent no views about Jews, and 28 percent no views about former emigrants; "This indicated the possibility that the number of persons having misgivings about Jews was higher than the figures showed," the WJC report said;

Persons expressing serious misgivings against all three groups increased according to their educational qualifications. The percentages regarding Jews were, for instance: serious misgivings--public school education only, 16 percent; high school students, 20 percent; university, 24 percent; but "no misgivings" also increased with greater education--31 percent, 32 percent and 40 percent;

Party affiliations played no decisive role in the poll. As regards Jews, there were no important differences between members of various parties or persons with no party affiliation. Contrary to the usually accepted view that Berlin's population is more liberal towards Jews, the poll showed that the city had the highest percentage of serious misgivings--41 percent, but also the lowest rate of "no misgivings."

GERMAN CONSULATE APPOINTS JEWISH PHYSICIANS TO EXAMINE NAZI VICTIMS

MONTREAL, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- Physicians appointed by the West German Consulate General here to examine applicants for compensation claims have all been Jewish and are themselves victims of Nazi persecution, Dr. Gerhard Stahlberg, West German Consul General, declared here today;

Dr. Stahlberg, who discussed the claims situation today with Moses Socachevsky, representing the Association of Jewish Nazi Victims of America, said he is in constant touch with the Canadian Jewish Congress with regard to claim applications in general and various particular cases. The CJC represents the United Restitution Organization. The West German official also disclosed that, in certain cases, Yiddish-speaking physicians are called in upon the suggestion of the regular medical consultants;

MONUMENT FOR JEWISH MEMBER OF FRENCH CABINET DESECRATED IN PARIS

PARIS, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- A monument to the memory of George Mandel, former Jewish Cabinet Minister who died as a captive of the Nazis, was desecrated here today.

The memorial, which is on the outskirts of Paris, was daubed in red and the letters, OAS, the initials of the right-wing French underground group fighting Algerian independence, were painted below the daubing.

WARBURG STRESSES INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES TO HELP JEWISH MIGRATION

GENEVA, Oct. 24; (JTA) -- The increased responsibilities which the Jews in the United States and Jewish communities in other free countries are facing now in connection with aiding Jews to emigrate from lands which they want to leave were stressed here today by Edward M. Warburg, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee.

In a message sent from New York to the more than 200 Jewish leaders from 26 countries assembled here at the 16th annual overseas conference of the JDC, Mr. Warburg emphasized that world events are now presenting the Jewish communities in free countries with "enormous problems with which all of us must deal today." His message was read at the conference by Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice-chairman.

Expressing regret that unavoidable obligations in the United States have made it impossible for him to attend the conference this year, Mr. Warburg stated: "I have attended nearly all of these conferences since the end of World War II, and invariably I have found them a source of gratification and inspiration. This would be reason enough for me to regret my absence this year; but I am all the more regretful because of the challenge which world events now present to us.

"Many of you come to these sessions with problems and burdens and responsibilities far greater and more difficult than those of the last several years," Mr. Warburg continued; "These burdens have been thrust upon you without choice, as crises have always come to pass, and will continue to occur, so long as there are Jewish communities which can do little to determine their own fate. In many respects the events of this year are a recurrence of the events of the years immediately following World War II."

Says Such Responsibilities Are an Obligation for All Jews

Emphasizing the urgent need to help as many Jews as possible to emigrate to Israel and other countries, Mr. Warburg said: "This is not a matter of choice for us--it is an obligation. It is a part of the commitment which we inherited when we were born Jews; It is a part of our affirmation of faith--we are our brothers' keepers.

"I see this not only as an obligation, but as an opportunity," he declared. "In our history there were opportunities which we missed, and for which we later castigated ourselves. And there were opportunities which we seized, and which brought us exultation and joy. How much we have learned of the lessons of history, these coming days and months will show. It is this credo, this understanding which you must bring back to your communities, as we are bringing it to the Jewish community of the United States."

Astora Mayer, of Milan, chairman of the Assembly of Jewish Community Services, which is meeting jointly with the JDC conference, outlined the accomplishments of the past year toward the goals which the Assembly had set for itself. These are: The strengthening of the welfare, educational and social structure of the Jews in Western Europe; the creation of a commission on personnel which would devote itself to training and procurement of personnel to staff schools, synagogues and community centers being set up in Europe with the aid of the JDC and the Conference of Material Claims Against Germany; and creation of a commission for Jewish community centers and vocational camps to plan and supervise recreational and cultural programs for youth in European countries.

BRITAIN 'ACTIVELY' CONSIDERING RATIFICATION OF U.N. GENOCIDE PACT

LONDON, Oct. 24; (JTA) -- The British Government is giving "active consideration" to the question of becoming a party to the United Nations Genocide Convention, which Britain has never ratified, according to a statement in the House of Commons today by Edward Heath, Lord Privy Seal. He made his statement in response to statements in Parliament by two members of the Labor Party, Sir Barnett Janner and Hector Hughes.

Britain's ratification of the Genocide Convention, Sir Barnett pointed out, has been hanging fire for a long time. Members of the British Commonwealth, he said, had agreed to abide by the Convention "while we are lagging behind." There are cases, "he continued, "that cannot be dealt with in any other way, except through the Genocide Convention."

Mr. Heath replied that there were "considerable difficulties" in the way of ratification of the Convention, "but we are determined to reach a conclusion as soon as possible." He refuted a statement made by Mr. Hughes who had charged that "considerable damage" has been done to sections of the population as a result of the Government's long delay.

Two other Laborites, Michael Foot and Sidney Silverman, criticized the Government for its delay on ratification of the UN anti-Genocide instrument. Mr. Heath replied that the difficulty related to an article in the Convention guaranteeing the right of political asylum, saying that there would be a need for Britain to amend its criminal code to provide such a right.

(In Washington today, it was pointed out that the United States Government has also, thus far, failed to ratify the UN Genocide Convention. Demands that Washington accede to that convention have been made frequently in the past few months by many Americans including, most recently, Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress.)

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION REGISTERS A NEW \$3,000,000 ISSUE

TEL AVIV, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- Another issue of \$3,000,000 worth of common stock has been registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission by the Palestine Economic Corporation, it was reported here today by J. Meyerhoff, president of the PEC. The funds, he said, will be used for further expansion of the corporation's investments in Israel.

The corporation's paid-up share capital, Mr. Meyerhoff reported, has now reached \$15,000,000, compared with \$12,000,000 at the end of 1959. He said that the PEC has decided to pay a five percent dividend for 1960, as against four percent paid in previous years.

POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTION OF NEW HEBREW U. PRESIDENT IS OPPOSED

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- A special meeting of the board of governors of Hebrew University, called for November 6 to elect a new president may be postponed until the spring, it was indicated today.

Most of the British and Israeli board members favor a postponement but George Wise of New York, chairman of the board, told correspondents that such a move would be "government interference in the affairs of an autonomous body." He said he had first heard the suggestion for postponement from Education Minister Abba Eban.

The reference to Mr. Eban evoked some surprise. It was understood that he had expressed his objections to the extraordinary meeting in his capacity as an honorary member of the board of governments and not as Education Minister. Mr. Wise was mentioned last spring as a candidate for the University presidency.

EX-PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL GIVEN WARM WELCOME UPON ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- Brazil's ex-President Juscelino Kubitschek received a warm welcome from Israeli leaders when he arrived for a visit here today. President Izhak Ben-Zvi tendered a luncheon for Mr. Kubitschek and his party, while Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion conferred with the Brazilian statesman for an hour, discussing problems of development.

Mr. Kubitschek visited Yad Vashem, the center for the documentation of the martyrdom of 6,000,000 Jews who were slaughtered during the Nazi holocaust, and was also shown through the campus of the Hebrew University. Later, he planted a sapling in the "Kubitschek Wood" of the Jewish National Fund's afforestation project.

JEWISH PHYSICIAN LEAVES \$500,000 TO MT. SINAI HOSPITAL IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- Dr. Henry Reiss, a Jewish physician who died in 1960 at the age of 82, bequeathed \$500,000 to Mt. Sinai Hospital to aid medical students who lack funds to complete specialized studies, it was revealed here today after probate of Dr. Reiss' will.

During many years of medical practice in The Bronx, it was revealed, Dr. Reiss had distributed more than \$500,000, contributing to many philanthropies. Known as "the poor man's doctor," because he had treated hundreds of patients gratis, Dr. Reiss had obtained considerable wealth through investments.

LEIDESDORF HONORED BY N. Y. UNITED JEWISH APPEAL; TREASURER SINCE 1939

NEW YORK, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York today dedicated the principal meeting room in its headquarters, in honor of Samuel D. Leidesdorf, prominent philanthropist. Mr. Leidesdorf, who recently became 80 years old, has served as New York UJA's treasurer since its inception in 1939.

Mayor Robert F. Wagner, chairman of New York's Non-Sectarian Community Committee for the UJA, and State Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz, one of the general chairmen of the New York UJA campaign, were among the speakers at the dedication ceremony. Some 150 leading associates of Mr. Leidesdorf in volunteer work for the United Jewish Appeal witnessed the ceremony.

ISRAEL TO ASSIST BOLIVIA IN DEVELOPING AGRICULTURE; EXPERT ARRIVES

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Oct. 24: (JTA) -- Yitzhak Levy, Director General of the Israel Ministry of Agriculture, arrived here today for a ten-day visit during which he will study Bolivian agricultural problems within the framework of a technical assistance agreement concluded earlier this year between Israel and Bolivia. Mr. Levy, who was met at the airport by Bolivian Minister of Agriculture Perez Alcalá, will make recommendations for developing Bolivian agriculture some time after returning to Israel.

During his stay in this country, Mr. Levy will study problems dealing with irrigation, soil erosion, afforestation and fish culture. The assistance program also provides for the visit to Israel of several Bolivian agricultural experts to study Israeli farming methods.