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KING OF MOROCCO AGREES TO ATTEND ARAB SUMMIT PARLEY AGAINST ISRAEL

CASABLANCA, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- King Hassan II, of Morocco, has agreed to participate in the summit conference of Arab heads of state, summoned by Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser to meet in Cairo to discuss unified action against Israel, if Israel should start diverting the waters of the Jordan River, it was officially announced here today. The announcement was made by Morocco's new Minister of Information.

So far, 12 of the 13 Arab states have agreed to attend the summit meeting, scheduled to be held in Cairo on January 13. Saudi Arabia is the only country that has as yet not publicly accepted Nasser's call for the conference.

The Istiqlal Party, the official opposition party here, issued a statement "welcoming" the King's decision, and demanded that Morocco take "the initiative against Israel."

LEADER OF ITALIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY TO GREET POPE IN ISRAEL

ROME, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Astorre Mayer, president of the Jewish Community of Milan, who is also president of the Standing Conference of European Jewish Community Services--representative body of Jewish communities on the European continent-- will greet Pope Paul VI in Israel, when the Pontiff enters Israel at the Jordanian border, near Megiddo, on January 5, it was announced here today.

Mr. Mayer is going to Israel especially to greet the Pope on behalf of Italian Jewry. At the welcoming ceremonies at the Israeli side of the border with Jordan, Mr. Mayer will be accompanied by Maurice Fisher, Israel's Ambassador to Rome.

Meanwhile, Pope Paul has stressed publicly, for the third time in a week, the exclusively religious character of his forthcoming visit to the Holy Land. Replying to New Year greetings expressed to him at the Vatican by the diplomatic corps here, yesterday, the Pontiff said his journey would be "an act absolutely free of any kind of political or temporal considerations." He said he wanted to "reaffirm" this fact "before such a particularly qualified audience" as the Rome diplomatic corps.

Pope Paul asked the diplomats "to use, if necessary, their influence, and that of their governments, to maintain the pilgrimage in its purely spiritual light" and to prevent false interpretations. "God is our witness," he stated, "that we have before our eyes only the good of the Church and of the great human family when we go to those venerable places" in the Holy Land.

700 Newsmen to Cover Pope's Visit; Israel Makes Preparations

JERUSALEM, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- With more than 700 newsmen representing various media--newspapers and wire services, films, television, radio and still photography--listed to cover the visit of Pope Paul VI in Israel, on January 5, Israel has already spent \$300,000 in preparation for the world-wide news coverage. Special telephones, telegraph stations and broadcasting booths have been placed at strategic points along the Pontiff's itinerary, from his entry into Israel at Megiddo, near the Jordanian town of Jenin, to his departure from this city via the Mandelbaum Gate.

An Italian naval transport today unloaded tons of special television equipment at Haifa for the TV coverage. RAI, the Italian Television Network, has been given exclusive TV broadcast rights by the Vatican for the event. RAI will relay its TV broadcasts to all European stations and, via Telstar, to the United States.

The actual entry of the Pope into Israeli territory will take place at the Ta'anach crossing. There, a collective list of the Pontiff's entourage will be endorsed by an Israeli entry stamp. From the crossing, the Pontiff and his entourage of Cardinals will be driven in automobiles chauffeured by priests to Megiddo.

Buglers will hail the Pope's entry at Megiddo, and a platoon of Israeli cadets will present a salute. There, the Pontiff will be greeted by President Zalman Shazar, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, Deputy Premier Abba S. Eban and Foreign Minister Golda Meir. President Shazar will greet the Pope in Hebrew, and will present the Pontiff with a special medallion, inscribed "Terra Sancta" (Holy Land.)

50 AMERICAN UTILITY FIRMS CHARGED WITH ANTI-JEWISH DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee made public this week-end a list of 50 utility corporations in the United States where, according to A. M. Sonnabend, president of the AJC, "discriminatory barriers exist against Jews, both at the recruitment and promotion levels."

Among the firms listed are 10 of the leading utilities in the country, including American Telephone & Telegraph (New York); Consolidated Edison (New York); Pacific Gas & Electric (San Francisco); Tennessee Gas Transmission (Houston); Commonwealth Edison (Chicago); American Electric Power (New York); Southern Company (Atlanta); Public Service Electric & Gas (Newark); Southern California Edison (Los Angeles); and El Paso Natural Gas (El Paso).

Many of the accused companies today issued denials, stressing that they employ persons of varied religious beliefs. Among the firms that issued such denials were American Telephone & Telegraph; Western Union; Consolidated Edison; Public Service Electric & Gas; Long Island Lighting; and many others across the country.

The "discriminatory barriers," the AJC stated, "are preventing the nation's major utilities from utilizing fully a substantial portion of United States manpower in the management field." According to Mr. Sonnabend, Jews make up less than one per cent of the total executive personnel in the country's 50 leading utilities. About 8 to 10 per cent of the college-trained population in this country is Jewish, he said, and the managerial staffs are recruited almost completely from the ranks of college graduates.

Jewish Job Candidates Allegedly Discouraged by Corporations

In describing the discriminatory barriers, Mr. Sonnabend said that "the problem really begins at the recruitment level when company representatives visit the colleges and graduate schools throughout the nation." He pointed out that potential Jewish candidates for jobs in utilities management are presented "with a negative and discouraging picture of their potential and possibilities in the management divisions of these utilities giants."

The AJC president reported that "there seems to be a built-in discriminatory screen which has a much finer mesh for Jews than for other candidates, Jewish personnel traditionally must do better than others either to stay in the same place, or to move up on the higher managerial ladder." He said that, while very few companies have an explicit policy of discrimination, the utilities nevertheless "maintain a personnel practices climate that discourages Jewish candidates and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups."

Mr. Sonnabend set forth a number of major proposals on the basis of preliminary Committee investigations which, he said, would help in exploring the dimensions of the problem. He urged that the utilities undertake a series of steps toward eliminating patterns of discriminatory behavior:

1. To enlarge the existing body of knowledge about minority groups in management, and the handicaps they face in promotion on merit.
2. To develop an educational program on the detrimental effect of barriers to the free flow of talent.
3. To initiate educational programs which would stimulate the interest of minority groups in the expected opportunities in the utilities field at all levels.

Three Universities Conducting Studies on Anti-Jewish Barriers

The American Jewish Committee has been sponsoring and cooperating with three major studies underway, for the past two years, at Harvard, the University of Michigan, and the University of California, at Los Angeles. These studies are probing barriers on the executive level both at recruitment points and within the industries.

The 50 leading utilities listed by the American Jewish Committee as using such barriers against Jews were: American Telephone & Telegraph (New York); Consolidated Edison (New York); Pacific Gas & Electric (San Francisco); Tennessee Gas Transmission (Houston); Commonwealth Edison (Chicago); American Electric Power (New York); Southern Company (Atlanta); Public Service Electric & Gas (Newark); Southern California Edison (Los Angeles); El Paso Natural Gas (El Paso); Columbia Gas System (New York); Consumers Power (Jackson, Mich.); Niagara Mohawk Power (Syracuse, N. Y.); Philadelphia Electric (Philadelphia); General Public Utilities (New York); Detroit Edison (Detroit); Texas Eastern Transmission (Houston); American Natural Gas (New York).

Also Texas Utilities (Dallas); Consolidated Natural Gas (New York); Middle South Utilities (New York); United Gas (Shreveport); Pacific Lighting (San Francisco); American & Foreign Power (New York); Central & South West (Wilmington); Peoples Gas Light & Coke (Chicago); Virginia Electric & Power (Richmond); Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line (Houston); Ohio Edison (Akron); Union Electric (St. Louis); New England Electric System (Boston); Duke Power (Charlotte); Northern States Power (Minneapolis); Allegheny Power

System (New York); Florida Power & Light (Miami); Pacific Power & Light (Portland Ore.); Northern Natural Gas (Omaha); Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line (New York); Long Island Lighting (Mineola, N. Y.).

Also Pennsylvania Power & Light (Allentown); Baltimore Gas & Electric (Baltimore); Western Union Telegraph (New York); Cleveland Electric Illuminating (Cleveland); Wisconsin Power (Milwaukee); Public Service of Indiana (Plainfield); Potomac Electric Power (Washington, D. C.); Houston Lighting & Power; Public Service of Colorado (Denver); Gulf States Utilities (Beaumont, Tex.); Duquesne Light (Pittsburgh);

Several of Named Corporations Deny the A. J. C. Charges

A statement by A. T. & T. declared: "We are not aware of any such discrimination." A spokesman for Consolidated Edison said: "We have people of all races, so long as they have talent. We could not afford to discriminate." Frank M. Osta, vice-president for employe relations of the Niagara Mohawk Power Company said: "For many years, people of the Jewish faith have held positions of responsibility" with his company.

Pacific Gas & Electric Company, in San Francisco, said the company had "a long established policy of non-discrimination in our employment practices and advancement policies." Similar denials were issued by officers of the Northern States Power Company, Peoples Gas, Light & Coke Company, the Northern Natural Gas Company, the Public Service Company of Colorado, the Southern Company and the New England Electric System.

JOHNSON CITES ISRAEL'S ACHIEVEMENTS AS EXAMPLE FOR OTHER LANDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Israel's achievements were cited today by President Johnson as an example for other newly developed countries where the people "aspire to live in freedom, under peace, enjoying justice as a right and prosperity as a result of their labors."

In a message to the closing session of the 50th anniversary convention of the Farband-Labor Zionist Order, President Johnson pointed to "what has been done in creating out of wilderness the living State of Israel." The message was addressed to Louis Segal, general secretary of the Farband.

The convention closed today with an address by Moshe Sharett, former Premier of Israel and now chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, following the induction of Samuel Bonchek as newly elected president of the Order. Among the major resolutions adopted at the closing session was a strong plea to President Johnson relating to the forthcoming meetings of Arab rulers, convened by President Nasser of Egypt, to decide the measures to be taken against Israel in preventing it from carrying out its plans for the irrigation of its uncultivated areas to make possible the absorption of new hundreds of thousands of Jews from lands of persecution and oppression.

The resolution appealed to President Johnson "whose friendship for Israel and his sense of justice in the best interest of peace in the Middle East are well known," to warn the Arabs against aggression on their part against Israel. The resolution further voiced the hope that the Arab states will recognize that it is in the best interests of their own countries and the peace of the Middle East to enter into direct negotiations with the State of Israel with a view to achieving peace between Israel and their countries "which will ultimately bring blessing to them, to the State of Israel and to all peoples in the Middle East."

In another resolution, the convention voiced its deep sorrow over the plight of Soviet Jewry "which suffers from anti-Semitism and discrimination." The resolution called upon the U.S. Government to prevail upon the Soviet authorities to abolish every form of discrimination against Jews, and to punish those guilty of anti-Semitic acts. The resolution also called for the granting to the Jews in Soviet Russia the possibility to develop their religious and cultural life, similar to those granted to other minorities. It also asked that Jews be permitted to emigrate to reunite with their relatives in Israel and in other lands.

SOVIET POLICY ON JEWS DENOUNCED IN CANADIAN HOUSE OF COMMONS

OTTAWA, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Marvin Gelber, a North York Member of Parliament, charged in a speech in the House of Commons here that Soviet policy "towards the Jews and Judaism remains the same since 1948." That was the year that Stalin began his campaign against Soviet Jewry, culminating in the "Doctors' Plot," in which a number of Jewish physicians were accused of planning to kill a number of Soviet leaders.

"This is one aspect of Stalin's policy which Khrushchev has not neglected," the deputy added, "although the means are different." He declared that in a country where Jews "have resided for more than a thousand years, they are looked on as an alien group."

Enumerating the injustices which are being committed against Jews in the Soviet Union, Mr. Gelber said that Canada had a duty to be "one of the guards" of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

DETROIT FEDERATION LEADERS STRESS SOBELOFF'S ROLE IN COMMUNITY

DETROIT, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- The Jewish Welfare Federation board of governors' meeting at which formal action was taken on Mr. Sobeloff's resignation from the Detroit post as executive vice-president to assume the directorship of the Los Angeles Federation-Council turned into a spontaneous demonstration of respect and affection for the man who has engineered the development of the organized Jewish community during the last 26 years.

Max M. Fisher, Federation president, credited Mr. Sobeloff with intensifying Mr. Fisher's interest in communal affairs and with involving scores of today's community leaders and workers in the processes of organizational and social endeavor. Reviewing the growth of the Allied Jewish Campaign during Mr. Sobeloff's tenure, Mr. Fisher recalled that Detroit was raising \$350,000 a year in 1937 and that since that time Mr. Sobeloff has organized and directed the raising of more than \$125,000,000 in operating and capital funds. "The growth and flowering of this community," said Mr. Fisher, "is reflected in the story of Soby's association with us and the entire community is deeply in his debt."

Judge Theodore Levin, who made the formal motion for acceptance of the resignation, said that he did so with deep regret that one great period of development was coming to an end, but with gratitude to Mr. Sobeloff "for having instilled in all of us a sense of community loyalty and inspired us to great performance." He added that his regrets were mixed with the happy knowledge that in his new post Mr. Sobeloff would be in a position to raise the level of development in one of the largest Jewish communities in the world and that the entire American Jewish community would reap the benefits.

Abe Srere, the senior past-president of Federation, in seconding the motion, recalled the early days of Mr. Sobeloff's association with the community and cited the community's growth in quality of its social services and in the number of persons affiliated. "The many millions of dollars invested in capital development and, even more, the progress these buildings indicate in the improvement of our basic work," said Mr. Srere, "are a permanent tribute to him. Hyman Safran, vice-president of Federation and a member of the selection committee to nominate a new executive, lauded Mr. Sobeloff for his administrative leadership and noted the community's good fortune in having available in William Avrunin a worthy successor.

ORT DIRECTOR REPORTS INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT IN VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Max A. Braude, director-general of ORT, visiting New York in connection with 1964 financing of ORT's 22-country network of vocational schools, informed a meeting of the American ORT executive committee here today that thousands of recent applicants in France and Israel had to be turned away for lack of funds.

He reported that, as of November, enrollment in all training services had risen between 6,000 and 7,000 over the previous year, a jump of 25 to 30 per cent. Despite massive emigration in several areas, there have been no fall-offs of the numbers receiving instruction anywhere in ORT's far-flung educational system, he said. "We have had tremendous increases in two areas, the major countries of migrant reception, Israel and France," he stressed.

LORD MANCROFT TO BECOME HEAD OF NEW TRAVEL COMPANY FOR ISRAEL

LONDON, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Lord Mancroft, the Jewish peer who was forced from the board of a major British insurance firm under Arab pressure, will become chairman of a new travel company for Israel, it was disclosed today. He will head "Global Tours to Israel" which plans to develop tourism in Israel and the Eastern Mediterranean area.

The 49-year-old Jewish businessman is already chairman of "Global Tours," a subsidiary of Sir Isaac Wolfson's Great Universal Stores chain. Lord Mancroft said, concerning his new post: "We have had this in mind for a considerable time, certainly before the Norwich Union affair. We aim to encourage more people to travel to Israel and are also seeking to bring more Israelis to Europe and America."

CENTRAL BODY OF MEXICAN JEWRY GREETED ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 29. (JTA) -- Greetings and messages of congratulations from all parts of the world were received here this weekend by the Comité Central Israelita de Mexico, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the official representative organization of Mexican Jewry.

The anniversary celebrations will be climaxed in February with a banquet at which the featured guest speaker will be Maurice L. Perlzweig, director of the political department of the World Jewish Congress. Dr. S. Bibring, president of the Central Committee for the past decade, will be honored at the banquet.