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CONGRESS GETS RESOLUTION ASKING U.S. INTERVENTION FOR JEWS IN RUSSIA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- A resolution calling on the House to unanimously endorse a request for direct intervention by President Kennedy with the Soviet Government against anti-Jewish discriminations practiced in Russia was introduced today in the House of Representatives by Congressman Charles Buckley, New York Democrat.

The resolution asks President Kennedy "to convey to the Soviet Union an expression of the grave concern of the people of the United States over growing anti-Semitism, and to seek assurances that prompt and appropriate action be taken to stop all forms of bigotry and race hatred against the Jewish people now living in the Soviet Union."

At the same time, Rep. Buckley asked the President to prevail upon Soviet authorities to permit Russian Jews "who desire to do so" to leave and seek haven "in Israel and other free lands." The resolution also asked that the President "take all possible immediate steps through the United States delegation to the United Nations" to bring to world attention the facts about "the cruel mistreatment of the Jewish people living within the Soviet Union to the end that such mistreatment should cease."

In introducing his resolution, Rep. Buckley said that although Jews "are not being executed or shipped off to Siberia," Russian anti-Jewish activities are taking "a subtle but vicious form prevalent in many parts of the Soviet Union today." He said that Soviet behavior towards Jews "makes it quite clear that the Moscow terror has for its real target the eradication of religion itself."

The New York Times described this weekend, in a dispatch from Moscow, a scene in a Moscow synagogue in which the Chief Rabbi and a dozen lay Jewish leaders implored the congregation to shun contacts with visiting Israeli diplomats. The meeting ended with a resolution asking congregants to avoid dealings with Israelis and called on Israelis to stop giving presents to Russian Jews.

MAJORITY OF JEWS IN ALGERIA PREFER EMIGRATION; ONE-THIRD WISH TO REMAIN

LONDON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- An estimated one-third of Algeria's remaining 110,000 Jews are prepared to remain in an independent Algeria under Moslem rule, the weekly Spectator declared here in a report from Algeria.

The report said that the one-third was made up largely of Jews living in secondary Algerian cities of 50,000 to 75,000 inhabitants which have been relatively tranquil in the broiling battle between European elements seeking to keep Algeria French and the FLN Moslem underground. Jews in the smaller cities have not been exposed to the violence of Algiers, Constantine and Oran.

A Jewish shopowner in one of the smaller towns told the correspondent that "we are ethnologically and culturally closer to the Arabs than to the French and in the immediate period of independence there will be a critical need for our services which will assure our safety."

The correspondent also asserted that the two-thirds of Algerian Jews who do not wish to remain in a Moslem-ruled Algeria prefer to emigrate to France rather than to Israel, since they are French citizens.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO CHECK DEMANDS OF LABOR FOR WAGE INCREASE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Following the successful conclusion of agreements with Israel's major manufacturers and importers over measures which will serve to ease the burden of the devaluation of the Israeli pound, the Government today moved to head off demands by trade unions for interim wage increases which might cost the state some 5,000,000 pounds (\$1,670,000) monthly.

Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, appearing before the Mapai central committee, reiterated his opposition to any tendency toward increased wages and announced that vigorous efforts were being made by the Finance Ministry to bring down any prices which might influence, the cost-of-living allowances.

Housing Minister Giora Josephthal, meanwhile, called for "efficiency dismissals" or the transfer of unneeded workers.

U.S. SUPREME COURT TO START HEARINGS ON DAILY PRAYERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- The United States Supreme Court is planning to set a date late next month or early in April to hear arguments on the constitutionality of daily prayer recitations in public schools, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned here today.

In the meantime Congressman Paul B. Dague, Pennsylvania Republican, today denounced what he called "a militant minority" for seeking "to deny the majority the educational, non-sectarian advantages of a daily reading of the greatest book;" He asserted that this "minority" wants to keep "all reference to the deity from our public schools."

The Pennsylvania lawmaker said that though he was a firm believer in the doctrine "that our public schools must remain free from all forms of religious indoctrination, to deny all reference to a supreme being, as many would have it, is to deprive the students of a great truth that is apparent to anyone who paused but for a moment to examine God's handiwork all about him."

Bishop John Wesley Lord, of the Washington Methodist Church Diocese said in a statement today that while he opposed public school religious observances that might embarrass or isolate children of minority religions, complete exclusion of religion from the schools would be "false to the religious tradition of America;" The Methodist Churchman said that the Constitution bars religious indoctrination "but it does not require ignorance" of religion; Omission of religion, he said, conveys the negative suggestion that it is unimportant.

The Washington Jewish Community Council recently requested school boards in the Washington area to bar Bible reading and religious holiday observances of any kind;

U.S. DELEGATION AT U.N. CRITICIZED FOR OPPOSING DIRECT ARAB-ISRAEL TALKS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- A Pennsylvania Congressman said he hopes "that in the future" the U.S. delegation to the United Nations "will not find it necessary to vote against a resolution calling for direct negotiations between the Arab countries and Israel;"

Congressman James Byrnes of Philadelphia told the House that the U.S. should "always go on record in favor of such direct negotiations whenever there is an opportunity to do so;" His remarks were made in reference to the U.S. delegation's vote in the U.N. Last December against a 15-nation sponsored resolution calling for direct Middle Eastern negotiations.

In another comment on the debate which took place in the United Nations last December, Rep. Byrnes said he was "gratified" that the U.S. delegation "saw through" Arab efforts to use the Arab refugee question "for propaganda purposes only;"

WEEK-LONG STRIKE OF POSTAL WORKERS ENDS IN ISRAEL; AGREEMENT REACHED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Postal authorities began today the monumental task of unscrambling and re-routing a mountain of mail that piled up during a week long strike which was ended early this morning following a marathon bargaining session;

Officials of the Post Services Workers Union met with representatives of the Government and the Histadrut from Sunday evening until 7 a.m.; this morning and hammered out an agreement which provides a substantial increase in the salaries of letter carriers, night messengers and other postal clerks; The walkout began in Tel Aviv when letter carriers struck, demanding increases of 50 pounds (\$16.67) per month;

A few hours after the settlement was reached, postoffices were reopened; Officials said it would take at least a week to distribute the mail that accumulated during the strike;

EGYPTIANS ABDUCT ISRAELI SETTLER; FIRST ABDUCTION SINCE SINAI CAMPAIGN

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Israeli officials reported today the first cases of an abduction of an Israeli by Egyptians since the 1956 Sinai campaign;

Egyptian soldiers seized Moshe Ben-Shitreet, a member of the Afikim border settlement, near the Gaza Strip, while he was working in the field; Fellow-workers reported that an Egyptian military half-track vehicle crossed the border into the field; Several armed soldiers jumped out and forced the settler into the vehicle and then drove back across the border;

The witnesses rushed back to the settlement to report the abduction; The incident was made public after Israel authorities were assumed to have been officially informed through United Nations Emergency Force headquarters that the settler was being held by the Egyptians;

FRENCH LEADERS PLEAD FOR ISRAEL'S LINKING TO EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET

PARIS, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- A gathering of French political and economic leaders heard a strong appeal today to "Europe's conscience" not to "abandon Israel in its hour of dire need and not to sacrifice its economic development and security for financial reasons" in the expanding Common Market.

The appeal was made by a former French Cabinet member, Diomedé Catroux, now president of the France-Israel Association. He spoke at a luncheon arranged under the chairmanship of Emile Roche, chairman of France's Economic and Social Council. A number of other speakers pleaded for Israel's association with the six-nation Common Market.

M. Catroux stressed that the six countries had "a heavy responsibility" toward Israel, adding that "it was because of our lack of foresight between 1933 and 1939 that hundreds of thousands of European Jews had to flee the continent." He said "our task is not ended with Israel's creation. We cannot now condemn to death a state which we ourselves have created."

Another former French Minister, Gerard Jacquet, now head of the European Movement, tried to answer some of the objections which might be raised against entering negotiations with Israel for some kind of association. He said: "To those who say that Israel is not in Europe, we can answer that we have accepted African states as associates and this has created a precedent. To those who may question the usefulness of such a move, we must reply that Israel's economy is closely linked with ours, with more than half of its exports going to Western Europe."

Other speakers discussed the European economy and the importance of Israel's role in it. They also stressed the sacrifice to which Israel consented by devaluing its currency to facilitate negotiations with the EEC.

Common Market Is Matter of Life and Death for Israel, Envoy Says

Israel's position was presented by Amiel Najar, Israeli Ambassador to Belgium, who stressed that Israel was not asking for integration into the EEC or even for association. "All we want," he told the luncheon, "is some form of customs union which would protect our interests." He added that Israel was one of the first nations to show interest in the EEC and that although Israel was small and outside Europe, it was the third country -- preceded only by the United States and Greece -- to arrange for a diplomatic representative to the EEC and to open talks with it.

Walter Eytan, Israel's Ambassador to France, who left yesterday for Jerusalem for consultations with the Israel Government on the European Common Market, said prior to his departure in a television interview that "for Israel, the Common Market, is a matter of life and death." He said Israel does not seek to impose any of its political burden on the EEC community and that all it asked for was the possibility of continuing economic ties to Europe which, because of the Middle East impasse, were irreplaceable.

It was disclosed that Israel Finance Minister Levi Eshkol was scheduled to visit Europe next week for a meeting with political and economic leaders of the six nations and to discuss the question with members of the EEC Ministerial Council.

Others who spoke on Israel's behalf included Robert LeMaignan, French delegate to the EEC, and Henri Bordeau, director of France's National School for Public Administration. The audience included many foreign Ambassadors, French Parliamentarians, heads of major corporations and French civil servants.

Israel Optimistic on Prospects of Link to Common Market

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Israeli officials were reported today to be optimistic about prospects that some kind of link might be arranged between Israel and the burgeoning European Common Market. The optimism developed following the arrival here of Walter Eytan, Israel's Ambassador to France, for consultations which included a report on his talks with French officials about those prospects.

Mr. Eytan will meet today with Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, who will leave this week for a series of talks with EEC officials in Europe. The envoy was understood to have met on the issue with French Premier Michel Debre and other French political leaders. They reportedly expressed full support for Israel's desire for a link with the EEC and intervened accordingly with President de Gaulle.

INTERNATIONAL PARLEY IN GENEVA HAILS ISRAEL'S NEW ECONOMIC POLICY

GENEVA, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Israel's new economic policy sparked by the recent devaluation of the Israel pound from 1.8 to 3 to the dollar, was lauded here today by the Council of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, whose president, Ambassador Lakarta, of Uruguay, expressed the gratification of the Council for Israel's action. The new policy was also welcomed by the United States representative on the Council.

BRITISH FRIENDS FOR ISRAEL FORMED; WILL COMBAT ANTI-ISRAEL ACTIVITIES

LONDON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- An organization named British Friends of Israel has been formed here and has held an inaugural meeting, according to an announcement today by its chairman, Morris Gershllick;

He said the goals of the organization were "to act as a means whereby all who are pro-Israel, whether Zionists or not, can associate together in a common cause on behalf of Israel, to assist in creating a more informed public on significant matters relating to Israel, and to combat anti-Israel activities;" Long-term activities include a series of lectures and the publication of a monthly magazine;

WIZO CONVENTION VOTES FOR A THREE-CHAIRMAN BODY TO HEAD EXECUTIVE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- The 14th world convention meeting of Wizo -- Women's International Zionist Organization -- today decided on a three-chairmen body to head its executive, which, by a previous decision, is a merger of the World and the Israel executives;

The three chairmen will each be responsible for one of the three departments -- dealing with federations abroad; practical work in Israel and the Israeli federation; The latter will concentrate on organization, fund raising and social integration of newcomers to Israel; The convention also discussed a four-year plan for the various departments of Wizo

B'NAI B'RITH ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR UNITED NATIONS BOND ISSUE PLAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith today announced its support for the proposal that the United States purchase United Nations bonds;

In a letter to Senator John Sparkman of Alabama, Acting Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, B'nai B'rith President Label A. Katz said Congress should grant Mr. Kennedy's request in order to lift the threat of insolvency from the U.N. and to strengthen the prestige and authority of the international organization;

NEW DIRECTOR FOR PAUL BAERWALD SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK IN ISRAEL NAMED

CLEVELAND, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Israel Katz, candidate for the doctor of social work degree at Western Reserve University here has been named director of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, it was announced today by Dean Nathan E. Cohen of the School of Applied Social Sciences;

Mr. Katz, a native of Vienna, came to Western Reserve University from Israel in 1959 under a fellowship from the National Council of Jewish Women; In Cleveland he has worked in a treatment-home for emotionally disturbed children and taught on a part-time basis at WRU. He is a graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and of Columbia University;

BERGEN BELSEN SURVIVORS IN UNITED STATES FORM AN ASSOCIATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- The founding of the Bergen-Belsen Association of the survivors of the infamous Nazi concentration camp was announced here today by Josef Rosensat, former chairman of the Central Committee of the Liberated Jews in Germany, and now president of the Bergen-Belsen Association;

The objectives of the newly founded group are among others: to further and maintain contacts with their fellow survivors of Bergen-Belsen in Israel and other countries; to care for the preservation and maintenance of the mass graves and monuments of the tens of thousands of their friends who did not survive the Nazi holocaust; and to perpetuate their memory through a fraternal philanthropic program of relief and mutual assistance in behalf of fellow survivors and a scholarship scheme for children of the Bergen-Belsen survivors;

MEMORIAL TO HONOR JEWS OF LUBLIN KILLED BY NAZIS PLANNED IN POLAND

VIENNA, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Sixty-three sculptors and architects have submitted plans for a proposed memorial to honor the Jews of Lublin who were murdered by the Nazis during the latter's occupation of Poland in the Second World War, it was reported here from Warsaw. The foundation stone for the memorial is scheduled to be laid in April;

Branches of the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy in communities near Lublin have been requested to furnish caskets with ashes of victims for interment in the memorial. The construction of the memorial has been financed with the aid of funds contributed by former Jewish residents of Lublin now residing in other parts of the world, including Australia, France and Germany;

UNIVERSITY IN GUATEMALA OFFERS FREE COURSE IN HEBREW LANGUAGE

GUATEMALA, Feb. 26; (JTA) -- Some 100 persons, mostly non-Jews, have registered for a free course in Hebrew language offered by the College of Liberal Arts of the University of San Carlos. The course, the first of its kind in Central America is being offered in cooperation with the Israel Embassy here;