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ISRAEL SIGNS NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY AT CEREMONIES IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- An Israeli delegation led by Charge d'Affaires Mordechai Gazit today formally adhered to the Anglo-American Soviet nuclear test-ban treaty at a State Department ceremony.

Affixing the formal signature of Israel here at ceremonies similar to others held today in London and Moscow, Mr. Gazit said that it was Israel's hope that the treaty would lead to an improvement in the international atmosphere, and serve as a positive step toward relaxation of tensions. He said he hoped it would be followed by further measures for attainment of complete general disarmament. He voiced Israel's belief that lessening of tension between the Big Powers would have a salutary effect on the Middle East region.

Phillips Talbot, Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, said he was pleased with Israel's adherence to the treaty, and pointed out that the desire for peace constituted a common bond between Israel and the United States.

Clement Conger, special assistant to the director of the U. S. Disarmament Agency, also participated, along with two other Israeli officials--Uri Raanan, Counsellor for Information, and Shaul Bar-Haim, Counsellor at the Embassy.

SYRIANS SHOOT AT ISRAELIS FOR THIRD SUCCESSIVE DAY; U. N. PROBES ATTACKS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Syrian shooting at land workers in the demilitarized zone southeast of Lake Tiberias continued today for the third day in a row.

The target of today's firing was a tractor working on lands belonging to the Haon settlement. The fire was not returned, and no casualties were reported. During the two hours of shooting, a dry field was set afire but did not spread because of a favorable wind.

Israel lodged complaints with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, and the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission started probing the attacks.

CYPRUS DECLARES 'ABSOLUTE NEUTRALITY' AS BETWEEN ISRAEL, ARAB STATES

NICOSIA, Aug. 8. (JTA) --- The Director General of the Cyprus Foreign Ministry, Costas Assiotis, said here today that his country was following a policy of "absolute neutrality" in its relations with Israel and the Arab states.

Addressing the members of a diplomatic seminar here conducted by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Mr. Assiotis described his country's relations with Israel and the Arab nations as "a delicate problem." Cyprus, he declared, "extends its hand to both parties, and gives the two sides equal opportunity to establish cultural, economic and other relations with Cyprus."

GERMANY, ITALY RATIFY TREATY FOR BONN PAYMENTS TO NAZI VICTIMS

ROME, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- West Germany and Italy today formally exchanged ratification instruments to an agreement between the two countries, providing for payment by the Bonn Government to Italy of \$10,000,000 for the indemnification of Jews and other victims of Nazi deportations during the Second World War.

An important provision of the agreement is a clause enabling Italian victims of Nazi persecution to apply to the Bonn Government for compensation. In the past, such claims had been rejected by West Germany on the basis of a provision in the peace treaty between Italy and the Allies, according to which Italy waived any Governmental or private claims for war damages against Germany.

The new agreement established the principle that the waiver contained in the peace treaty will not be valid for any damage arising from racial or political persecution. Consequently, claims by Italian citizens in accordance with German indemnification laws, which had been refused by the Bonn Government on the basis of the peace treaty waiver, will now be re-examined by the West German authorities. Italian citizens entitled to compensation, who have not filed such claims, may do so within the next 12 months.

WORLD COORDINATING COUNCIL OF JEWISH YOUTH SOUGHT AT JERUSALEM PARLEY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Creation of a world coordinating council of Jewish youth organizations was recommended today at the Second World Jewish Youth Conference by its steering committee, as the week-long global conclave neared its close. The recommendation was initiated by the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency.

Eight working commissions, each made up of 40 members, have been in intensive sessions except for a brief interlude to attend a reception given yesterday by President Shazar. The commissions were seeking to complete reports to the plenum before the closing session tomorrow. The delegates also took time out from their committee labors to visit the Yad Vashem exhibit of the Jewish resistance and heroism during the Nazi holocaust, and to attend a special ceremony at Mount Herzl.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, told the 400 delegates from 39 countries that "the problem of dual loyalty is a problem which exists for many more Jews than are willing to admit it, many of them considering it unpatriotic to belong to a world Jewish people."

He also asserted that the idea of national sovereignty was now in its last stages and, therefore, it was assuming "its most brutal, intransigent forms." He said this development was dangerous for a "classic minority" like the Jews, adding that a most notable example was Soviet Jewry "which, next to the security of Israel, is the problem in Jewish life today."

KNESSET REFUSES TO DEBATE JUSTICE COHEN'S ALLEGED SLUR OF RABBINATE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, rejected today by a vote of 38 to 23 an opposition motion for a general debate over recent remarks by Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohen, in which the jurist compared the rabbinic definition of a Jew with the Nazi racist Nuremberg laws.

In his remarks at a recent American Jewish Congress Dialogue in Israel which had aroused strong criticism in religious quarters, Justice Cohen had declared: "It is one of the bitterest ironies of the State that the same racist approach that was propagated by the Nazis and characterized the infamous Nuremberg laws should, because of an alleged sacrosanct Jewish tradition, become the basis for official determination or rejection of Jewishness in the State of Israel."

In the discussion in the House over the proposal for the debate, Minister of Justice Dov Joseph conceded that Justice Cohen had erred in the sharpness of his expression, "and certainly should not have made the comparison he did." He declared, however, that general debate in the Knesset would further publicize the "regrettable remarks."

Rabbi Shlomo Lorincz, the Agudat Israel member who proposed the motion for debate, characterized Justice Cohen's remarks as "abusing" and "insulting to the Jewish religion." Referring to a letter to the Chief Justice in which Justice Cohen said that extreme expressions were used "to emphasize that which requires extreme emphasis," Rabbi Lorincz said this indicated that Justice Cohen stands by his view that that part of the Jewish tradition which is Israeli law today is "Nazi racist law."

Liberal Knesset Member S. J. Abramov, whose party abstained in the vote, expressed "grief and astonishment" that a Supreme Court Justice had criticized the fundamental law of the State. He said Justice Cohen's remarks were "a deep insult to the secularites" no less than to the religious portion of the populace, and urged public figures to refrain from controversial issues. He said his party abstained so as not to undermine the prestige of Israeli judges.

ESHKOL PLEDGES CLOSER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN JEWS AND ARABS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- The importance of developing attitudes of mutual confidence between the Arab and Jewish populations of Israel was stressed by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol last night.

During an impromptu address at a reception tendered in his honor by the Jerusalem branch of his Mapai Party, the Prime Minister addressed himself directly to representatives of Arab villages who took part in the reception.

"We must learn and remember that which unifies us and forget that which divides us," he said. Dwelling on his contacts with Arabs from his first days in this country, he declared that he would do his utmost as Prime Minister to foster a closer understanding between the two peoples.

HERUT GROUP MEETS WITH ESHKOL; EASING OF POLITICAL TENSIONS SEEN

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol met today with a three-man deputation of the rightist Herut Party. It was the first meeting between Herut members and a Prime Minister since the Sinai campaign of 1956.

The meeting aroused much interest in the Knesset lobbies where the briefing was regarded as another indication of the Prime Minister's goal of dissipating old political grudges.

AMERICAN ORTHODOX RABBIS WARN ISRAEL AGAINST 'MENACE' OF CONSERVATISM

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- The issue of the validity in Israel of non-Orthodox marriages and divorces was raised again today during a visit here of a delegation of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, for the stated purpose of arousing the Israeli public about the "menace" of the Conservative synagogue movement in Israel.

The visiting Orthodox rabbis expressed surprise when they were told by reporters at a press conference that Conservative rabbis were authorized to act as marriage registrars in Israel. They said they had understood that such marriages were not "recognized" in Israel.

The visiting rabbis also said that Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim had promised them emphatically that the Israel rabbinate would not recognize divorces issued by the Conservative Beth Din (Jewish Religious Court) in the United States. They expressed disbelief when they were told that Israeli rabbinical officials had assured Dr. Louis Finkelstein, American Conservative leader, and Prof. Saul Liberman, Jewish law experts of the movement, to the contrary.

When the Chief Rabbi's office was contacted for comment, a spokesman there said that both sides had "exaggerated" in reporting "promises" made to them. The Chief Rabbi was not in his office, having left for a brief holiday in Switzerland.

Before he left, Rabbi Nissim accepted an invitation from the delegation to visit the United States, but did not specify a date. It was assumed that, if the United States visit materialized, it would not be before next spring, when elections are scheduled for a new Chief Rabbinate Council in Israel.

The American delegation consisted of Rabbis Yaacov Kaminetsky, David Lifshitz, Solomon Richman, Yitzhak Small, Avigdor Ziperstein and Simcha Elberg.

ISRAEL PARLIAMENT BEATS BILL FOR CUTTING ARMED SERVICE TERMS FOR WOMEN

JERUSALEM, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Israel's Parliament defeated today, in one of its final acts before recessing for 10 weeks, a Liberal party bill to reduce the service of women in the armed forces from 24 months to 18 months. The Knesset acted after Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, speaking in his capacity as Defense Minister, said that the General Staff was studying the question. He promised a report on the subject at the beginning of the Knesset's winter session. The bill was beaten 36 to 30.

By a similar vote, the Knesset also defeated a bill from the right-wing Herut, which would enable the House to express non-confidence in an individual Minister. Under the present law, non-confidence action may be sought only against the Government as a whole. The majority accepted Justice Minister Dov Joseph's view that the bill was in conflict with the principle of collective responsibility, under which the coalition Government operates.

YUGOSLAVIA EXPRESSES APPRECIATION TO JEWS FOR AIDING DISASTER VICTIMS

LONDON, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Appreciation for the "sympathy and feelings of understanding from a people who have known their share of grief and suffering," was expressed here today by the Yugoslav Ambassador in London, who acknowledged the aid and sympathy extended by the World Jewish Congress to the victims of the Skopje earthquake disaster.

The Ambassador sent his message of gratitude on behalf of his Government in a letter to A. L. Easterman, director of the Department of International Affairs of the WJC in London.

ISRAEL MAKES CONTRIBUTION TO U.N. FOR RESETTLEMENT OF RUANDA REFUGEES

GENEVA, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- Israel today handed over a \$2,000 special contribution to the emergency fund of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for the resettlement of refugees from Ruanda in Tanganyika. The gift was presented to the Deputy High Commissioner by Eliahu Tavor, first secretary of Israel's permanent mission to the United Nations in Geneva.

Expressing his appreciation for the gift, the Deputy High Commissioner described Israel's act as "exemplary," in view of the fact that Israel is a small country and is itself having its own problems of absorption and resettlement of immigrants.

GERMAN DIPLOMAT REAFFIRMS AIM TO HALT REVIVAL OF NEC-NAZISM

LONDON, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- The Counsellor at the West German Embassy in London reaffirmed today his government's determination "to do everything in its power to prevent any revival of National Socialist ideas" in West Germany. The assurance was given in a letter from Dr. R. Thierfelder to the World Jewish Congress department of International Affairs in London.

Dr. Thierfelder, in his letter, noted that officials of the West German states "who, according to the basic law of the federal republic, are competent to deal with these matters, will continue their endeavors to prevent all attempts by any groups of persons to pursue policies directed against the democratic principles of the German constitution and the fundamental freedoms embodied therein."

UNITED SYNAGOGUE TO JOIN MARCH ON WASHINGTON, SUPPORTS JFK ON CIVIL RIGHTS

NEW YORK, Aug. 8. (JTA) - The United Synagogue of America, the association of Conservative congregations in the United States and Canada, will join the August 28 march on Washington in support of the civil rights legislation proposed to Congress by President Kennedy, it was announced here today. The United Synagogue is made up of 765 congregations with approximately 1,500,000 members.

George Maislen, president of the United Synagogue, who attended the recent White House conference of religious leaders, announced the organization's decision to participate. He said that the organization had supported a broad civil rights program for many years "and we are pleased that this year the full weight of the Federal Administration has been thrown into the campaign. We welcome the leadership displayed by President Kennedy, and we join in the march on Washington in order to support him."

SAN FRANCISCO JEWS BACK FULL RIGHTS FOR NEGROES; AID FOOD CAMPAIGN

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8. (JTA) -- All Jewish organizations in the San Francisco and Bay area were urged today to give full support to the principles of non-discrimination and to "a peaceful and orderly solution of the Negro struggle for full equality in the area."

The appeal was issued by the San Francisco Jewish Community Relations Council and was printed in full in the San Francisco Jewish Community Bulletin. The JCRC, in distributing its appeal, indicated it did so on the basis of "recognizing the obligations of all Americans in the current civil rights movement." The statement warned that, in the immediate future, "the San Francisco area will be facing the most critical inter-racial challenge of its recent history."

The JCRC urged every Jewish organization to "do its utmost" to inform its membership about the nature of the Negro civil rights struggle. It urged every organization "to hold a special or early meeting at which this situation can be discussed," and offered speakers for such meetings. The Council also proposed that Jewish organizations give attention to holding their affairs "at facilities which are open to all racial and religious groups."

At the same time, Jews here helped lead a new movement, to collect food in the area to be sent to some 200,000 Negroes in Mississippi "who have been suffering from economic reprisals because of their effort to vote." Mrs. Joseph Eichler was named chairman of the organization, Food for Freedom Committee. The committee has set up 15 depots in boys clubs and churches to receive non-perishable food. Rabbi Saul F. White is one of the committee sponsors.

STANZA OF 'AMERICA' FORBIDDEN IN N. Y. STATE SCHOOLS ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 8. (JTA) -- New York State Education Commissioner James E. Allen, Jr., sustained yesterday a complaint by nine parents that use of the fourth stanza of "America" as part of a devotional exercise in public schools was a violation of the Supreme Court bans on religious activities in such schools.

The nine parents, a cross-section of religious faiths in Levittown, L. I., had protested the opening exercise program adopted by the Levittown School District last September, after the June 1962 Supreme Court ruling which banned prescribed prayers in New York State public schools. The exercises included the stanza which begins "Our father's God to Thee." Dr. Allen said that the anthem could be sung, read or recited at patriotic or ceremonial occasions, but he formally set aside the Levittown board's order as constituting "a daily religious exercise."

GOLDWATER REPORTED TARGET OF ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS FROM FAR RIGHT

NEW YORK, Aug. 8. (JTA) - Sen. Harry Goldwater of Arizona, who is considered a possible Republican candidate for the Presidency, was portrayed today as the target of an anti-Jewish smear campaign by racial reactionaries, particularly in the Southern states.

The campaign was described in a New York Herald Tribune article by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak. The report said it was "nothing new for the lunatic fringe on the far right to revile Goldwater, a life-long Episcopalian who happened to have an immigrant Jewish grandfather." However, the writers added, now that the Senator "is running ahead for the Republican Presidential nomination, anti-Semitic outbursts are multiplying."

The report cited the July issue of the Thunderbolt, a "hate sheet" published in Birmingham, Alabama, which was devoted "to an anti-Jewish attack describing Goldwater as a 'kosher Conservative.'" The report also said that neo-Fascists last week picketed Goldwater-for-President headquarters in Goldwater's home town of Phoenix.

The columnists reported that "Dump Goldwater" flyers were distributed at the National Draft Goldwater rally in Washington on July 4. The flyers called the Senator a "Jew phony" and "The Arizona Israelite." The Thunderbolt also was quoted as telling its readers: "Will white Christian Conservatives be fooled into voting for the first open Jew to be President of the U. S. A.? A two-faced Jew, of Russian parentage would be the ... fatal blow to the Right wing in America."