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EBAN TO HOLD TALKS IN WASHINGTON ON JOINT DESALINATION EFFORTS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Israel's Deputy Prime Minister Abba Eban, who is leaving for the United States Thursday on a previously scheduled trip, will explore further talks with United States Government officials in Washington regarding the announcement made last week by President Johnson about American-Israeli cooperation in research for the use of nuclear energy for desalination of sea water, informed circles said here today.

Officials here today saw President Johnson's offer of cooperative research with Israel as a major factor in Israel's development efforts.

ARAB ATTACK WOULD NOT IMPERIL ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, PERES SAYS

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Shimon Peres, Israel's Deputy Defense Minister, declared here last night that "an Arab attack would not endanger the existence of Israel but could endanger world peace."

He spoke at a dinner of the Joint Palestine Appeal, at which 600,000 pounds sterling (\$1,680,000) was raised. He declared that Jews, as Jews, were opposed to war because war was against everything for which Jews stood by their ethics in Israel and elsewhere.

He denied assertions that Israel needed more space and might be tempted to expand the expense of its Arab neighbors. He cited the high living standards of heavily populated Belgium and said that by those standards there was room in Israel for some 9,000,000 people. He said it all depended on what use a nation made of its territory.

He insisted that the supply of water was not an insoluble problem and that apart from pipeline distribution, desalination of sea water might be a final solution eventually and there was plenty of water in the sea.

The sacredness of human life to Jews and the preciousness of Jewish lives after the Hitler holocaust made Israel abhor war, he said. However, he added, as long as Israel's neighbors remained hostile, Israel had no choice but to maintain a high degree of preparedness, however great the cost. He added that an Arab attack now would not imperil Israel's existence because Israel's defense forces could defeat the Arabs.

Anthony Greenwood, chairman of the Labor Party, told the dinner that he hoped the lesson of the Manacraft affair has been learned. Those firms that have ignored the Arab boycott trade with both sides happily. In Jordan, there are Imperial Chemical Industries advertisements on display though the ICI has close business connections with Israel. He said that a strong Israel contributed to world peace by preventing war in the Middle East.

COMMANDER OF ISRAEL'S NAVY VISITS FRANCE WITH STAFF OFFICERS

PARIS, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Admiral Joshua Ben-Nun, commander of the Israeli Navy, called on Admiral Cabanier, chief of the staff of the French Navy here today. The Israeli admiral is currently on a visit to France, and will visit the French Naval School at Brest tomorrow. At Brest, he will be the guest of the area commander, Admiral Ammand.

Admiral Ben-Nun is accompanied on his visit by a number of his staff officers. During the current tour, he will also visit other French naval installations and will confer with a number of senior French commanders.

FRANCE ANXIOUS TO HELP ISRAEL TO GET LINK TO EUROMART, MEIR SAYS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, returned home after visits to Paris and to Rome where she discussed with the Foreign Ministers of France and Italy the continuation of negotiations between Israel and the European Economic Community, regarding a link between Israel and the Common Market.

Mrs. Meir said she found "a keen desire" in Italy "to find solutions to problems of contradicting interests between Israel and Italy." However, she pointed out such questions do not exist between Israel and France. In general, she declared, the talks she held were "cordial, and helpful toward clearing up questions." She said she found the French "truly desire to find a satisfactory solution for Israel's ties with the Common Market."

U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL REFRAINS FROM OPINION ON JORDAN WATER ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Secretary General U. Thant refused to take a position regarding a possible Arab-Israeli dispute in the United Nations around the problem of Israel's plan to draw Jordan River waters and Arab opposition to that plan.

At a press conference in Tunisia--according to a transcript of that conference released here today--he was asked what the position of the United Nations would be "if Israel carried out its plan to divert the Jordan River." He replied:

"This matter is not before the United Nations. For such issues which are not brought to the attention of the United Nations, I am sure you will agree that in my position I should not offer an opinion. Of course, any time a member state wishes to bring this up before the competent organ of the United Nations, the United Nations will take it up, discuss the problem and make any necessary recommendations or decisions. For the moment, I do not think it proper for me to assess the situation."

MAPAM PARTY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS ESHKOL'S INVITATION TO JOIN CABINET

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The leftist Mapam Party announced today that a decision about accepting Prime Minister Levi Eshkol's invitation to join the Government coalition would be made on February 21, when the party's Council is scheduled to meet.

Tension was reported today between Mapam and the National Religious Party, which is insisting that its approval of the broadening of the coalition to include Mapam would be conditional on the cancellation of plans by the Zim Israel Navigation Company to include a kosher kitchen as well as a kosher kitchen on its new liner, the S.S. Shalom. The Religious Party reiterated that one kitchen, a kosher one, on the S.S. Shalom was its condition for any change in the present coalition Government.

Religious Party officials said that the deadlock over the kosher kitchen might lead to a coalition crisis since the religious wing in the Cabinet was thinking about quitting the government on the issue. Haim Shapiro, Religious Party leader, said that the proposed two kitchen arrangement for the Shalom, which is scheduled to make its maiden voyage in April, was a violation of the religious status agreed to by the present coalition and, unless the agreement was kept, there would be no consent by the party to a broadening of the coalition.

ISRAEL POST OFFICE SHARPLY INCREASES RATES ON CORRESPONDENTS' CABLES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Foreign press correspondents stationed here indicated today that the flow of news from this country to Britain, the United States and other overseas points may be sharply curtailed as a result of a seven-fold increase in the basic press cable rate announced by the Israel Postoffice.

The new rates, which took effect as of the first of this month, increase the press rate from Israel to London from the equivalent of \$9.007 per word to the equivalent of \$60.9525 per word. International Telex rates, a system used by many newspapers to transmit their news dispatches from Israel, were increased by about 50 percent.

Most correspondents here have transmitted their news copy by way of London to take advantage of the continuing Commonwealth preference rate that has prevailed until this day. This was the old British rate of "a penny a word, anywhere in the Commonwealth. Eight months ago, the British authorities eliminated Israel, South Africa and newly independent African republics from the Commonwealth rate system, establishing a \$0.055 rate from London to Israel. The Israel authorities retained the penny a word basic rate in London, reduced through the Israel pound devaluation, to \$0.007.

In the general revision of rates which followed the devaluation, the authorities, instead of maintaining the low rate to encourage a flow of news, raised the rate to conform with the higher London-Tel Aviv charge. The higher Telex rate offsets the devaluation of the Israel pound.

In London, the Jewish Chronicle protested strongly against the Israel Postoffice action. It noted editorially that "with the Arabs working hard to get their point of view over on the Westpress and communications media, the Israeli decision was 'all right, even if short-sighted.' The paper said the action will not increase Postoffice revenue, "it will merely cut down rabbling from Israeli to a trickle."

ISRAEL CABINET DECIDES TO HOLD INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN BEER-SHEVA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Cabinet decided to hold this year's Independence Day parade on April 1 in Beer-Sheva, in response to requests from that city's mayor and from various settlements in the Negev. Beer-Sheva will henceforth be included in the list of cities which will be hosts to the parade of a rotating basis.

FIVE MORE JEWS CHARGED IN SOVIET PRESS WITH 'ECONOMIC CRIMES'

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Five more Soviet Jews have been charged in the controlled Communist press of the USSR with "economic crimes," according to two Soviet newspapers received here today.

Tashkenskaya Pravda, organ of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, ran a long report from the office of the investigator, accusing three men, believed from their names to be Jewish, of selling on the black market goods produced "illegally" at a technical school with which they were connected. The men, without first names, were listed as Orenberg, Steinbergh and Berezowsky.

In the Ukrainian city of Lvov, the local Pravda, organ of the local Communist Party, charged that two men evidently Jewish, named Levin and Vekselberg, had forged transport reports to obtain building materials through which they had allegedly "enriched themselves." Neither of the reports mentioned any names except those of the presumed Jews.

AUSCHWITZ TRIAL SUSPENDED FOR ONE WEEK: INTERRUPTED BY CARNIVAL

FRANKFURT, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The trial here of the 22 ex-Nazis accused of participation in the murder of three to four million Jews in Auschwitz and the Birkenau gas ovens during World War II, was suspended this weekend until February 17. The court ordered the suspension due to the fact that nearly all government and business activities are slowed or halted at this time while the Germans celebrate the annual carnival, a marathongala event similar to the Mardi Gras observed in New Orleans.

When the court reconvenes, the trial will enter its ninth week. The proceedings are expected to last several months longer. Still unheard are about 250 witnesses summoned by the prosecution from the United States, Israel and other countries. Many of these are survivors of the Auschwitz concentration camp, and are expected to testify about specific acts of murder and torture by some of the defendants.

BOLIV SEEMS EXTRADITION OF DR. MENGELE; PARAGUAY REJECTS REQUEST

BONN, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- A West German Government request to the Government of Paraguay demanding the extradition of Dr. Josef Mengele, long sought for trial in this country as the "final selection" doctor at Auschwitz who determined which Jews were to be sent to the gas chambers, was rejected in a communication to West Germany this week and from Paraguay, on the grounds that Mengele is not in that country.

A government spokesman said, however, it has been established definitely that a man calling himself Jose Mengele acquired Paraguayan citizenship on Nov. 28, 1959. If Jose and Josef Mengele are the same person, it was stated, extradition would be out of the question, since the Paraguay law forbids the extradition of that country's citizen.

NAZIS PROVOKE FIGHTS IN STOCKHOLM THEATER AT 'ANNE FRANK' PLAY

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Fight broke out in a theater here last night when a group of Nazis tried to disrupt a performance of "The Diary of Anne Frank" by distributing leaflets alleging that the whole story is a fabrication by the Jews, and never happened.

Members of the audience tore the leaflets in the face of the distributors, and exchanged blows with the Nazis. Policemen broke up the fights and ejected the Nazis. The Anne Frank drama has been running successfully here, in Swedish, with the 1,000 seat hall filled for every performance.

AMERICAN NAZI PARTY SENDS ANTI-SEMITIC MATERIAL TO SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Police in Natal are investigating the receipt of batches of anti-Semitic pamphlets from George Rockwell's American Nazi Party in the U. S. A. Consignments of the pamphlets were addressed from the U. S. to the offices of the Civic Publicity Associations in Durban and Pietermaritzburg which, not having ordered them, and knowing nothing about them, but shocked by their vicious character, immediately turned them over to the police.

The pamphlets attack Jews and Communists in the usual Nazi manner, smear Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, widow of the late President Kennedy, glorify Rockwell, and claim Hitler was "a gift from Providence."

AMERICAN NAZI ORGANIZER ARRESTED IN INDIANA: HELD IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Feb. 10. (JTA) -- An American Nazi organizer was held in solitary confinement today after he was arrested last night on charges of preaching hatred. Alexander De Huebs, a 25-year-old ex-convict, was charged with violating a 1947 Indiana law forbidding trafficking in hate.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION ADOPTS PLANS FOR 1964 ACTIVITIES

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Plans and budget allocations for the activities of the Jewish Colonization Association in various countries during 1964, were adopted today at a meeting of the organization's Council of Administration. Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid, member of Parliament, was re-elected president, and Rene Mayer of France and Max Gottschalk of Belgium, were named vice-presidents.

In Israel, further progress of settlements which the JCA founded, or in the development of which JCA is participating, will be facilitated through such measures as credits for the setting up of farms for the sons of colonists, revolving funds for short term farm loans, the erection of communal halls and the installation of facilities for the industrialization of various products.

While the joint program with the Jewish Agency for the consolidation of the agricultural and economic position of underdeveloped settlements is nearing its end, the Association is now considering the extension of its area of cooperation with the Agency in the sphere of agricultural settlement, it was stated.

Work for the integration of immigrants in other countries will continue, it was announced. The JCA is one of the principal contributors to a housing fund set up in France in collaboration with other organizations for the benefit of refugees and repatriates from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. The Association also sponsors a housing fund and a sheltered workshop scheme in Brazil jointly with the United Hias Service and is engaged in various other loan activities for the assistance of immigrants in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada and France.

The Association's traditional interest in education and vocational and agricultural training will be maintained, it was noted. Examples of such grants in this field approved at the meeting are a contribution to the budget of the Faculty of Agriculture of the Hebrew University, financial aid for the construction of a new assembly hall at the Mikveh Israel Agricultural School in Israel, a grant for the Vera Weizmann Youth Day Center at Ofakim, a contribution to the budget of the Plant Genetics Section of the Weizmann Institute and support of various projects of ORT and the Alliance Israelite Universelle.

15,000 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS ENTER JEWISH AGENCY BIBLE CONTEST

NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Over 15,000 Jewish children between the ages of 13 and 16 have entered the fifth annual Bible Contest of the Department of Education and Culture of the Jewish Agency which will be climaxed with the national finals to be held in New York on Sunday, May 3, it was announced here today.

The contestants, competing in three divisions for the first prizes of a round-trip to Israel, will meet their first major test next month when the district finals are held in 32 United States and Canadian cities beginning on Sunday, March 15. Regional finals will be held a month later on Sunday, March 15.

The three divisions in the contest are for Bible quizzes in Advanced Hebrew, for students enrolled in Hebrew day schools; Intermediate Hebrew, for students enrolled in afternoon Hebrew classes; and English, for students who study the Bible in English. The aim of the Bible Contest is to "promote a greater interest in the Bible among students of Jewish schools in the United States and Canada, with a view to encouraging more extensive reading and studying of the Bible, and to strengthen the place of Bible studies in the curricula of Jewish schools."

Endorsed by Jewish educators throughout the world, and by both national and local American Jewish education groups, the Fifth Annual National Bible Contest is under the supervision of a Board of Sponsors of which Rabbi Joseph L. Lookstein of New York is chairman, and Azriel Eisenberg of New York, Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof of Pittsburgh and Rabbi Simon Greenberg of New York are co-chairmen.

CZECH JEWS COMMEMORATE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH OF RENOWNED RABBI

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- Some 1,000 persons including many non-Jews attended the dedication ceremonies in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, this weekend marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of Rabbi Moshe Schreiber, renowned scholar and teacher of the Chasam Sofer, it was reported here today.

A commemorative tablet was affixed to the wall of the house where Rabbi Schreiber was born. Visitors from Hungary and Austria were also among the guests who came from all parts of Czechoslovakia to attend the ceremonies.

JEWS IN POLAND PLAN TO HAVE JEWISH SHRINE INSIDE AUSCHWITZ MEMORIAL

LONDON, Feb. 10. (JTA) -- The Jewish Cultural and Social Association of Poland has decided to make an all-out effort to have the Jewish shrine inside the Auschwitz Memorial completed by the 20th anniversary of the liberation of the death camp, next January. Work on the shrine, which has been proceeding for some time, will now be speeded up for that purpose.