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WASHINGTON ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT ON DESALINATION OF WATER IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 11. (JTA) -- "Further discussions on implementation of the agreement of President Johnson and Prime Minister Eshkol to cooperate in desalting were conducted during the week of June 1," it was announced today in a formal Joint American-Israeli communique issued simultaneously in Washington and Jerusalem.

"During these discussions, Minister Peres, Chairman Seaborg, Commissioners Palfrey and Ramey, and officials of the Department of the Interior agreed that the program would be developed as follows:

"A) A joint U. S. - Israeli technical team will be appointed immediately to conduct, during this summer, surveys to define the scope and requirements for the program.

"B) Based on the results of these surveys detailed engineering and economic studies will be carried out jointly.

"C) It is hoped that on the basis of these surveys and studies, an economic desalting project of mutual technological interest, producing substantial quantities of water for specialized agricultural and for industrial uses will be undertaken in Israel, with active participation of the United States.

"The International Atomic Energy Agency will be invited to participate in the program from the beginning, including action as an observer in the joint studies this summer. As agreed by President Johnson and Prime Minister Eshkol the knowledge and experience obtained from this program will be available to all countries with water deficiencies," the communique concluded.

Desalination Operations Will Not Be Started Before 1968

NEW YORK, June 11. (JTA) -- The joint American-Israeli nuclear desalting project, considered by Israeli leaders as a great factor in Israel's general development, requires detailed surveys and studies with actual operation not expected until some time between 1968 and 1970, it was learned here today. It will require between 10 and 30 years to become operational on a scale of worldwide importance.

President Johnson is convinced and enthused about the ultimate objective of his long-range thinking on the project. Israel would find its agricultural potential, especially citrus, tremendously enhanced. But authorities pointed out today that the first large-scale program must be written off as experimental--basically a pilot plant study. The second project would be more effective, according to the experts.

The undertaking will seek nuclear methods to produce desalted water. The team of experts which will start out on the study, will be comprised of three specialists from each country. They will be scientists and economists. The study will determine projects involving a nuclear reactor which would economically produce desalted water and electrical power. Hope is held for production of 100,000,000 cubic meters of water a year in the first phase.

ESHKOL COMPLETES HIS U.S. VISIT; EXPRESSES SATISFACTION CN RESULTS

NEW YORK, June 11. (JTA) -- Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol today completed his 12-day tour of the United States as guest of President Lyndon B. Johnson which marked the first official U. S. Government invitation to an Israeli Premier. He expressed satisfaction on the visit's accomplishments. He left with Mrs. Eshkol via El Al for Switzerland where they will rest briefly.

The Israeli Prime Minister considered one of the main achievements to be an agreement with President Johnson for periodic high-level meetings to discuss emerging problems, it was learned. Such meetings will enable Israel to discuss security matters in a realistic manner and compare notes.

Great importance was attached here to the personal contacts established between Prime Minister Eshkol and President Johnson. It is understood that the President asked Mr. Eshkol to continue personal consultations with him on regional developments. This is interpreted to mean that a long-range relationship is facilitated instead of a crisis-to-crisis response. Importance was also attached to President Johnson's emphasis on

protection of the territorial integrity of the Middle Eastern states and characterization of Israel as a state seeking peace. The President's phrasing of these thoughts directly to the Prime Minister, publicly and through the communique, gave added weight.

Another point in Israeli thinking at the conclusion of the visit was the ultimate responsibility of the United States working out with the Soviet Union an agreement to limit the arms flow to the Middle East and create the conditions of peaceful coexistence in that region. A current move is not anticipated but at some stage the United States must act in concert with the Russians to stabilize the Near East, according to Israeli thought.

Mr. Eshkol obtained a general impression of high regard for Israel in the United States; in contacts with the American Jewish community he found the distinction becoming blurred between Zionist and non-Zionist elements. He found that he could without major controversy make open calls for aliyah in a way which would have been unacceptable 10 years ago.

Eshkol Awarded Yeshiva University Degree; Speaks on U.S. Jewry

The destiny of the relationship between Israel and other Jewish communities, as well as the future of Jewish life in the United States, hinge upon whether Jewish spiritual continuity can be sustained in circumstances of freedom. Mr. Eshkol said in an address at Yeshiva University where he was awarded an honorary degree.

Mr. Eshkol stated that in his travels on his American tour he was gratified to hear of the broadening Jewish educational framework. He thought "it would be a tragedy indeed if side by side with the rebirth of Israel, assimilation should erode Jewish consciousness in the diaspora." He emphasized that "the only effective answer is more and more Jewish education."

In American Jewish education, he said, more emphasis should be placed on the link with Israel. The cultural exchange between Israel and American Jewry must be extended, he stressed. He pointed out "the significance of those young American Jews who decide to join with us in our spiritual adventure."

Reviewing the religious situation in Israel, Mr. Eshkol stressed "the desire of the overwhelming majority of our population not to allow extremist courses one way or the other to rip apart the basic spiritual unity of our people." He commended Yeshiva University and voiced faith in the spiritual unity of the Jewish people and in "the great destiny which awaits us in this new epoch in Jewish history."

The Israel Prime Minister also spoke at the Hebrew Union College here, commending its leaders for establishing an institution in Jerusalem and broadening exchange programs. He said that "the reinforcement of Israel's links with Diaspora Jewry will be our growing concern." He stressed the need for aliyah, stating that he was pleased to note that more young people are coming to Israel from the English and Spanish speaking countries and in 1963 the total number of such immigrants was close to 10,000.

At the Jewish Theological Seminary, Premier Eshkol was presented with a facsimile of a letter written by Dr. Theodor Herzl in 1901 in which the "father of political Zionism" gives his views on the role of the American Jewish Community. The letter was written to one C. Mason of Providence, Rhode Island.

JORDAN WATERS REACH SOUTHERN DISTRIBUTION STATION FROM LAKE TIBERIAS

TEL AVIV, June 11, (JTA) -- A second test of all sections of Israel's National Water Carrier pipe network brought water from Lake Tiberias to the Southern distributing station north of Petah Tikvah, Agriculture Minister Moshe Dayan disclosed early today.

President Shazar visited the installations at Lake Tiberias pumping station and later viewed the 70-mile system between Lake Tiberias and Petah Tikvah in a helicopter flight. He was accompanied by Gen. Dayan, and officials of the Mekorot Company, which is in charge of operating the huge project. Gen. Dayan reported on the second test at a fiftieth anniversary meeting at Kvutzat Kineret.

Gen. Dayan described the second test as a complete one. The first partial test took place during the first week in May.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION OPENED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, June 11, (JTA) -- Hearings on pending immigration legislation began here today before the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality with testimony by Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, who is chairman of the Committee.

Favoring the abolition of the 40-year-old National Origins Quota System, Mr. Celler expressed support for the Administration's bill originated by the late President John F. Kennedy. The bill would cut each country's immigration quota by 20 per cent for each of the five years until they are eliminated entirely. The immigration numbers thus freed would go into a general pool and would be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis with priorities favoring skilled persons and members of separated families.

POPE PIUS XII STAND ON JEWS DEFENDED IN ITALIAN PARLIAMENT

ROME, June 11. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Giuseppe Saragat charged in Parliament today that attacks against the late Pope Pius XII over his role during the Nazi slaughter of European Jewry were partly a propaganda effort to acquit partially Nazism "of its horrible crimes" and to make the Catholic Church responsible.

He made the statement in reply to questions from extreme Leftist deputies which followed a recent Foreign Ministry statement deploring the "slandorous campaign" against the memory of the late Pontiff. Debate over the Pontiff's role was touched off by publication of a play, "The Deputy," by West German playwright Rolf Hochhuth, which evoked demonstrations throughout Europe and widespread discussion there and in the United States. The Foreign Minister, however, did not refer to the play.

The Foreign Minister said that the Ministry's statement followed expressions of regret by the Vatican that the campaign against the Pontiff was spreading in Italy. He added that, in issuing the condemnatory message, his Ministry acted in conformity with the "special relations" existing between the Vatican and Italy. He said the condemnation had not been decided on by the entire Cabinet, which he said was unnecessary. He stressed, however, that it involved the collective responsibility of the Cabinet.

He said that, in issuing the statement, his Ministry had not intended to take sides in polemics or to hamper debate on the matter but was concerned only with the form and manner of the polemics and not with its content.

Italian Foreign Minister Explains Government's Attitude

Declaring that freedom of the press and freedom of conscience must be protected by the state, he added that he did not hesitate to say that "the campaign against the memory of Pope Pius was originated and directed toward aims having nothing in common with justice or humanitarian feeling. We wanted to fight the issue publicly and avoid an attitude similar to that of Pontius Pilate, because the Government has political and moral sensitivity."

He referred to the Italian constitution which establishes the Catholic religion to be the religion of the state and to the concordat on that relationship. He then quoted from a letter that the Government had pledged itself to bar in Rome everything that might conflict with the holy character of the "Eternal City." Moreover, he added, Pope Pius was one of the most important figures of the period "in which we still live and this lends to the campaign against him a particular character."

He declared that an evaluation of Pope Pius' reign was already being formed by non-Catholic sources but that the polemics that started recently were not "cultural debate but a slanderous distortion of the facts having nothing to do with historical research which interpellators openly confuse with party propaganda and political passion."

"We indeed see in the attacks against Pius XII a cold propagandist purpose of which the most serious aspect, at least for many of us, consists in an attempt to partially acquit Nazism of its horrible crimes, making the Church responsible," he told Parliament.

He insisted again that the Government's condemnation was by no means intended to influence historians in their function to seek truth and that the Government did not want to take measures against free discussion.

NEW ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK APPROVED BY COMMUNIST PARTY IN SOVIET RUSSIA

NEW YORK, June 11. (JTA) -- The Communist Party in the Soviet Union was accused today of endorsing a new anti-Semitic book at the same time when it criticized the notorious book "Judaism Without Embellishment" which provoked worldwide protests for its viciously anti-Semitic content;

The new book is entitled "Catechism Without Embellishment" and was published in 1963 by the Moscow State Publishing House for Political Literature. It has had a publication run of at least 105,000 copies, compared with the edition of 12,000 copies of "Judaism Without Embellishment," which was reportedly suppressed after the worldwide wave of criticism.

B'nai B'rith president Label A. Katz, reporting on the dissemination in the Soviet Union of the book "Catechism Without Embellishment," said that the ideological commission of the Soviet Communist Party's central committee, which had criticized "Judaism Without Embellishment" praised "Catechism Without Embellishment" as a correct example of propaganda for atheism.

"Catechism Without Embellishment," written by A. Osipov, does not contain the Streicher-like cartoons used in the other book, Mr. Katz said. However, he added, the text material is similar, accusing Judaism of preaching "the bloody extermination of peoples of other faiths," urging "real racial discrimination" and propagating the notion that God would "destroy other nations."

The Osipov book calls Passover and other Jewish festivals a device for "the enrichment of the synagogue and rabbis," calls the rabbinate a "greedy, silver-loving clergy," and vilifies Jewish ritual and the "Commandments" as designs for profiteering," Mr. Katz reported.

ROLE OF ENGLISH-JEWISH PRESS STRESSED AT DINNER FOR EDITOR; J.T.A. LAUDED

JERSEY CITY, June 11. (JTA) -- More than 500 Jewish communal leaders, representing 60 religious, welfare, social and civic organizations in this city, attended a "community salute" dinner last night tendered in honor of Morris J. Janoff, editor-publisher of the Jewish Standard, local English-Jewish newspaper, and president of the English-Jewish Publishers Association. President Lyndon Johnson sent a message of greetings to Mr. Janoff which was read at the dinner.

Principal speaker at the affair was Philip Slomovitz, editor-publisher of the Detroit Jewish News. He called upon American Jewish communities to expand their news coverage in order to assure the contacts that are vitally needed to keep Jews well informed about their people everywhere. He emphasized the role being played by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency as a link between Jewish communities, declaring that "without the J.T.A. we would be totally lost in a jungle of non-information on Jewish life."

"Only when proper status is given to the English-Jewish press, providing for a reaching out of the newspapers into every nook and corner of this great land, will we be able to hope for a truly well-informed Jewish constituency that will thereby be in a genuine and wholesome position to claim Jewish identity and survival," Mr. Slomovitz stressed. Other speakers included Mayor Thomas J. Whelan of New Jersey, Police Captain Herman Donchin, and Meyer Pesin, Corporation Counsel of Jersey City.

JACK SIEGEL NAMED DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT OF JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

NEW YORK, June 11. (JTA) -- Appointment of Jack Siegel as director of development of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was announced today. Eleazar Lipsky, JTA president, said that Mr. Siegel would head a newly established department of community relations and would also conduct programs to secure wider dissemination of JTA news in the community.

Mr. Siegel has had responsible positions with major Jewish organizations since his discharge from the U. S. Army after World War II. Earlier, he was an information specialist with the Office of War Information. He served as a consultant for the JTA during the past year and Director of Development for the American Association of Jewish Education. Prior to that, he was national campaign director for the American Zionist Council and associate director of special projects for the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

JEWISH LEADERS HONOR GOTTLIEB HAMMER FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

NEW YORK, June 11. (JTA) -- Gottlieb Hammer, executive vice-chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., was honored today by prominent Jewish leaders at a luncheon tendered to him at the Delmonico Hotel on the occasion of his completion of 25 years' service to the Jewish cause and State of Israel. A personal message from Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, addressed to Mr. Hammer and lauding his activities on behalf of Israel, was presented to him at the luncheon by Nahum Chamir, Israel's Economic Minister to the United States.

Speakers at the affair included Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Jewish Agency; Louis Pincus, treasurer; Mrs. Rose Halprin, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency; Myer Weisgal, chairman of the Weizmann Institute. They all stressed Mr. Hammer's devoted service. Dr. Dewey D. Stone, chairman of the Jewish Agency, Inc., who presided, emphasized Mr. Hammer's ability and initiative in the work of the Jewish Agency. Mr. Hammer, replying, spoke of the 25 years Jewish communal life in the United States in which he participated and touched upon the needs which American Jewry will have to meet in the next 25 years.

SCULPTURE PRESENTED BY BLAUSTEIN UNVEILED AS MEMORIAL FOR HAMMARSKJOLD

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 11. (JTA) -- A 21-foot high sculpture, placed in front of the Secretariat Building as a memorial to the late Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, was presented to the United Nations at a ceremony here today by Jacob Blaustein, Jewish leader and personal friend of the late Secretary-General, as a gift from Mr. Blaustein who is a former U. S. delegate to the United Nations.

A free form abstraction in bronze, entitled, "Single Form," it was executed by Barbara Hepworth, of Britain, a friend whose work the late Secretary-General admired. The five-and-a-half ton sculpture was accepted by Secretary-General U Thant. Other speakers were Miss Hepworth, Ambassador Sverker of Sweden, and Rene d'Harnoncourt, director of the New York Museum of Modern Art.

Mr. Blaustein told the gathered audience that the late Secretary-General had often expressed privately a wish that the circle in front of the Secretariat Building would be adorned with an appropriate sculpture and that such a work of art might be most suitably done by Miss Hepworth. The Baltimore Jewish leader decided to fulfill that wish;