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### PASSOVER STARTS TONIGHT; MARRIED BY SOVIET BAN ON MATZOZ BAKING

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Jews throughout the world, including the United States, will usher in the Passover festival tomorrow night, mixing the traditional joy of the celebration of liberation from bondage in ancient Egypt with sadness over the fact that, in the Soviet Union, between 2,500,000 and 3,000,000 Jews have been denied by the USSR Government the elemental right of having matzoth.

In other areas of the world, however, thousands of Jewish immigrants and other needy Jews have been assured of matzoth and other Passover supplies, with the aid of funds and services provided by the United Jewish Appeal and its constituent agencies, according to Joseph Meyerhoff, general chairman of the UJA.

The Joint Distribution Committee has shipped 275,000 pounds of matzoth, matzoh meal, wine and other supplies to nine European countries, Mr. Meyerhoff was informed by Edward M. M. Warburg, chairman of the JDC. This year's figure compared with 185,000 pounds of Passover supplies shipped in 1962, said Mr. Warburg.

Most of the increase, he said, went to France, where the Jewish population has been swelled in the last year by the influx of 120,000 Jewish refugees from Algeria and other North African countries. Other JDC Passover shipments went to Albania, Austria, Belgium, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Yugoslavia.

In addition to the shipments to Europe, JDC made special Passover grants to 60,000 Jews on relief rolls in Algeria, Iran, Morocco and Tunisia, where Jews were enabled to purchase Passover supplies locally. In Poland, unlike the Soviet Union, the official Jewish community was permitted to bake matzoth. Equipment for the matzoh bakeries was supplied by the JDC. Matzoth were purchased inside Poland by the JDC and distributed to about 100,000 Jews in that country.

Murray I. Gurfein, president of United Hias Service, the worldwide Jewish migration agency, emphasized in a Passover statement that "the current exodus of Jewish persons from danger zones in many parts of the world demonstrates that the story of our people's survival through migration is as alive today as it was in Biblical times." He revealed that more than 200,000 Jewish men, women and children fled their homelands last year. "For them," he said, "the age-old festival of liberation holds special significance."

### 100,000 Jews in U. S. Armed Services to Celebrate Passover

More than 100,000 Jewish men and women in the armed services of the United States, employed in military, naval and air installations in the U. S. A. and abroad, as well as on the high seas, were enabled to celebrate Passover through the services of the National Jewish Welfare Board and its numerous volunteer aides. Special provisions were also made by JWB for dependents of Jewish servicemen around the world, as well as for Jewish patients in hospitals conducted by the Veterans Administration.

At many American installations, special Passover meals for the entire eight-day Passover festival had been arranged by the JWB. Chaplains of the Jewish faith and civilian rabbis specially recruited for the task had been flown to military installations and ships at sea through JWB arrangements with the U. S. Air Force and U. S. Navy. Passover supplies were also provided to Jewish servicemen and women en route or at various places around the world on secret missions.

On behalf of its constituent rabbinical and congregational organizations of Reform, Orthodox and Conservative Jewry in the United States, the Synagogue Council of America, through a special Passover message by its president, Rabbi Julius Mark, urged Jews to remember their brethren in the Soviet Union as they observe their sederim this year. Pointing out that the USSR denies to its Jews not only matzoth but also prayer books, prayer shawls and other religious needs, Rabbi Mark stated: "The Nazi holocaust destroyed the body of the European Jew. Is the Soviet Union seeking to destroy his soul?"

The officially condoned anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union was also the theme of a Passover message by A. M. Sonnabend, president of the American Jewish Committee. Pointing out the ban against matzoth in the USSR, Mr. Sonnabend recalled also that all of Russia's Passover meals are served only by about 60 aged rabbis. In addition, he noted, "thousands of synagogues

in the USSR have been expropriated, and not a single synagogue has been returned, while construction or rededication of confiscated churches or mosques has been a normal phenomenon in the USSR."

#### Rededication to Israel Urged; Situation in Middle East Stressed

The current situation in the Middle East, with its threats of menace to Israel's security, was emphasized in the Passover message by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Israel. "Our rejoicing this year," he stated, "is marred by recent developments in the Middle East, casting a pall on our festivities. The land of Israel and its people are threatened as never before. In the long years of struggle for Jewish national restoration in the ancient homeland, the Jewish people have been tried and tested in many a crisis, but never before was the threat so clear and the danger so grave as it is today."

Rededication and recommitment to the tasks of service "to our brothers overseas" in the spirit of Passover and its commemoration of the exodus were emphasized in a special Passover message from Dr. Dewey D. Stone, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., and chairman of the United Israel Appeal. "As we approach this Passover holiday, the new exodus, which has already brought over 1,000,000 Jews to Israel from areas of persecution and insecurity, continues at an accelerated pace," he stressed.

The celebration of Passover this year and the link of the festival with American Jewry's interest in Israel were stressed in a special statement by Abraham Feinberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization. Noting that Israel is about to rejoice over the 15th anniversary of its rebirth in 1948, Mr. Feinberg called the Bond effort "a modern covenant" with the Jewish State. "By our support of the Israel Bond drive during the past 12 years," he stated, "we have strengthened the hands of the people of Israel in building the economic foundations of the country."

Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, said the message of this year's Passover "comes to Jews and Zionists with its immemorial exhortation to redouble our vigilance in our constant struggle for the survival and freedom of our people. We must strengthen the bonds which bind us to Israel, center of Jewish spiritual life," he said. "At the same time, we must not falter in our unshaken determination to combat the forces of assimilation in America, and preserve and strengthen our Jewish heritage in a free American society, rooted in the teachings of our Scriptures."

#### Lubavitcher Rebbe Calls for Return to 'Authentic' Jewish Heritage

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress, declared in a Passover message: "To the Jews of America, who enjoy the blessings of liberty, Passover is a summons to join in the struggles for human dignity, taking place in our own day. As we celebrate this festival, let us commit ourselves to the unfinished business of freedom--this precious gift that must be ever achieved, ever protected, ever renewed."

Rededication to traditional principles of the Jewish religion, with special emphasis upon the Jewish youth, was called for in a Passover message issued by Rabbi Menachem M. Schneersohn, the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Now, he said, an opportunity presents itself "to return to our original and authentic heritage. There is a widespread interest among all, especially the youth, to know the full truth about Jewishness. Moreover, they demand to know the full truth. Experience has shown that, where Jewish youth comes in contact with authentic Torah-and-Precepts Jewishness, it is attracted to it."

Passover messages were also issued by Dr. Max Nussbaum, president of the Zionist Organization of America; Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, national president of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America; Albert Schiff, president of the Jewish National Fund of America; Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum, national president of the Religious Zionists of America; Mrs. Sidney Lefk, national president of Pioneer Women; and Mrs. Joseph Willen, president of the National Council of Jewish Women.

#### CHIEF RABBI OF ISRAEL, IN PASSOVER MESSAGE, CALLS FOR COURAGE

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim called on the Israeli populace tonight to draw courage and inspiration from the glorious past to face current threats from the country's enemies. In a Passover message broadcast over the nation's radio network, the Chief Rabbi said that Israel as a people is small and poor, its resources limited and its needs great, and surrounded by a wall of enmity and must constantly be poised.

Yet, he noted, Israel maintains its defenses and existence, builds up the country and gathers in the dispersed who are settled on the land. These, he said, are miracles which cannot be fathomed except by the superior power of faith.

#### PRESIDENT BEN-ZVI TO LEAVE HOSPITAL; WILL OBSERVE SEDER AT HOME

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- President Ben-Zvi, who entered Hadassah Hospital last week for a series of what were described as routine examinations, is expected to leave the hospital tomorrow. He is expected to spend Seder night at home and to accept the credentials of John Beith, the new British Ambassador, the day after Passover.

## 12 AMERICAN JEWISH GROUPS READY TO SEND PLANELoad OF MATZOTH TO RUSSIA

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Twelve national Jewish organizations were still awaiting today approval from Soviet Premier Khrushchev to fly a planeload of matzoth to Moscow in time for Passover, which begins at sundown tomorrow.

At a news conference in Stephen Wise Congress House, spokesmen representing the 12 major Jewish secular and religious bodies disclosed they had cabled the Soviet leader offering to ship the matzoth by air and to meet all costs of distribution within the Soviet Union. No answer has as yet been received from the Soviet Premier. The full text of the cable addressed to Mr. Khrushchev as Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR reads as follows:

"Unavailability of matzoth for Passover deprives Jews in USSR of means of observing this important religious holiday in accordance with their faith. The undersigned are prepared to ship planeload of matzoth and to bear costs of distribution in accordance with whatever means are authorized, in order to meet needs of Jews at least in part. We urgently request consent of Soviet Government to this undertaking. In view of imminence of Passover, we ask your early consideration and cabled reply to allow for completion of delivery before beginning of holiday."

Organizations which signed the cable were: American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A., Rabbinical Assembly of America, Rabbinical Council of America, Synagogue Council of America, National Community Relations Advisory Council, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and United Synagogue of America.

### American Firms Willing to Donate Many Planeloads of Matzoth

The matzoth was made available without cost by the major matzoth baking companies, who are prepared to make available "as many planeloads of matzoth as the Soviet Government would permit to enter the country," according to the statement. Funds to charter cargo planes for the flight to Moscow were pledged by individuals from the 12 national Jewish organizations that signed the cable to the Soviet Premier. Copies of the cable were sent to the Soviet Embassy in Washington and the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in New York.

At the news conference, the Jewish spokesmen distributed a memorandum giving details of the ban on the manufacture of matzoth in public bakeries in the USSR and the arrest of Jews for baking the unleavened bread in their own homes.

"We can only characterize this vicious policy as cruel, arbitrary and discriminatory harassment and express our deep sorrow for the hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews who will be denied again the right to carry out one of the most important and profoundly significant observances of the Jewish tradition," the statement declared.

Present at the news conference today were: Adolph Held, chairman, Jewish Labor Committee; Rabbi Philip Hiat, executive vice-president, Synagogue Council of America; Morton London, national commander, Jewish War Veterans; George Maislen, president, United Synagogue of America; and Dr. Joachim Prinz, president, American Jewish Congress.

## ISRAELI STUDENTS AIRMAIL 100 PARCELS OF MATZOTH TO MOSCOW RABBI

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JA) -- The Israeli Students Organization was disclosed today to have airmailed 100 matzoth parcels to the Soviet Union, addressed to "Rabbi Levine, Moscow Synagogue." Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levine is Chief Rabbi of Moscow and he announced two weeks ago that for a second year the state bakeries would not bake matzoth for Russian Jews.

The students acted on their own initiative and did not consult any officials. A protest meeting was held against the Soviet matzoth ban and the meeting sent a letter of protest to the Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva.

Chief Rabbi Nissim said today: "We cannot disregard the plight of a large sector of people who are prevented from observing their faith and religion. We want our Russian brethren to know that we made all efforts to send them matzoth for the festival but were unsuccessful and we share their deep spiritual grief."

## SOVIET WITHDRAWS WITNESSES FROM GERMAN TRIAL OF NAZIS WHO KILLED JEWS

COBLENZ, April 7. (JTA) -- The four Soviet citizens who were to testify in the mass murder trial of George Heuser and 11 other former SS men, charged with killing 35,000 Jews in Minsk during the Nazi occupation of Soviet territory, have decided not to come to Coblenz to testify, according to information reaching the Soviet Embassy in Bonn today.

The reason given was that their scheduled testimony had become "senseless" after the stay in West Germany of another Soviet witness had been cut "radically" by the West German passport office. According to the report, the four Soviet witnesses felt that Nikolai Alexeyev, a Leningrad law professor, had been deprived of the opportunity to complete his testimony by the reduction of his permitted stay in West Germany. It was reported meanwhile that the court was anxious to end the trial of the 12 former Nazis. The period for evidence will be closed by either April 10 or April 17. The trial started six months ago.

## KNESSET DEFEATS MOTION TO DEBATE RESIGNATION OF SECURITY CHIEF

JERUSALEM, April 7 (JTA) -- The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, defeated opposition motions today, by a vote of 67 to 47, rejecting the requests made by parties that are not members of the coalition government for a full-scale debate on the resignation of Israel's Chief of Security. The latter had quit over Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's disagreement with him about the policies followed when it was disclosed that German scientists, many of them ex-Nazis, are being employed by Egypt on projects for development of non-conventional weapons to be used for the destruction of Israel.

Prior to the meeting of Parliament, the Cabinet formulated a statement dealing with today's special session of the Knesset. A terse Cabinet communique declared that a five-member Ministerial Committee for Security will study the issue of the German scientists being employed by Egypt. It is understood that that committee has been given power to subpoena all persons involved in the issue that led to the resignation of the security chief. The latter's name, traditionally kept secret in this country, has not yet been officially revealed.

After leading House members representing the Liberal Party, Herut and Mapam voiced sharp criticism against Mr. Ben-Gurion's bringing about the security chief's resignation, the Prime Minister told the Knesset: "Our grave concern over the designs of the Egyptian dictator to destroy Israel, and over the assistance he is receiving from German and other scientists, should not throw us off our balance."

### Ben-Gurion Denies the Security Chief Has Been 'Dismissed'

"Israel's security," the Premier told the Knesset, "is founded on two factors: The deterrent power of Israel's defense forces, and our international standing. A responsible Opposition--at least in security matters--should avoid statements not calculated to strengthen our international standing." He added that "it was distortion of the truth" to say that the security chief had been "dismissed."

The Prime Minister also deprecated press statements alleging that he had disassociated himself from the statement made three weeks ago in the Knesset by Foreign Minister Golda Meir, who had discussed the responsibility of the West German Government regarding the German scientists at work on the Egyptian projects. He pointed out that the measures taken by Israel since that discussion, as a result of a Knesset resolution of March 20, "has not yet been without success, so far." He indicated that the Ministerial Committee on Security, formed by the Cabinet, will have access to "fullest information" on the entire matter.

The fireworks in the Knesset, convened today, just before the eve of Passover, in an extraordinary session, started immediately after Mr. Ben-Gurion told the House that the problem of the security chief's resignation could be discussed only by the special Ministerial Committee or by Parliament's own Committee on Security and Foreign Affairs. The latter, he said, will resume its discussion of the subject, but a plenary session of the Knesset is not the proper forum for such a debate.

### Opposition Leaders Voice Charges Against Ben-Gurion in Knesset

Menahem Beigin, leader of the right-wing Herut Party, assailed the Prime Minister, charging he negated the Knesset's March 20 resolution, alleging that Mr. Ben-Gurion had "forced" the security chief's resignation, and saying the latter had been made a "scapegoat." He alleged that the Prime Minister, who had been on vacation when the issue developed last month, had "cut short his holiday to set into motion a series of measures designed to mute and tone down the Knesset's resolution."

Ishar Harrari, of the Liberal Party, scathingly attacked the Premier for allegedly withholding the reasons for the security chiefs exit. He said Mr. Ben-Gurion kept the full information back from Cabinet as well as from Parliament, asserting today's special session was caused "by Ben-Gurion's failure to fulfill his parliamentary obligations."

For the left-wing Mapam Party, Yaacov Hazan said the Premier had three choices after the March 20 resolution. These, he said, were: Blaming the Bonn Government for the work of West German nationals in Egypt by accepting the Knesset resolution, despite his own views; bringing pressure on his coalition partners to reverse the previous decisions; or resign.

He charged Mr. Ben-Gurion was "unwilling" to adopt the first course, "unable to effect the second course" and "avoided" the third. Instead, he alleged, the Premier adopted a fourth course--"to disregard the unanimous Knesset resolution." He also criticized the decision made by Ben-Gurion against publishing a White Paper on the German scientists at work for Egypt, holding "there was no proof that this would damage the prestige of the nation."

### Coalition Parties Reach Agreement Prior to Knesset Meeting

Today's Knesset action was the result of an agreement reached in the course of prior talks between Mr. Ben-Gurion and his coalition partners, during which, it was understood, the Premier furnished further details than heretofore disclosed. He reportedly made clear explanations which, evidently seemed satisfactory to those with whom he met.

### ISRAEL'S DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER LEAVES U. S.; MET WITH KENNEDY

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Shimon Peres who returned last night to Israel had met with President Kennedy, it was disclosed today by Myer Feldman, Presidential assistant. The meeting took place during Mr. Peres' visit to the White House to confer with Mr. Feldman. President Kennedy asked to see Mr. Peres when he learned that the Israeli official was at the White House.

The President reportedly closely questioned Mr. Peres on Israel's views regarding the military situation in the Middle East and the recent developments in connection with Nasser's rocket program and the involvement of the West German scientists.

Asked to describe the purpose of the talks which Mr. Peres had with various U. S. officials, Mr. Feldman said that they concerned Israel's security, the present situation in the Middle East and in Africa and the attitude of various powers towards the Middle East. He said the talks were "mutually highly useful" and revealed a very close similarity of views. Mr. Feldman also stressed that Mr. Peres did not make any specific request, neither for new American arms nor for any other kind of aid.

### SENATORS URGE KENNEDY TO REAFFIRM U. S. INTEREST IN ISRAEL'S SECURITY

WASHINGTON, April 7. (JTA) -- Six Senators called on President Kennedy yesterday to take a stronger and more definitive stand in support of Israel's security and Near Eastern peace in view of German participation in the Egyptian armament program.

The Senators were Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican; Thomas H. Kuchel, California Republican; Winston L. Prouty, Vermont Republican; Jacob K. Javits and Kenneth B. Keating, New York Republicans; and Thomas J. Dodd, Connecticut Democrat.

President Kennedy was told in a joint letter from the Senators that recent developments made it "highly appropriate for the United States to reaffirm its deep and continuing interest in the security of Israel" and "to put renewed emphasis on measures designed to reduce Middle Eastern tensions." They stressed that "it does not serve the interests of either the United States or of world peace" to have the German-Egyptian missile development continue.

### J. T. A. NEWS TO BE PRESENTED TO BLIND BY JEWISH BRAILLE INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Sightless persons throughout the world, including many who are non-Jewish, will receive tomorrow a special Passover edition of the Jewish Braille Review in which, for the first time, excerpts of news from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily News Bulletin have been included, according to an announcement here today by Jacob Freid, executive director of the Jewish Braille Institute of America, which has its headquarters in New York.

Following the Passover issue, Mr. Freid said the monthly Jewish Braille Review will contain, in each issue, a round-up of Jewish news from all parts of the world, culled from the daily issues of the JTA Daily News Bulletin.

The Jewish Braille Review, Mr. Freid explained, is a monthly magazine of religious, cultural and intellectual writings, believed to be the only publication of its kind in the world. Its readers include 1,800 blind in the United States, Canada, Israel and 28 other countries around the globe. Fully one-third of the readers, he said, are not Jewish.

"The remarkable development that led us to reprint the JTA Daily News Bulletin in Braille," said the executive, "is that there has been an increasing demand from our readers all over the world for precisely that material. They want Jewish news, whether they are Jewish or not. There is no anti-Semitism whatever among the blind, anywhere in the world. We started the use of JTA news in our Passover issue, and will continue using it every month."

### DR. OPPENHEIMER TO RECEIVE U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION AWARD

WASHINGTON, April 7. (JTA) -- Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the famous Jewish scientist, and the physicist who headed the American development of the atomic bomb during World War II, was voted this week by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission as the recipient this year of its Enrico Fermi Award. The award consists of a prize of \$50,000, a gold medal and a special citation.

Just 10 years ago, Dr. Oppenheimer was declared a "security risk" by the same government agency. He has been the director of the Institute for Advanced Science, at Princeton, N. J.; since 1948. Last year's recipient of the same Fermi prize was another Jewish scientist, Dr. Edward Teller, "father of the hydrogen bomb."

### CONNECTICUT HOUSE PASSES BILL FOR CHARTER TO PLANNED JEWISH UNIVERSITY

HARTFORD, Conn., April 7. (JTA) -- The Connecticut State House of Representatives here has passed a state bill authorizing the issuance of a charter to the newly proposed Jewish University of Connecticut. Senate passage of the bill, and the signature of the Governor, are still needed before the charter is granted.

Five incorporators, headed by Harold B. Yudkin, of Derby, Conn., were the applicants for the charter. The plans are to establish the university at Derby "or elsewhere within the State of Connecticut," in the next 10 years, after development of a multi-million dollar fund-raising campaign for the proposed school.

