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ESHKOL HOPES FOR JOINT EAST-WEST PEACE APPEAL TO ARABS AND ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol expressed the hope here today that the general easing of East-West tensions, which he sees as "a welcome possibility," might result in an appeal by the United States and the Soviet Union "to all parties in the Middle East" to start cooperating toward the mutual advantage of the Arab states and Israel.

Mr. Eshkol's statement was made in an exclusive interview here with Joshua H. Justman, chief Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Israel. The talk took place on the eve of two events which Israel considers of highest significance. One is Mr. Eshkol's forthcoming State visit to Washington, where he will meet with President Johnson several times, beginning June 1. The other is Israel's celebration of the 16th anniversary of the rebirth of the State, to be marked officially on Thursday.

In the context of the possible East-West rapprochement, Mr. Eshkol said, he hoped that both the East and the West might "appeal to all parties in the Middle East to embark on a course of peace and regional cooperation." Pending such Arab-Israeli cooperation, however, he emphasized the fact that the maintenance of Israel's security "is our main task now, and will continue to be our prime need for years to come." Not everybody abroad, he held, understands exactly what Israel faces in regard to its security. "People not facing Israel's day-to-day problems," he said, "may not realize, or may not be in a position to assess fully, the fact that Israel's destruction is the basic doctrine of openly declared Arab policy." He pointed out that these threats are announced publicly and privately by the Arab leaders, at home and abroad, "even at the United Nations."

"These are not empty threats," he warned. "They are supported by preparations to carry them out. President (Gamal Abdel) Nasser (of Egypt) has stated that, for him, it is not a question of 'if' Israel is to be destroyed--but 'when' will his preparations for this task be completed. For us, therefore, there is no choice except to spare no effort to maintain and to enhance our deterrent capacity."

Arming of Nasser Forces Israel to Maintain 'Minimum' Strength

Asked what the great powers should do to check the danger that the situation would deteriorate, and whether aid given to Nasser by the United States and other Western Powers enhances the prospects for peace and stability in the Middle East region, he replied: "They could do a great deal to remove the causes of tension. Take the matter of arms supply and other aid. We have witnessed the constant escalation of armaments in the Middle East. We view with gravity and with deep concern the flow of arms from the East to our self-declared enemies, particularly to Egypt."

"Let it be clear to all," he continued, "that Israel never introduced new types of arms into this area. It is the Arabs who, with foreign aid, caused this escalation. That throws a heavy burden on us, especially when one considers the needs we bear in connection with immigration, absorption of immigrants, and development. We must maintain the minimum deterrent strength. After all, Nasser has not hesitated to use arms he received from abroad even against sister Arab states."

"We certainly do not begrudge to our neighbors any economic aid which raises standards of living and contributes toward economic and social progress. Unfortunately, President Nasser diverts large portions of Egypt's national resources to build a dangerous war machine. We would hope he would abandon this barren course of squandering resources on military preparations, instead of using them for the welfare of the Egyptian people." The Prime Minister stressed that, "for Israel, its security and economic strength and development are indivisible."

Looks to Free World for Further Immigration; Status Quo on State-Religion Issue

On the problem of Israel's "complex task" of absorbing the immigrants, while simultaneously creating the framework for a homogeneous society, Mr. Eshkol said: "We are now completing the process of rescuing Jews from lands of oppression, and these reservoirs are being depleted. Our eyes, then, turn naturally to Jewish communities in lands of freedom. We shall need to present to the Jewish youth of these countries the challenge of helping Israel

achieve its place as a modern state, based on science and technology and on Jewish values. "We must, therefore, build up our ties with the Jewish communities the world over, strengthen Jewish life, foster closer affinity to our culture, our history, our values, and the Hebrew language--and lead toward a closer personal identification with Israel."

The Premier was asked whether, in view of the recently sharpened debate over the issue of state and religion in Israel, the time is not ripe for seeking clear-cut decisions on that question. "We need to think the subject through carefully," he replied. "The matter has not been given enough study. Maybe our generation is not in a position to crystalize these matters."

"We are in the midst of the ingathering of the exiles. There are great sociological differences among the various sections of our population. Both time and thought are required to find the pattern for our future. Thus, it seems preferable to me to preserve the status quo, without any so-called 'conquest.'" If new problems develop, we shall need to rely on all our spiritual resources and ability in order to seek solutions based on the need of the survival of our people as a whole."

Welcomes Opinions of American-Jewish Leaders on Religious Pressures in Israel

Mr. Eshkol was asked about the message sent to Israel recently by many American Jewish leaders, concerning religious pressures in this country. The interviewer inquired whether such "intervention from the outside" might not turn Israel into a divisive force, adversely affecting the relationship between Israel and the American Jewish community. The Premier immediately objected to the propriety of the term "intervention."

"That was not an intervention by an alien body," he stated, "but an indication that the Jewish world 'lives' Israel's problems--what affects Israel, affects them. I see nothing wrong in an expression of opinion on these matters. Such an expression demonstrates the keen interest with which Jews follow Israel's problems."

"I don't understand how this process could possibly cause division, or why it should disturb relations between Israel and American Jewry. On the contrary, this strengthens the ties. We want fellow Jews to be seized of our problems, to be affected by them. Taking an interest from afar may lead to their taking a greater part from nearby."

Another subject during the interview was the recently issued joint statement by the Government of Israel and the World Zionist Organization about the Zionist goals ahead. The Premier was asked whether that statement reduces, as far as Israel is concerned, the role of non-Zionist organizations in the achievement of the envisaged goals.

"No, it doesn't," he replied. "Let me put it this way: We would like to see the Zionist Organization at the highest level of achievement and activity--just as we hope that every organization which will maintain Jewish life abroad and strengthen ties with us and lead to personal identification with Israel will be strong." He agreed that the Zionist movement, at present, is insufficiently equipped for carrying out the tasks that have been envisaged. "I have already indicated in my speech to the recent meeting of the World Zionist Actions Committee that organizational tools will have to be adapted to our new needs," he said. The Prime Minister replied with an emphatic "yes" when asked whether he felt that parallel efforts in the direction of Zionist education needed to be made inside Israel.

HUSSEIN TO VISIT JOHNSON TODAY; AGENDA INCLUDES AID, REFUGEES, WATER

WASHINGTON, April 13. (JTA) -- Jordan's King Hussein, who arrived in the United States tonight, landing in Philadelphia, will come to Washington tomorrow to confer with President Johnson. He will be here two days. His visit precedes the official state visit to be made here early in June by Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.

On Hussein's agenda for his talks with President Johnson, and with other leaders of the Administration, including Sen. J. William Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, are topics concerning further American aid to Jordan, the question of the Arab refugees and, possibly, his Government's reaction to Israel's plans for drawing Jordan River waters for irrigation purposes.

Administration officials asked today about the reaction of the Arab states, including Jordan, to the Jordan River water problem, said that the United States is encouraged by Jordan's progress in the exploitation of its water resources. They added that the United States believes that all nations in the area should utilize the available water resources, stating that the 1955 Johnston plan for the use of water resources in the Middle East affords the best yardstick for the equitable distribution of waters in the area. They added that the United States supports the rights of all the riparian states involved to make use of the waters on an equitable basis. Israel is one of those riparian states.

(New York dispatches from Cairo reported that President Nasser of Egypt has sent a letter to President Johnson, which was to have been delivered to the White House today. Washington sources did not confirm Mr. Johnson's receipt of such a letter today.)

During his stay here, King Hussein will be honored at a dinner by President Johnson, and will reciprocate with a similar event honoring Mr. Johnson. Among the Washington events in the King's honor will also be a luncheon by the Citizens Committee for American Policy in the Middle East, an anti-Israeli group.

NEW ISRAEL INDUSTRIAL PLAN WOULD DOUBLE PRODUCTION, CUT CONSUMPTION

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) -- Pinhas Sapir, Minister of Commerce and Industry, unveiled today a six-year program for the industrial development of Israel which envisages doubling production, trebling industrial exports, and cutting the country's trade deficit to under \$150,000,000 by 1970.

Mr. Sapir said that the attainment of these goals depends on the prospects of the defense expenditures not exceeding the average for the past five years, and on cutting the increase in personal consumption to three per cent annually from the current annual rate of six per cent. The plan is based on a population increase of 500,000 and on a corresponding increase in the labor force to over 1,000,000 by 1970.

British Official Predicts Growth of Trade with Israel Despite Arab Boycott

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) -- Lord Drumalbyn, Minister of State of the British Board of Trade, predicted here today that, despite the Arab boycott, the prospects were favorable for a continued growth in trade between Britain and Israel. The British official, who is currently visiting this country, said, however, that Arab boycott pressure was up to each firm to deal with, and that the possibilities of intervention by the British Government in this matter were limited.

During a meeting with the visitor, Pinhas Sapir, who holds the portfolios of both the Finance and the Commerce and Industry Ministries, urged an increase in British imports from Israel. These amounted to \$38,000,000 in 1963, compared with \$131,000,000 worth of goods exported by Britain to Israel.

PRIME PURPOSE OF ZIONISM IS IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL, SHARETT SAYS IN LONDON

LONDON, April 13. (JTA) -- Moshe Sharett, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, called today for an all-out effort in Zionist education to counteract the effects of a way of life in many parts of the Diaspora which, he said, leads to a loss of Jewish distinctiveness. Addressing the closing session of the conference of the British Zionist Federation, Mr. Sharett stressed, however, that the prime purpose of Zionism was immigration to Israel.

"It is sometimes puzzling," Mr. Sharett declared, "why British Zionists are shy of making immigration their main aim and proclaiming it loudly. In this free society, where it is the inherent right of man to determine where he wants to live, there is nothing wrong with being aliya minded and saying so."

Harold Miller, chairman of Poale Zion, a constituent body of the Zionist Federation, was elected chairman of the Federation; Israel M. Sieff was re-elected honorary president, and Sir Barnett Janner was elected president.

COVETED 'ISRAEL PRIZE' GIVEN TO FOUR ON EVE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) - Four Israelis were today named the winners of the coveted Israel Prize, given each year on the eve of Independence Day for outstanding achievement in various fields. This year's winners were: Dr. Zeev Ben Hayim, professor of Hebrew at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Dr. Moshe Rachmilewitz, head of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Hospital in Jerusalem; Supreme Court Justice Moshe Silberg; and Meir Margalit, of the Ohel Theater in Tel Aviv.

AUSCHWITZ TRIAL AT FRANKFURT HEARS DETAILS OF SADISTIC MURDERS BY SS MEN

FRANKFURT, April 13. (JTA) -- Detailed descriptions of "atrocious, sadistic" murders committed by several of the defendants in the current trial of 22 men who served the Nazis in the Auschwitz-Birkenau death factory, were given to the court here today as the long trial, begun last December, continued. Most of the defendants, all but one of whom were officers in the SS, were identified by today's witness, Irwin Olsowka. As he entered the court room, he greeted most of them by name. When he came to one of them, Franz Hoffmann, he used the latter's SS title, "Herr Obersturmfuehrer."

Olsowka, a Pole, said he had been at Auschwitz from April 1940, until the camp was abandoned by the Nazis, in the face of the oncoming Russian Army, in 1945. He implicated not only Hoffman but also Wilhelm Boger, Oswald Kaduk and Klaus Dylewski.

He told the court about the death march, in which the Nazis evacuated the Auschwitz prisoners: "They murdered with special sadism," he said. "With my own eyes, I saw how Boger, who seemed tired, still seemed to get very real pleasure from killing people. At the start of the march, there were 1,000 to 1,500 inmates in my group. After three days, the number was far smaller. Prisoners who stood still a moment, because they were unable to keep walking, were shot down at once. There was a trail of corpses along the entire road. The SS men had it easy. Most of the time, they rode in trucks."

The man charged Boger and Kaduk with "going wild" when some Polish prisoners, about to die, showed hatred for the Nazis. "Boger even mistreated those who were already hanging," he declared. He accused Dylewski of giving him 25 blows with a bull whip at one time because he had accepted some food from newly arrived prisoners.

FORMER AUSCHWITZ DOCTOR SUES LEON URIS, BRITISH PUBLISHERS OF 'EXODUS'

LONDON, April 13. (JTA) -- A libel action by a Polish-born physician against Leon Uris, American author of the novel "Exodus," and his British publishers, opened here today in the High Court. The suit, by a Dr. Wladyslaw Dering, who is now practicing here, refers to a portion of the book which mentions a Dr. Dehring, spelled differently from the name of the plaintiff.

In his suit, the physician objected to assertions in the book that Dr. Dehring was concerned with experiments on inmates of the Auschwitz concentration camp. During his testimony today, Dr. Dering said that he was himself an inmate of Auschwitz and was maltreated and subjected to all the indignities of other inmates. But, as a doctor, he said, he was employed in a medical unit run by German doctors.

He also stated that he was a member of the Polish underground, a fact he said was unknown to his German captors. He told the court he does not in any way feel that he had acted against his conscience, medical ethics or humanity in general.

Witnesses for the defendant, among them former inmates of Auschwitz, will be called tomorrow. The printers of the book do not figure in the present action. They had reportedly settled with Dr. Dering by paying damages.

CALIFORNIA RIGHTISTS OPEN DRIVE FAVORING PRAYERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LOS ANGELES, April 13. (JTA) -- A countrywide series of rallies to support a constitutional amendment permitting prayers in schools was initiated here last night with a meeting attended by some 2,500 persons, under the sponsorship of an organization known as Project Prayer.

The group, which is planning similar rallies in cities throughout the country, is backing a constitutional amendment introduced into Congress by Rep. Frank J. Becker, New York Republican, which would make prayer and Bible reading permissible in schools and other public places "if participation therein is on a voluntary basis."

Many Jewish organizations have expressed strong opposition to the amendment which has been pending before the House Judiciary Committee for many months. Hearings on it have been scheduled for April 22. Sam M. Cavnar, national director of Project Prayer, who attacked the Supreme Court decisions which have held prayers to be unconstitutional in public schools, expressed "surprise" at the fact that the Synagogue Council of America and other religious groups, have backed the Supreme Court decision.

Speakers at the meeting included familiar ultra-conservatives in this state like D. B. Lewis, the Rev. W. S. McBurnie and Marion Miller. Mr. Cavnar was the director of a political rally held here in 1961, when one of the speakers advocated that Chief Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren should be hanged. Others who participated in last night's meeting included some well-known Hollywood stars like Pat Boone, Rhonda Fleming, Dale Evans and Gloria Swanson.

YOUNG ISRAEL TO OFFER SPIRITUAL AID TO 3,000,000 JEWS BEHIND IRON CURTAIN

NEW YORK, April 13. (JTA) -- The formation of a special department to furnish spiritual aid to the Jews in Eastern Europe was announced here last night by Rabbi David H. Hill, president of the National Council of Young Israel. Rabbi Hill, who announced the project at the organization's annual dinner, said that the department would carry out a "full-time program of help" for the more than 3,000,000 Jews behind the Iron Curtain.

Edward S. Silver, district attorney of Kings County and honorary president of the National Council of Young Israel, was presented at the dinner with the organization's Diamond Shofar Award. Others honored at the event included Jacob Kotler, and Rabbi Leo Jung, spiritual leader of the Jewish Center in New York. Some 1,000 persons attended the dinner, which marked the 52nd anniversary of the establishment of Young Israel.

GENIA TWERSKY, PIONEER ISRAEL SOCIAL WORKER, COUSIN OF SHAZAR, DEAD AT 60

JERUSALEM, April 13. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here yesterday for Genia Twersky, a pioneer in the social work field, twice a member of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, and a member of the executive of Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation. President Zalman Shazar, a cousin of Mrs. Twersky, attended the funeral.

Mrs. Twersky, who died at the age of 60, headed Haifa's and Jerusalem's Departments of Social Work, and was active in Moetzet Hapoalet, Women Workers' Council. At the end of World War II she spent two years on missions to DP camps on behalf of the Jewish Agency, and later went on missions to the United States, Canada and Mexico.

MRS. CAHN, FORMER HEAD OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, DEAD AT 63

NEW ORLEANS, April 13. (JTA) -- Mrs. Gladys H. Cahn, former president of the International and National Council of Jewish Women, died here suddenly at the age of 63.

Mrs. Cahn initiated the NCJW volunteer-training program to encourage greater participation in community affairs and increased the ICJW affiliates from five to 15. She was also a former member of the board of directors of the American Friends of the Hebrew University, and was active in the civil rights field.