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ISRAEL CAN DO NOTHING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW, BEN-GURION SAYS

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 3: (JTA) -- "There is nothing Israel can do to improve relations with the Soviet Union under present circumstances, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion declared here. "Whatever Israel does will only be held against her by Moscow," he added;

The Prime Minister spoke at the traditional annual dinner with editors and foreign correspondents. The dinner, marking this year the 14th anniversary of the adoption of the partition resolution by the United Nations, was also attended by high Government officials and army officers. In the course of a question-and-answer period that followed the dinner, Mr. Ben-Gurion also stated that:

1. The Syrian coup which separated that country from Egypt and ended President Nasser's United Arab Republic did not diminish the Arab threat to Israel or bring nearer a settlement of Middle East differences;
2. Israel was not prepared to accept Prime Minister Nehru of India as a mediator in the Arab-Israel dispute because his qualifications as a neutralist were doubted;
3. Israel's stand against the South African Republic in the United Nations on the Apartheid issue was justified for a variety of reasons;
4. Dag Hammarskjold, the late United Nations Secretary-General was just and reasonable and there is no justification for a negative attitude toward him;
5. The best of the eight governments he has headed was the provisional one which he was unable to reconstitute after the elections last August;

He said there were two main factors in the question of Israel-Soviet relations. One was the fact that Israel had only one vote in the United Nations compared with the 11 Middle East Arab countries and that there were 70,000,000 Arab voices in the world as against 2,000,000 Hebrew-speaking people. The second factor was that there are 3,000,000 Jews in Russia whom the Soviet authorities wanted to assimilate forcefully, a goal to which Israel was a barrier.

Compares Tito's Friendship to Israel with Nehru's 'Neutrality'

He hailed Nehru as a leader who had succeeded in establishing a true democracy in India but he questioned his qualifications as a "neutralist." He said that word could not be genuinely applied to Nehru. He compared the Indian leader in that respect with Tito of Yugoslavia, who greeted President Ben-Zvi on his birthday and who maintains relations with Israel. He said Nehru does not maintain such relations, in spite of his de facto recognition of Israel. The Prime Minister added that Nehru claimed neutrality while India maintained membership in the British Commonwealth.

Mr. Ben-Gurion stressed that his visit this month to Burma meant a renewal of personal contact with Premier U Nu and Former Premier No Win, whom he described as ardent friends of Israel. Promising a report on the meeting when he returned, he said he was looking forward to meeting again the two Burmese leaders who had already visited Israel.

In reply to a question about Israel's relations with Communist China, he said that Israel had recognized the Peiping regime but that Red China did not appear to be eager to reciprocate. He expressed the hope that, considering the good relations between Burma and Red China, his visit to Burma might promote rapprochement between Israel and Red China.

In his reply to a question about South Africa, he said that Israel's attitude was motivated by three factors. One was its belief in self-determination for all peoples. The second was Diaspora Jewry--meaning that Israel should not give an example to anti-Semites everywhere that a discriminatory policy toward Jews was by inference acceptable. The third was the ties with the new countries of Africa and Asia. He said there might be some "disappointments" in those continents but that there was not another country which enjoyed such tremendous prestige in the new Afro-Asian countries as did Israel.

He told another questioner there was no justification for a negative attitude toward the late Dag Hammarskjold who, he said, had been just and reasonable. "We had bitter

discussions and there were times when I persuaded him and he admitted this," the Prime Minister disclosed. "There were times when he was not persuaded but this cannot be taken as a negative attitude towards Israel. He was a most able man."

The best of the eight governments he has headed, he said in reply to a question, was "the one I did: not manage to establish," a government on the same pattern as the caretaker government which included all he considered to be constructive factors in building up Israel.

He also discussed, in reply to a question, a substitute through Israel for the Suez Canal. He called this "the old plan" to utilize the difference in altitude between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea for a canal that could be used also for power production; "I do not think it can be materialized now, but if the Negev is inhabited then navigation on the Red Sea will be as important as in the Mediterranean and we hope to safeguard free navigation in this sea," he said. "However, I am not sure we will not have to fight over it."

GERMAN DELEGATE ACCUSES SOVIET OF ANTI-SEMITISM AT UNESCO MEETING

PARIS, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- A clash between the West German delegate and the Soviet delegate over anti-Semitism in their countries marked the usually routine meeting of the executive committee of UNESCO yesterday.

Otto Von Sommer of West Germany charged that the Soviet Union practiced "anti-Semitism and racism." He said the USSR practiced widescale anti-Semitism both in its press and in its application of Soviet law. He asserted that Soviet delegate Alexander Pavlov's claim that there was no racism in the Soviet Union was "a lie" and that the Soviet report of non-discrimination in Russia was "an untruth."

The Soviet delegate emphatically denied the charge and retorted he was surprised that the representative of "a country responsible for the murder of 6,000,000 Jews should dare to speak on the subject." The clash of views was omitted from the minutes of the committee on orders of the chairman.

Moscow Mum on Trials of Jewish Leaders, Sen. Javits Reports

NEW YORK, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- The secret Soviet trials and imprisonment of Jewish religious leaders in Leningrad and Moscow are "an expression of the Soviet Union's outspoken, anti-Israeli policy," Senator Jacob K. Javits, of New York, declared here this weekend upon return from a 10-day visit to the USSR.

"Through these persecutions of the Jewish leaders," the Senator said, "Russia is giving notice that she will not tolerate the emigration of Russian Jewry to Israel or any advocacy of such a move." Mr. Javits, who went to Russia primarily to investigate the status of Soviet trade with the United States, said he visited and worshiped at the Great Synagogue in Moscow, and found the Sabbath service there proceeding as usual.

However, he emphasized, not one of the Russian religious Jews he met would discuss the reports about the renewed persecutions launched against Jews recently by the Russian authorities. The Senator said he could not reach a single, authoritative, Russian Government official with whom he could discuss the situation of the Jews in the USSR.

TRIAL OF JEWISH POET IN POLAND ADJOURNED; ARRESTED ON MOSCOW'S REQUEST

PARIS, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- The Warsaw trial of Naftali Kahn, well-known Yiddish poet accused of writing "calumnies" against the Soviet Union, which opened in secret last week in Warsaw, was adjourned for six weeks pending a medical examination of the defendant, dispatches from Warsaw reported here today.

Kahn was arrested in Poland a year ago, after coming to Warsaw from Russia, and was charged with "libelous propaganda" against the Soviet Union. Soviet authorities demanded his extradition, but Poland refused to extradite him, ordering him instead to be tried in a Polish court, since he is a Polish citizen.

U.N. EXPERTS TO START TODAY THE SCHEDULED DEBATE ON ARAB REFUGEE PROBLEM

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 3; (JTA) -- The long-awaited debate on the Arab refugee problem--expected to develop into a bitter and lengthy attack against Israel by the combined forces of the Arab League delegations here, with support from other Moslem members and the backing of the Communist representatives--is scheduled to get under way in the General Assembly's Special Political Committee tomorrow.

The first dispute to face the committee will center around a request by all of the Arab delegates for the seating of a so-called "Palestine Arab Delegation" which claims to represent the viewpoint of the Palestine refugees. This 10-man group is composed of Arabs known to represent the point of views of the pro-Hitler, ex-Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, as well as the attitude of the most embittered anti-Israelis under the aegis of Egypt's dictator, Gamal Abdel Nasser.

A number of important delegations, including the representatives of the United States, are expected to oppose seating the group as a "delegation," and will argue that only some of the 10 members of the group be heard as individuals. Yordan Tchobanov, of Bulgaria, chairman of the committee, has announced that he has set aside 15 sessions for the committee's debate of the refugee issue. The first speaker on the committee's list is Ahmad Shukairy, of Saudi Arabia, who indicated that his opening address will last six hours.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL TO ANNOUNCE 1962 GOAL; WILL SEEK \$95,000,000

NEW YORK, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- More than 1,400 delegates from all parts of the country will assemble in New York this coming week-end to map plans for the 1962 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal, it was announced here today. The plans will be discussed at the 24th annual National Conference of the UJA which will open on December 10 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel;

Facing the delegates will be a proposed 1962 campaign goal of the \$95,000,000 of which \$35,000,000 would be sought as a Special Fund to help meet the greatly augmented costs of increased immigration to Israel. The \$95,000,000 would be used to aid 600,000 persons in 1962, including several hundred thousand still unabsorbed immigrants in Israel as well as new immigrants, Jews in need in 27 other countries, and refugees to the United States;

Joseph Meyerhoff, UJA general chairman, noting the start of the Chanukah holiday, today called upon the American Jewish community to respond to the drive for greater funds "in the spirit of Chanukah--that spirit of perpetual renewal and rededication which has been a beacon in the hearts and minds of our people through the centuries;" "The people of Israel," he said, "who have already been paying for two-thirds of the costs of immigration, have now assumed an even greater share of the responsibility. We must be ready to do our part in resettling our people and preparing them for a happier future;"

GENERAL ZIONIST CONFEDERATION CALLS FOR 'WORLDWIDE JEWISH UNITY'

NEW YORK, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- A declaration calling for "worldwide Jewish unity" and affirming "Israel's role and destiny as the spiritual center of a world Jewry and most potent factor for Jewish survival everywhere," was adopted here tonight at the opening session of a three-day conference of the executive of the World Confederation of General Zionists attended by 40 representatives from various countries.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Confederation, presented a six-point program to the session, which was adopted. The program urges the worldwide constituency of the Confederation: 1. To promote a close and mature relationship between the Jews in the Diaspora and in Israel; 2. To fight unceasingly against the forces of assimilation, disintegration and Jewish isolationism; 3. To foster among Jewish youth the feeling of solidarity and unreserved commitment to traditional Jewish values and Zionist ideals; 4. To encourage idealistic aliya to Israel in the pioneering spirit; 5. To spread the knowledge and spirit of Hebrew as the lingua franca of the Jewish world; and 6. To influence the organization of Jewish communal life in all countries on a democratic basis;

This is the first time that a plenary session of the executive of the World Confederation of General Zionists, headed by Dr. Neumann, is held in New York. Participating in the session are General Zionist leaders from the United States, South America, Europe and Israel. The session tonight was also addressed by Joseph Saphir, former Israel Minister of Communications and member of the Knesset as a leader of the Liberal party; Leon Dultzin, member of the Jewish Agency executive in Jerusalem and a vice-president of the Confederation; Herzl Gesang of Buenos Aires, president of the Latin America Confederation of General Zionists; Jacques Orfus, president of the Zionist Organization of France; and Jacques Torczyner, of New York, a vice-president of the Confederation.

TRUMAN HONORED IN KANSAS CITY FOR HIS ROLE IN ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- More than 750 persons filled the Grand Ballroom of the Muehlebach Hotel to overflowing tonight at a dinner in honor of former President Harry S. Truman sponsored by the Kansas City Committee for State of Israel Bonds. The principal speaker at the dinner was Abraham A. Ribicoff, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, who extolled Mr. Truman's record as a statesman and leader. Cabled messages were received from Israel President Izhak Ben-Zvi and Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion in tribute to Mr. Truman;

A special plaque bearing the seal of the State of Israel, and three gold coins issued in commemoration of Israel's Bar Mitzvah, was presented to Mr. Truman at the dinner. The plaque honored Mr. Truman as a "stalwart champion of human rights, fearless defender of the free world, whose vision and statesmanship as President of the United States found memorable expression in his historic support of the establishment of the State of Israel, which is now celebrating its Bar Mitzvah year;"

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN ISRAEL IS FAR SHORT OF NEED, ORT DIRECTOR SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 3; (JTA) -- Max A. Braude, director-general of the World Ort Union, declared today that inadequate financing of the Ort schools in Israel was depriving hundreds of Israeli youth of a vocational education. This is happening at a time when skilled workers and technicians are in particularly great demand as a consequence of the country's rapid industrial expansion, Mr. Braude stated;

Mr. Braude has arrived here from Geneva for discussions concerning the financing of the more than 600 trade schools and other training facilities which Ort conducts in 19 countries. He will confer with leaders of American Ort and the Joint Distribution Committee;

ISRAEL STARTS CHANUKAH CELEBRATION WITH LIGHTING GIANT MENORAH

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- With the traditional lighting of a giant menorah atop Mount Zion here, Israel started its week-long celebration of Chanukah. Marathon runners belonging to the Maccabean sports organization brought the torch from Modin, the birthplace of Matathias the Hasmonean, father of the Maccabean dynasty which defeated the Syrian defilers of the Second Temple during a three-year rebellion (168-165 B. C. E.), ending with the miracle now memorialized in the annual Feast of Lights.

After the torch brought from Modin had been used for lighting the menorah on Mount Zion, the Maccabean runners brought it to the home of President Izhak Ben-Zvi, presenting it to the Chief of State.

Meanwhile, on Mount Zion, a special ceremony was held, honoring 2,000 Israeli youths who had reached their Bar Mitzvah during the 13th year since the rebirth of the State of Israel. The ceremony was conducted by the Ministry for Religious Affairs. Each of the Bar Mitzvah boys was awarded a special confirmation pin struck for the occasion by the medallion unit of the Prime Minister's office.

18,000 TO ATTEND ISRAEL BOND CHANUKAH FESTIVAL TONIGHT IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- More than 18,000 Israel bond purchasers will celebrate the Jewish holiday of Chanukah tomorrow evening at the eleventh annual Chanukah Festival for Israel at Madison Square Garden. Tomorrow night's performance is all sold out, it was announced by Ira Gilden, Chanukah Festival chairman, but tickets, which are free to those who purchase Israel bonds, are still available for the second performance on Monday, December 18.

Golda Meir, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel, will be honored for her leadership in Israel affairs at the Festival, which is the major highlight of the 1961 campaign in the New York metropolitan area to raise \$13,000,000 in Israel bond investment funds to aid the economic development of the young Middle East nation, now marking its 13th, or Bar Mitzvah year.

More than \$250,000 for the economic development of Israel was provided by the sale of Israel bonds today at a testimonial luncheon honoring David Mager, chairman of the Farband-Poale Zion Committee for Israel Bonds, at the Commodore Hotel. Foreign Minister Golda Meir of Israel was the principal speaker at the luncheon.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL PRESENTS 1961 AWARDS TO THREE JEWISH LEADERS

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Three leaders of American Jewry, each representing a distinct wing of organized Jewish religion in this country, were presented with the annual Synagogue Statesman Awards here tonight at a dinner attended by 300 religious and civic leaders under the auspices of the Synagogue Council of America. The award winners were Samuel H. Daroff, of Philadelphia; Ludwig Jesselson, of New York; and Brigadier General David Sarnoff, also of New York; representing, respectively, the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform denominations.

Following the presentation of the scheduled awards, a surprise award was given to former Senator Herbert H. Lehman, who was one of the principal speakers. Citing Mr. Lehman as the "first among synagogue statesmen," Rabbi Julius Mark, president of the Synagogue Council, lauded the surprise recipient for "his many years of devotion and service to Jewry, to America, and to all mankind." The Synagogue Statesman Award consists of a sculpture in bronze, done by Isaac Butinsky, showing the prophet Isaiah "beating swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks."

Other speakers in addition to Mr. Lehman were Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews; the Rev. H. Leroy Brininger, assistant general secretary of the National Council of Churches; and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Raymond J. Gallagher, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities. Chairman of the dinner was Benjamin Lazrus, head of the Synagogue Council's National Advisory Council. The Synagogue Council of America is the national coordinating organization of the rabbinic and congregational agencies of all three branches of the American Jewish religious community.

ARTHUR KATZ NAMED EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT OF JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

NEW YORK, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- The appointment of Arthur Katz, Dean of the Graduate School of Social Work at Adelphi College, as executive vice-president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America was announced today by Alan M. Stroock, chairman of the Seminary's board of directors. Mr. Katz will assume his new duties on February 1.

SIR BASIL HENRIQUES, PROMINENT BRITISH JEW, DIES IN LONDON AT 71

LONDON, Dec. 3. (JTA) -- Sir Basil Henriques, scion of one of the most famous Anglo-Jewish families, a judge for 30 years, and one of the leading British authorities on juvenile delinquency, died here yesterday at the age of 71. He was a vice-president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, and a member of the Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association.