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'MIDDLE EAST PEACE NOT AS REMOTE AS GENERALLY THOUGHT,' ESHKOL SAYS

LCS.ANGELES, June 9. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol told the World Affairs Council of Los Angeles that "Israel has still a great deal to do, but I think we have given the Jewish civilization a new lease on life and a new vitality."

He stressed to the assembled 1,000 community leaders, Jewish and non-Jewish, that Israel was "not an anti-Arab country." He said Israel sought peace and cooperation and that there was no issue between Israel and the Arab countries which could not be settled. He predicted that Middle East peace was "not as remote as is generally thought."

He said the disturbances in the area were actually due to an attempt to impose "a single standardized hegemony." He added that the road to peace in that part of the world depended on recognition of the right of diverse states to exist. He stressed that there was no reason to view the Middle East as "a blind alley," adding that "the only inevitability that we admit in the Middle East is the inevitability of peace."

Mr. Eshkol described his talks in Washington and travels across the United States and said that he had been "deeply moved" by the expressions of friendship "for my country." He was welcomed by Mayor Samuel Yorty, who presented him with the key to the city. Stanley Mosk, State Attorney General, made welcoming remarks on behalf of Governor Brown. The Attorney General emphasized the identity and friendship of California with Israel.

Thousands of Los Angeles Jews Greet Eshkol Enthusiastically

Addressing this afternoon thousands of Los Angeles Jews at an enthusiastic reception given him by the board of the Jewish Federation-Council here, Premier Eshkol called for immigration to Israel and for study of Hebrew. "We should like you to help build our population and our country," he said. "We in Israel feel there is one Jewish people the world over." He told of his "pride and joy" in hearing Hebrew spoken by local children who greeted him. He issued a call for the study of Hebrew not only by children but also by parents.

Mr. Eshkol, visibly moved by the reception, went to the microphone and joined in the singing of "Heiveinu Shalom Aleichem." Expressing enthusiasm over Los Angeles Jewry, he said that Israel needed aliyah of such people because of the "knowledge, daring and spirit in which your community is so rich."

Previously he toured the Universal City movie studios where he was greeted by film stars Gina Lollobrigida, Barbara Stanwyck, Robert Taylor and Rock Hudson. They and movie executives expressed friendly interest in Israel and Mr. Eshkol invited them to visit the country and to make films there. He also told the Motion Picture Association that Israel would welcome activity by the film industry in Israel to develop the Israeli cinema potential. He said this was a medium which could do much in enlightenment and education.

The Premier left Los Angeles this afternoon for Chicago where he will get an honorary degree from Roosevelt College. He will then proceed to New York City and will attend the commencement exercises of Yeshiva University where he will be given an honorary degree. Instead of returning to Israel aboard the S. S. Shalom as originally planned, Mr. Eshkol will fly via El Al to Switzerland for a few days rest and will then proceed to Israel.

U.S. AND ISRAEL TO ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON DESALINATION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, June 9. (JTA) -- A joint American-Israeli communique, announcing the details of a joint program for research in the desalination of sea water will be issued simultaneously in Washington and in Jerusalem in a day or two, it was learned here today.

It was also confirmed here today that Israel agreed to accept international inspection of the atomic research reactor at Nebi Rubin furnished by the United States. The inspection will not extend to another reactor which is being built in the Negev with the assistance of France.

Israel had previously opposed inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency on the grounds that it had been discriminated against in this agency in favor of Arab countries.

SOVIET RADIO ATTACKS U. S. GOVERNMENT FOR INVITING ESHKOL TO WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, June 9. (JTA) -- The current visit of Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol to the United States at the invitation of President Johnson is being utilized by the Soviet Government for anti-Israel propaganda beamed to Arab countries in Arab languages over the Soviet radio. The broadcast also strongly attacks the U. S. Government for inviting Mr. Eshkol.

"The step on the part of the United States Government," the Soviet broadcast declared, "has exposed the demagogic nature of its statements concerning the desire for stability in the Arab East; When defining its policy toward Israel, the United States is guided only by its selfish imperialistic interests, which have nothing in common with the restoration of Arab rights which were stolen by Israel or carrying out United Nations resolutions in this connection."

The broadcast went on to say that "it would be useless for American ruling quarters to try to fish in troubled waters. The peaceloving forces in the Near East and throughout the world will never submit to the intrigues of those who try to exacerbate tension in this region."

GERMAN CHANCELLOR LEAVES FOR U. S.; WILL NOT CONFER WITH ESHKOL

BONN, June 9. (JTA) -- Chancellor Ludwig Erhard, who left today for a one-week visit to Canada and the United States, will not meet Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in New York, informed sources reported here.

The sources said that the Chancellor felt there was insufficient time for such a meeting in the period between his arrival in New York City and Premier Eshkol's departure. However, the sources insisted that the Chancellor's reasons could not, under any circumstances, be interpreted as a desire to evade meeting Mr. Eshkol. At the same time they emphasized that there were some issues between West Germany and Israel which it would be better "to let ripen" before an Erhard-Eshkol meeting.

The issue of widening indemnification benefits to victims of Nazism, it was reported, is not one which Chancellor Erhard feels fall into that category. The Chancellor, on the contrary, who feels he has a "good conscience" on the matter, has not reached a final decision on that question. He reportedly holds the position that West Germany has consistently shown its good intentions on the indemnification questions and that under no circumstances will the Federal Republic "fail to pay just claims."

Despite his views on the desirability of postponing a meeting with Mr. Eshkol, the Chancellor was reported as considering an invitation to President Nasser of Egypt to visit West Germany. However, no final decision has been reached on such an invitation and no date has been set. The question of an invitation to Nasser, who reportedly is anxious to visit West Germany is "under consideration," the sources reported;

JEWS IN BRITAIN WANT GERMANY TO EXTEND INDEMNIFICATION LEGISLATION

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Maurice Edelman, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, declared here tonight that Jewish organizations must do everything possible to impress the West German Government with the need to extend indemnification legislation and to liberalize compensation terms for victims of Nazism.

Speaking at a meeting of the AJA Council, he declared that it was of special importance to Jews who survived the Nazi holocaust, to Israel and to the Jewish communities which have aided the survivors that the West German Government understand their view that restitution was by no means complete.

He also reported that important consultations would be held here this month with representatives of the Alliance Israelite Universelle. The Alliance delegation will be headed by Admiral Kahn. Among the topics to be considered during the consultations will be the Middle East situation, the Arab boycott, the position of the Jews and Jewish-Catholic relations.

ISRAEL IMPOSES 20% CAPITAL GAINS TAX ON PROFIT FROM SECURITIES

JERUSALEM, June 9. (JTA) -- A 20 per cent capital gains tax on profits on securities sold within a year of the date of purchase, effective immediately, was announced today by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. The tax is not applicable for foreign residents.

Previously there had been no tax on such profits in Israel. The tax will be deducted at the source in accordance with an agreement between Israeli banks, the Israel Stock Exchange and the Treasury.

ISRAEL GREETES NEW PREMIER OF INDIA; HOPES FOR DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION

JERUSALEM, June 9. (JTA) -- The hope that India would establish full diplomatic relations with Israel was expressed today by Acting Premier Abba Eban in a congratulatory message to Lal Bahadur Shastri, the new Premier of India. Mr. Eban suggested that action as one "reflecting the links of friendship between our two countries."

WITNESS TESTIFIES ON GASSING OF JEWS OF AUSCHWITZ'S 'SPECIAL SQUAD'

FRANKFURT, June 9. (JTA) -- Guards at the Auschwitz death camp rode motorcycles around the camp's crematorium on one occasion to drown out the screams of 300 Jews being gassed, a survivor testified today at the trial here of 22 former camp personnel. Gnazy Golik, who spent four years in the camp, said the 300 victims were members of the camp's "special squad," a group of Jews forced to drag corpses from the gas chambers and then burn them.

One day, the witness said, the prisoners "got the order to undress. As members of the special squad, they knew what was going to happen to them and they refused; SS men then began to beat them until they finally disrobed and were driven into the gas chambers." The witness said that an SS medical orderly then threw in a cylinder of poison gas.

The court took under advisement today a prosecution demand that 26 additional charges of murder be added to the indictment against two of the 22 defendants.

The demand was based on testimony against Hans Stark and Stefan Baretzki that they had drowned victims in ditches and reservoirs at the camp. Polish witnesses testified that Stark ordered the drowning of 20 prisoners and forced another prisoner to drown his own father. Stark was accused of later shooting that prisoner. Stark, 42, had been free on bail but after this testimony, he was ordered arrested and confined.

Baretzki was charged with having forced four inmates into a reservoir and with pushing them back into the water until they became too exhausted to try to leave and were drowned. Stark originally had been charged with shootings and Baretzki with abuse and murder of prisoners. A decision on the prosecution demand is expected next week.

TWC NAZIS TO FACE TRIAL FOR MURDERING 200 JEWS IN CRACOW AREA

FREYBURG, June 9. (JTA) -- Freyburg officials announced today that two former Gestapo agents will go on trial here soon in the murder of some 200 Polish Jews in the Cracow area. More than 200 witnesses will be called. A trial date has not been set.

The defendants are Robert Weissmann, 56, and Arno Schmisch, 59, both of Freyburg. Weissman was SS major in charge of the Gestapo headquarters in the Cracow district from 1942 to 1943. Schmisch was chief of the Gestapo in Zakopane. They are charged with giving orders to execute the 200 Polish Jews and allegedly took part in some of the killings personally. They also are accused of ordering the deportation of 4,000 to 5,000 Jews to concentration camps.

U. S. BACKS COMPENSATION CLAIMS FOR YUGOSLAV VICTIMS OF NAZISM

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Dean Rusk approached West German Foreign Minister Gerhard Schroeder in support of the claim by Yugoslavia for compensation for Yugoslav victims of Nazism, a Labor Member of Parliament revealed today in the House of Commons.

Deputy A. E. Oram asked Robert Mathew, the Parliamentary Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether he knew about the approach and whether he would associate the British Government with it. Mr. Mathew replied he had seen reports "of a message sent by Dean Rusk to Dr. Schroeder" but that he had "no precise details" of the content of the message.

He added that the question of compensation was a matter for negotiation of the Yugoslav and West German Governments and that he did not believe that intervention by the British Government "would be helpful."

GERMANY AGREES TO PAY \$2,800,000 FOR BRITISH VICTIMS OF NAZISM

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Foreign Secretary R. A. Butler announced in Commons today that West Germany had agreed to pay 1,000,000 pounds (\$2,800,000) to the British Government "to compensate certain British victims of Nazi persecutions."

He said this referred to British nationals who suffered loss of liberty or damage to health, and dependents of victims of Nazism who had died. The distribution of the money would be left to the discretion of the British Government. Those who considered themselves eligible would be invited to file claims promptly, the Foreign Secretary stated.

NINE COMMUNITIES IN HOLLAND TO DISSOLVE BECAUSE FEW JEWS LEFT

AMSTERDAM, June 9. (JTA) -- The annual report of the Permanent Committee of the Ashkenazi Congregation in Holland recommended today the dissolution of nine of the 54 Ashkenazi communities in Holland because they lacked enough Jews for a minyan. The report said that the communities now had only 16,701 members, including 10,214 in Amsterdam, 1,722 in The Hague and 871 in Rotterdam.

TWELVE PER CENT OF JEWS IN ERIE UNAFFILIATED WITH SYNAGOGUES

ERIE, Pa., June 9. (JTA) -- Seventy-seven Jewish household units in this city, comprising 12 per cent of the Jewish population, are not affiliated with either of the two congregations here, it was disclosed through a continuing survey by the social service committee of the Jewish Community Welfare Council here.

7,000 STUDENTS AT BOSTON COLLEGES PROTEST TREATMENT OF SOVIET JEWS

BOSTON, June 9. (JTA) -- Some 7,000 students and faculty at Boston area colleges have signed petitions to the Soviet Government protesting the denial of cultural and religious rights to Soviet Jews. Seven Harvard University deans are among signers urging that the USSR put an end to "the inequitable and discriminatory manner in which Soviet law is administered with respect to Soviet Jewry."

The petitions were initiated by student members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations at five of the colleges but Rabbi Maurice L. Zigmond, Hillel's New England regional director, said that the campaign has become interdenominational with students from other campus religious groups volunteering to collect signatures.

A booth set up in the corridor of a Massachusetts Institute of Technology building and manned by officers of MIT's United Christian Fellowship, Technology Catholic Club and Hillel Foundation, brought in most of the 1,000 names that were signed at that school. Copies of the petitions are also being circulated in classrooms and fraternities at colleges in the Boston area.

At Harvard and Radcliffe, 2,500 persons--almost half of the undergraduate population--have joined in the statement declaring that "considerations of humanity and justice require the Soviet Government to end the manifest anti-Semitism and the denial to Soviet Jews of the basic institutions and facilities granted other religious and nationality groups within the Soviet Union." Three thousand other signatures have been collected at Boston University and at Brandeis University in nearby Waltham.

The petitions, identical in their wording at each of the schools, asks the Soviet Government to: 1. Implement its stated policy of eliminating anti-Semitism in all areas of public life; 2. Make certain that the prosecution of economic crimes does not become "a vehicle for anti-Semitism"; 3. Halt anti-Jewish stereotyping and propaganda campaigns.

In urging the restoration of Jewish religious and nationality rights, the petitions specifically call for removing obstacles to the existence of synagogues, including their right to maintain a nationwide federation; to the production of prayer books and ritual articles; to the development of cultural institutions, the training of rabbis and the study of Yiddish, Hebrew and Jewish history and literature; to the publication of Yiddish books and newspapers; and to formal contacts with Jewish religious and cultural movements abroad. The students also distributed fact sheets detailing the discriminations imposed against Soviet Jews.

CHARLES FROST APPOINTED NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN OF J. T. A.

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- Appointment of Charles Frost of New York, nationally known industrialist and Jewish communal leader, as National Development Chairman of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was announced today by Eleazar Lipsky, JTA President. Mr. Frost will spearhead the drive to secure wider distribution of the JTA services in this country and to broaden the base of JTA support.

Mr. Frost is a member of the board of directors of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, for which he has served as general chairman for many years. He is a trustee of the Israel Technion and vice-president of the American Technion Society, an overseer of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, trustee of New York University's Jewish Culture Foundation and an active participant in many Israel causes. He is a member of the JTA board of directors and of the JTA finance committee.

ISRAELI PENNANT IS RAISED AT JORDAN'S PAVILION AT WORLD'S FAIR

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- World's Fair police hunted today for a \$150 Jordanian flag which was removed over the weekend from the Jordan Pavilion and replaced with a pennant from the American-Israeli pavilion.

Police leaned to the theory that the theft of the Jordanian flag and the substitution of the American-Israeli pennant was the work of pranksters and that it was not connected with a long-running dispute over a controversial mural in the Jordan Pavilion. Jewish organizations have protested that the mural is anti-Israel and anti-Semitic and three suits against the mural are pending in New York City courts.

American-Israel Pavilion officials said they knew nothing about the incident and that it was "a practical joke," it was "in poor taste." Police returned the pennant to the American-Israel Pavilion. Jordanian Pavilion officials, who put another Jordanian flag up, said that hereafter, the flag would be taken down each night when the pavilion is closed.

UNION OF LATIN AMERICAN RABBIS TO ESTABLISH SEMINARY IN ISRAEL

MEXICO CITY, June 9. (JTA) -- The Union of Rabbis of Latin America and of Mexico announced plans today to establish a seminary in Israel to train rabbis, teachers and ritual slaughterers for Latin American Jewries. Rabbi A. M. Hershsberg, president of the Latin American organization, said Chief Rabbi Jacob Fink of Argentina will be dean of the new seminary.