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JOINT AMERICAN-ISRAELI TALKS ON DESALINATION OPENED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- A selection will be made soon among leading American industrial corporations for a firm to conduct a feasibility study in Israel on nuclear desalting, it was learned today as joint American-Israeli desalination talks opened at the United States Department of the Interior.

The Israeli and American experts will begin meeting tomorrow with representatives of major American concerns such as General Electric Company. A decision will be taken, based upon negotiations with the various leading enterprises, for an industrial and technical survey in Israel to last six months. It would be financed on a 50-50 basis by Israel and the United States; No decision will be taken on the financing of the entire "LBJ Plan" until after the feasibility study.

Conferees are scheduled to make visits in the next two weeks to nuclear reactors at Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Connecticut. They will also view a desalination project at Wrights Beach, N.C. Between these various visits, negotiations and meetings will continue with the candidates for carrying out the survey and nuclear construction in Israel. A joint report on the first stage is anticipated before October 10.

Participants in today's opening meeting included three American experts who recently visited Israel for preliminary survey.

SECRETARY OF STATE MEETS WITH ISRAEL ENVOY ON ARAB ANTI-ISRAEL THREATS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Dean Rusk has agreed to meet with Israel Ambassador Avraham Harman today to discuss the recent Arab summit conference and the belligerent threats endangering regional peace. The meeting, requested by Israel, took place this afternoon.

It was based on the decision of the Israel Government to discuss with friendly nations the implications of the Cairo developments. Threats were made at the Arab conference for military action against Israel, diversion of rivers flowing into the Jordan river, and for a new, coordinated aggressive Arab multinational buildup of armed might for use against Israel. The purpose of the Rusk-Harman meeting is also to renew high-level contacts in the wake of the visit last summer of Prime Minister Levi Eshkol to Washington.

PROPOSAL TO REMOVE 55,000 ARABS FROM U.N. RELIEF ROLLS REPORTED

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Lawrence Michelmore, director-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Administration, proposes in his forthcoming report to the United Nations General Assembly to remove the names of 55,000 Arab refugees from the UNRWA relief rolls, the Arab press in Jordan reported today.

The report to the UN Assembly states that nearly 20 per cent of the Arab refugees are now self-supporting and no longer need UNRWA aid and that nearly 40 per cent are able to support themselves partly.

An earlier Arab story this summer on the forthcoming report touched off widespread protests in the Arab world and a reply from UNRWA headquarters in Beirut that the reports were "premature." On that occasion, however, the UNRWA office in Beirut admitted that the rolls were under review and that UNRWA intended to rectify widely criticized abuses of its aid to refugees.

ISRAEL FINANCE MINISTER APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCOME TAX CUT

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- A series of amendments to Israel's income tax law to reduce such taxes by two to six per cent, principally in the medium and high earnings brackets, was approved today by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir for action by Israel's Parliament.

The measure is expected to be ready for consideration when the Knesset resumes sessions next month. The tax cut proposals are in line with recommendations made by a special committee appointed last year.

JOINT SENATE-HOUSE CONFERENCE WEAKENS AMENDMENT AIMED AT EGYPT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- A joint Senate-House conference on the final version of the "Food for Peace" bill today further weakened an amendment originally designed to curtail aid to Egypt because of that regime's diversion of funds for aggressive purposes.

An original amendment, offered by Rep. Oliver Bolton, Ohio Republican, would have made aid severance affecting Egypt mandatory. The State Department objected that it would "tie the hands" of the President in conducting foreign policy. Rep. James Roosevelt, California Democrat, submitted a substitute amendment that would have called on the President to make a specific determination that any nation receiving "Food for Peace" was not an aggressor. The Roosevelt substitute also eliminated the naming of Egypt.

The Senate-House conference decided to weaken the Roosevelt amendment, as adopted by the House, so that the President is no longer required to rule that a beneficiary is not an aggressor in order to qualify.

The new wording, approved by a House vote today, merely says that no aid should be given under this act if the President finds a benefiting country is an aggressor or is using funds from the United States for purposes inimical to American foreign policy. This makes action by the President discretionary along the lines of the previous year's Gruening-Javits amendment, which has never been implemented.

ISRAEL COMMUNIST PARTY ASSAILS NEW SOVIET ANTI-JEWISH BOOK

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Kol Haam, the official organ of the Israel Communist party, reversed itself today and assailed a new book published in Kishinev, capital of Soviet Moldavia, this summer accusing Jews of "actual or potential" disloyalty to the Soviet Union.

The Communist organ last week attacked Israeli newspapers for calling the book, "Contemporary Judaism and Zionism," published by the Moldavian State publishing house, anti-Semitic. The book equates "rabbis and Zionists" and charges that the Jewish religion is "alien to the Soviet spirit."

MOSCOW CHANGES AMBASSADOR IN ISRAEL; WARSAW MAYOR TO VISIT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Mikhail Bodrov, who has served as Soviet Ambassador to Israel for six years, was recalled today to Moscow. His successor will be D. S. Tshubachin, former Soviet Ambassador to Canada and recently Ambassador to Zanzibar.

Mayor Janusz Zerzecki of Warsaw accepted today an invitation to visit Israel extended to him by delegates from Israel attending a conference in Poland.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT SAYS IT RECEIVED NO COMPLAINTS FROM ISRAEL

VIENNA, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Spokesmen for the Austrian Chancellery and for the Austrian Foreign Ministry asserted today that no official Israeli intervention was known in reference to a demand by Deputy Defense Minister Shimon Peres for the recall of Austrian and West German rocket scientists from Egypt.

The Israel official had made the demand in an interview published in the Austrian weekly, *Wochenpresse*. The Austrian Government spokesmen indicated that their first knowledge of such an Israeli demand came from the interview.

Mr. Peres asserted that the activity of the scientists working on advanced weapons systems for President Nasser's regime seriously influenced public opinion in Israel, and that final judgments on the two countries would depend on the success of their efforts to bring back the scientists. He added: "We want the Austrian and West German Governments to recall them."

ADMINISTRATION URGED TO PRESS FOR SENATE RATIFICATION OF GENOCIDE PACT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Senator J. Glenn Beall, Maryland Republican, today accused the Administration of failing to press the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to act on the ratification of the United Nations Genocide Convention. He charged that the genocide pact, establishing that mass murder is an international crime, has been "pigeonholed" by the Senate committee for 15 years.

The Senator quoted Foreign Relations chairman J. W. Fulbright as stating that "to date, the Administration, which following custom, is reviewing treaties submitted to the Senate by previous Administrations, has not made its wishes known with respect to the Genocide Convention."

Senator Beall asked that members of the Senate be given an opportunity "to stand up and be counted on this moral issue." He said this is not a Jewish issue, it is a humanity issue despite the fact that the treaty was prompted by Hitler's genocide against the Jewish people.

TWO-DAY EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ISRAEL BONDS OPENS TODAY IN GENEVA

GENEVA, Sept. 23: (JTA) -- A two-day conference aimed at expanding the role of Jewish communities in Western Europe in the State of Israel bond campaign will open here tomorrow.

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, Israel Bond Organization vice-president, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, president of the Israel bond drive in Europe, and Emile Roche, president of the drive in France, will be the principal speakers. The conference will mark the tenth anniversary of the Israel bond program in Europe and the inauguration of the Third Development Israel Bond issue.

It was announced that as of August 31, a total of \$31,664,900 in Israel bonds had been sold since 1953 and that in the first eight months of this year, Europe sales far exceeded that of any previous similar period. From January 1 of this year to August 31, sales reached a record of \$3,617,650, compared with \$1,577,700 in the first eight months of 1963, an increase of 129 per cent.

ORT PROGRAM IN POLAND FOR NEW YEAR ANNOUNCED; TO INCLUDE OLDER JEWS

LONDON, Sept. 23: (JTA) -- The ORT program in Poland for the new school year includes not only skills training for young Jews but also classes for older persons who cannot use their existing crafts, it was reported here today from Warsaw.

David Slobodkin, ORT director in Poland, also said that young students are being given a general education qualifying them for higher education. He added that the ORT schools were taking in Jewish children unable to find places in Government trade schools either because they live in areas which have no such schools or because there are more applicants than school openings.

Given an opportunity in the ORT schools, he reported, these children usually do well and get qualification certificates which are endorsed by state educational authorities. Electronics and radio skills are popular among the ORT students.

It was also reported today from Warsaw that 152 men and women were graduated at the Warsaw ORT Center. Only three of the students failed to complete the course. Eleven trades were taught during the last term. Trainees ranged from teenagers to old age pensioners. More trainees are expected this year.

YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOSTON FEDERATION STARTED

BOSTON, Sept. 23: (JTA) -- A year-long celebration of the 70th anniversary of the nation's first federation, which was established in this city, was inaugurated here at the 69th annual meeting of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.

Lauding the leadership role of CJP as the forerunner of 218 Jewish federations, welfare funds, and community councils, and more than 2,000 non-sectarian community chests throughout the country, keynote speaker Philip Bernstein, executive director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, declared that "philanthropies will play a pivotal role in strengthening Jewish life throughout the world in 1965."

Citing the need for "initiative, flexibility, courage, and quality of excellence," in planning and programing, he outlined as federation goals for the immediate future; the conquest of disease; the assurance of dignified living for the aged; the preservation and enrichment of family life; the development of purposeful leisure-time activities; the preservation and enrichment of Judaism; the assertion of leadership in the current civil rights struggle; the strengthening of American democratic traditions; the rehabilitation of shattered Jewish communities abroad; and the building of a new vibrant society in Israel.

Mr. Bernstein, noting that German reparation payments will end in 1965, that redemption of Israel bonds has already begun, and that intergovernmental aid has changed from grants to loans, stressed that federation responsibilities to Israel will loom largest in 1965.

Benjamin Ulin, outgoing CJP president, also underlined the continuing need for increased community support of the CJP's vast network of local, national, and overseas agencies. He issued a stern warning against complacency. "We must guard against getting tired and soft and taking too much for granted," he said. "We should always remember that people are dependent on our giving; young and old people; people who will hope or despair; people who will be rescued or abandoned; people who will live or die; people, not just 201 amorphous agencies are involved."

Prominent business executive and communal leader Sidney Stoneman was elected president of the CJP for 1964-65. Other newly elected officers are: David Kane, Philip W. Lown, David R. Pokross, Irving W. Rabb, George Shapiro, Roger P. Sonnabend, and Mrs. Nehemiah H. Whitman, vice-presidents; Bernard D. Grossman, treasurer; Norman B. Leventhal and Mortimer Weiss, associate treasurers; Edward Rubin, secretary, and Arnold R. Cutler and Mrs. Ferdinand Strauss II, associate secretaries. Highlight of the meeting was the naming of Abraham Goodman as general chairman of the 1965 Appeal.

KENNEDY APPEALS TO JEWS IN ELECTION DRIVE; PLEDGES TO AID ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- Former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, Democratic nominee for the United States Senate from New York, said today that, if elected, he would work vigorously for continued large-scale United States aid to Israel, for advising the President to sever aid to any Arab state that threatens anti-Israel aggression, and for further progress in the joint U. S. - Israel efforts toward desalination of sea water. He also advocated speedy Congressional liberalization of the Immigration and Naturalization Act, to eliminate the national origins quota system.

Mr. Kennedy made these statements, among others, at a special news conference for the Jewish press at which he took issue with the attacks made against him by the Republican incumbent in the Senate from New York State, Sen. Kenneth B. Keating, in connection with the Government's decision to sell a large former German firm to a Swiss concern. Mr. Keating, seeking re-election, had alleged that, under that transaction, the U. S. A. would turn over many millions of dollars to "Nazis."

Mr. Kennedy was very bitter about the attacks leveled against him by Sen. Keating in connection with the sale of Interhandel, a Swiss firm, of the assets seized by the Government during the war from I. G. Farben, a large German cartel. That property was taken as enemy assets in 1942. He said Sen. Keating, as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, supervising the activities of the Department of Justice, knew about every phase of the Interhandel transaction. "He himself," Mr. Kennedy stated, referring to Sen. Keating, "made a speech on the floor of the Senate in March of 1953, declaring that none of that money would go to the Nazis."

JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA OPEN FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- The Second Central America-Panama Jewish Communities convention opened here today with 100 delegates meeting to discuss problems of Jewish education and relations between Israel and Jews in other countries.

The principal goal of the four-day conclave will be to establish a federation of Jewish communities of the Central American countries. Leon Dultzin, representing the Jewish Agency, Mark Turkow, representing the World Jewish Congress, and I. Aviom, representing the economic department of the Jewish Agency, are among the scheduled speakers.

BUST OF DR. WEIZMANN TO BE ERECTED ON PRINCIPAL SQUARE IN RIO

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- A decision to erect a bust of the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann in one of the principal squares of this city was made here today at a national conference of Brazil-Israel, an organization devoted to fostering friendship between this country and Israel.

Announcement of the decision was made by the chairman of the conference, Dr. Carlos Fleury Ribeiro, education minister of the State of Guanabara. The conference also decided, he said, to publish an anthology of Brazilian writings in the Hebrew language.

MONUMENT TO VICTIMS OF NAZI MURDER CAMP TO BE UNVEILED IN POLAND

LONDON, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- A monument to the victims of the Chelmno concentration camp, where 350,000 Jews were slaughtered, will be unveiled in the Polish city next Sunday, it was reported here today from Warsaw.

The Chelmno camp was the first murder camp set up in occupied Poland by the Nazis. Most of the Jews were from Lodz. Other victims were Poles from Zamoszcz, Czechs from Lidice and Dutch, Belgian and Norwegian prisoners of war. There is now a Jewish monument in Chelmno at a mass grave of a group of Jews who staged a revolt against the Nazis and were wiped out in their hopeless fight.

A mass meeting and special radio broadcasts marked the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the liberation of the Lodz Ghetto. The committee for the ceremony included government representatives and Lodz municipality and party leaders; David Himmelfarb, chairman of the Lodz branch of the Jewish Cultural and Social Association, and other Lodz Jewish leaders also served on the committee.

'ART IN ISRAEL' EXHIBIT OPENED AT NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR

NEW YORK, Sept. 23; (JTA) -- An "Art in Israel" exhibit of nine leading Israeli painters was opened today in the American-Israel Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. The exhibited artists are Nahum Gutman, Ziona Tadger, Finchas Shaar, Yohanan Simon, John Byle, Yosef Falevi, Dan Levin, Igal Geyra and Tully Filmus.

PROF. SAMUEL LENGYEL, JEWISH ECONOMIST, DIES IN LONDON; WAS 78

LONDON, Sept. 23. (JTA) -- Professor Samuel Joseph Lengyel, an honorary president of the Federation of Hungarian Jews in Britain, died here today at the age of 78. Born in Hungary, he had been an economics professor at the University of Melbourne. He was an international authority on insurance and the author of textbooks on the subject.