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JORDAN RIVER PROJECT IN OPERATION, ISRAEL ANNOUNCES OFFICIALLY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Israel's National Water Carrier, which taps the Jordan River through Lake Tiberias, has been in operation since June 10, the annual report of the Agricultural Ministry disclosed today.

The report also said that, by the end of the current fiscal year, the project will have cost more than 300,000,000 pounds (\$100,000,000.) The massive irrigation project is the target of threats by neighboring Arab countries to divert headwaters of the Jordan River, and thus deny those waters to Israel. Israel has warned it would consider such projects as aggressive acts.

FOURTH VATICAN COUNCIL MAY BE HELD TO COMPLETE 'JEWISH ISSUE'

ROME, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Qualified sources reported here today that a fourth session of the Ecumenical Council may be necessary to deal with the much-debated declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations. That possibility developed after an evaluation of the procedures through which the draft must pass before the 2,500 prelates attending the Council will have the opportunity to vote on it.

The issue was linked with the determination of the progressive Council fathers to obtain a definitive declaration absolving Jews, past and present, of the ancient charge of deicide in the crucifixion of Jesus, and a condemnation of Christian-motivated anti-Semitism; Conservative prelates have sought to water down that and other stands clearly favored by a majority of the prelates.

It was reported today that Augustin Cardinal Bea, president of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, which sponsored the initial strong declaration on Jews, was not seriously opposed to having the draft inserted into the schema "De Ecclesia." Such a shift was one of the points of contention which led a group of cardinals to make an unprecedented appeal last Sunday to Pope Paul, to intervene against the conservative bishops; However, Cardinal Bea insists that the final elaboration of the draft, prior to the vote, be left with his secretariat.

German Cardinal Backs Bea on Retaining His Jurisdiction

Cardinal Bea's stand received support from Cardinal Doepfner of Munich, one of the council's four moderators, who declared tonight at a press conference that the final elaboration on the declaration on the Jews, as well as on religious freedom, remained in the competence of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity.

Cardinal Doepfner also said that he could say nothing at the present time about the placement of the declaration on Jews among the Council documents. This was understood to mean that he did not exclude the possibility it would be inserted in the "De Ecclesia" schema.

If that is the final determination, the sources said, voting procedures would be in complete uncertainty. The "De Ecclesia" schema has already been approved in Council voting; Its Theological Commission is preparing the definitive text for final voting by a procedure of screening several thousand reservations and observations made by the Council fathers in the course of debate. Such final voting could not be expected during the present third session, and possibly not until well into a fourth session.

The possibility of a fourth session was strengthened also by a request by Archbishop Gomes of Brazil, who spoke today on another Council draft and asked that voting be postponed until a fourth session.

Most observers at the Council indicated that an early vote on the declaration on the Jews would be the best way to assure a strong document.

Rabbi Tells Catholics of Values Evoked by Council Debate

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Widespread interest in the draft declaration absolving the Jews of the deicide charge, being considered by the Vatican Ecumenical Council is, according to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, national director of the Interreligious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, a sign of "a dawning awareness that interfaith harmony can only be achieved by a removal of distorted perceptions and images each religion prolongs about the other." Rabbi Tanenbaum expressed this view at a conference on interreligious cooperation here, at Loyola University, a Catholic institution;

ISRAELIS DEMAND MORE DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST GERMAN SCIENTISTS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- More drastic action by the Israel Government to induce West Germany to recall scientists working on advanced weapons in Egypt was urged today in continuing debate on the issue in the Knesset, Israel's Parliament.

It was indicated that Premier Levi Eshkol, who opened the debate Monday, will reply to his critics next week. By then, it is expected he will have received from West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard a reply to a letter sent two weeks ago, in which the Premier expressed Israel's deep concern over the inaction of West Germany on the issue.

During the debate today, demands were made that Israel act to mobilize world opinion against West Germany on the issue. Y. Galili, an Achdut Avodah member, urged the Government to decide clearly whether the danger posed by the work of the scientists for the Nasser regime outweighed considerations of aid from West Germany.

Israel Barzilai, a member of the opposition Mapam party, charged that West Germany was interested in the work of the scientists in the interests of its own weapons development program. More drastic action by Israel also was urged by Y. Ben Meir, Deputy Interior Minister and a member of the National Religious Party.

London Paper Sees Germany Responding to Eshkol's Appeal

LONDON, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- The London Daily Telegraph reported today from Bonn that the West German Government "is expected to re-examine the possibility of introducing legislation to prevent the activities of West German rocket scientists in Egypt."

The newspaper said that the possibility developed following the "latest urgent appeal" by Premier Eshkol in debate in Israel's Parliament. The newspaper also reported that Mr. Eshkol's address, urging West Germany not to aid Israel's enemies through the work of the scientists for the Nasser regime, found a sympathetic response in the West German press.

The Telegraph noted that the Israelis "have not heard clear denunciations by the West German Government of the scientists' activities" and added that there was a "powerful" Arab lobby in West Germany, as well as a small but strong group of West German firms which "for years has had the ear of the federal government."

SOVIET DIPLOMAT SAYS KREMLIN WELCOMES MORE LINKS WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- The Soviet Union would welcome more technical and economic cooperation with Israel, Ivan Kuznetsov, the second secretary of the Soviet Embassy, told a meeting of the Economic Club here today.

Replying to a question as to whether Middle East recipients of Soviet aid realize that the aid is intended for peaceful purposes, the Soviet secretary said only that the goal of such aid was to foster peaceful development and buttress national sovereignty against "imperialist attack." He added, however, that it was impossible for the Soviet Union to demand guarantees that Soviet arms would not be used for belligerent purposes.

ISRAEL PROPOSES BILL TO CUT TAXES, INCREASE BASIC DEDUCTIONS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir presented today to Parliament a tax cut bill which will exempt from such levies 60,000 persons now paying income taxes; Other classes of taxpayers also will benefit. The bill substantially increases basic deductions, and lowers the rate of progressive taxation.

ANTWERP MAYOR RE-ELECTED IN SPITE OF BOYCOTT BY JEWISH LEADERS

ANTWERP, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Lode Crayerbeck has been re-elected Mayor of Antwerp as the Socialist Party candidate, despite a boycott by a group of Jewish leaders of the party, it was confirmed here today.

The Mayor offered to resign last spring following a public outcry over an anti-Semitic tirade he voiced in a coffee house against the Jewish patrons. He withdrew his resignation when the Socialist Party decided to place him first on its slate for the election last Sunday, over the opposition of the Jewish Socialists, who declined to have their names on the ticket.

The Socialist party lost three seats. Mayor Crayerbeck received 8,000 votes, 5,000 votes fewer than he got in the 1958 election.

CHIEF RABBI OF SLOVAKIA VISITS BRITAIN; WILL MEET LEADERS

LONDON, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Rabbi Elias Katz, the chief rabbi of Slovakia, arrived in London today in response to an invitation from Dr. Israel Brodie, chief rabbi of the British Commonwealth.

Rabbi Brodie said Rabbi Katz will meet with rabbinic leaders of Britain to discuss problems of Jewish religious law.

EBAN SCORES PRO-ISRAEL SUCCESES IN STATE VISIT TO COLOMBIA

BOGOTA, Colombia, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- President Guillermo Leon Valencia gave Deputy Premier Abba Eban of Israel firm and emphatic assurance today of his decision to "maintain and strengthen friendly relations between" Colombia and Israel.

In a meeting between the two statesmen, Mr. Eban expressed Israel's appreciation for the support of Colombia since 1948, when Colombia proposed Israel's admission to the United Nations. He cited the UN session in which Colombia strongly urged free, direct Israel-Arab talks for peace. It was reported that President Valencia explained that this attitude was "immutable" in view of the principles affecting policies of his Government.

Mr. Eban, in an address in Spanish, spoke at a joint session of the Colombian Senate and House of Representatives after receiving a special invitation extended by the Legislature. In his address, he said Israel and Latin America could increase their cooperation both in the service of peace in the Middle East and in joint development programs. He said also that the Latin American countries could aid peace by emphasizing their rejection of Arab doctrines of belligerence and aggression. Members of both houses gave him a standing, enthusiastic ovation.

In his talk with President Valencia and with Foreign Minister Gomez Martinez, Mr. Eban discussed direct Israel-Colombia cooperation in agricultural development, hydraulic exploration and training of rural community leaders. It was agreed to seek means of expanding such programs and of ensuring closer contact between Colombia and Israel in United Nations matters.

Colombian Leader Launches Mass Protest Against Anti-Israel Threats

JERUSALEM, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- Jose Mercado, president of the Labor Federation of Colombia, has launched a campaign throughout Latin America to rally support for a mass petition to United Nations Secretary General U Thant, protesting recent Arab threats against Israel, it was reported here today.

The Colombian labor leader has circulated a memorandum calling for the support of the labor movements in the various Latin American countries and to Mr. Thant, protesting the flow of Soviet weapons to Arab countries and the employment of West German scientists in Egyptian arms development. A similar memorandum has been circulated by the Workers Federation of Uruguay.

CHILE'S PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE MEETS JEWISH LEADERS, LAUDS ISRAEL

SANTIAGO, Chile, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- A joint delegation of the Jewish Community of Chile and the Zionist Federation of Chile was received today by Chile's new president-designate, Dr. Eduardo Frei.

The Jewish leaders pledged the full support of Chilean Jewry to the new president's plans to extend and deepen Chilean social justice. Dr. Frei thanked the delegation for its pledge and said that he looked to the State of Israel for examples on means of carrying out his pledges. He said also he was pleased that Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, would head the Israeli delegation to his inauguration here, next month.

FRENCH KOSHER BUTCHERS AGREE TO USE NEW DEVICE IN ABATTOIRS

PARIS, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- French kosher butchers have agreed to use a new device for pre-handling of slaughter animals, the French Association for the Protection of Slaughter Animals reported today.

Jewish ritual slaughterers in France, the association said, will henceforth use a specially devised casting pen for holding the animals before slaughter. (A similar device was announced earlier this year in the United States.) Charges that ritual slaughtering causes unnecessary pain to the animal, a stock libel voiced by local anti-Semites, are expected to be ended by the use of the new pens.

CORNERSTONE LAID FOR FIRST SEPHARDIC SYNAGOGUE IN BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, Oct. 14; (JTA) -- Cornerstone laying ceremonies were held here today for the first Sephardic synagogue ever to be built in Brussels, in the presence of Belgian Chief Rabbi Robert Dreyfus; Conrad Franco, president of the Sephardi community, and many other Jewish communal leaders.

The synagogue will be named for Simon Haim, one of the most prominent members of the Sephardi community and the largest private contributor for the construction of the new building which will cost between six and eight million Belgian francs (\$120,000-\$150,000). Of that total, 1,000,000 francs (\$20,000) will be paid by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

M. Haim was yesterday awarded the high Belgian distinction, "Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Couronne," by Culture and Education Minister Henri Janne. Chief Rabbi Dreyfus and Israel Ambassador Amiel Najar were present at the ceremonies, at which M. Haim was cited for his support of leading educational institutions.

NAZI MATERIALS FOUND IN ARMS CACHE SEEN AS THREAT TO JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Federal authorities have opened an investigation of two men regarding violation of the National Firearms Act after they were arrested on suspicion of plotting the assassination of President Johnson and one was found to have stores of German arms and Nazi material. Officials said they thought the pair innocent of any actual plan to kill the President.

But the investigation disclosed that one of the pair, Julius Schmidt, 29, had stored at his home a quantity of machineguns, automatic pistols, high-powered snipers rifles, a mortar, a rocket launcher (bazooka-type), live hand grenades, about 20,000 rounds of ammunition, several Nazi flags, World War II German army helmets, a German medal, Nazi uniform, photographs of Adolf Hitler, Hitler's anti-Semitic writings, photographs of other leading Nazi personalities, and pictures of concentration camps where Jews were annihilated.

Schmidt was arrested at Corpus Christi, Tex. Authorities later took Jerry Bird, 27, of Calallen, Tex., into custody.

REPUBLICANS NAME OUTSPOKEN ANTI-ISRAELI TO CAMPAIGN UNIT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- Norman W. Raies, of Portland, Ore., was appointed by the Republican National Committee today as a national co-chairman of the Lebanese-Syrian-American section of the Nationalities Division of the GOP committee. Announcement of the appointment was made by Dean Burch, chairman of the Republican Party national committee.

Mr. Raies is a leader of the Federation of Syrian-Lebanese Clubs and the Cedar Society, a founder of the American University in Beirut, Lebanon, and a charter member of the American Friends of the Middle East, an anti-Israel group. Last summer, Mr. Raies testified before the platform committees of both the Republican and Democratic national conventions, urging the adoption of planks against Israel.

Holding the post of co-chairman of the Lebanese-Syrian-American section, Mr. Burch said, will be George Bashara, of Detroit, president of the Lebanese-American Republican Club. Chairman Burch said the two "will be responsible for selecting state chairman and for developing nationwide support of Lebanese-Syrian Americans for Goldwater and Miller."

J.T.A. OPENS ITS FIRST DIRECT NEW YORK-LONDON CABLE CIRCUIT

NEW YORK, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- The Jewish Telegraphic Agency opened its first leased cable circuit tonight, directly linking its New York and London offices. The new circuit, a direct, office-to-office line like the radioprinter hookup it replaces, will provide speedier and more dependable facilities for transmission of JTA news to London, for redistribution there on the European continent and in Australia.

The new cable circuit represents the first stage in conversion of JTA's North Atlantic facilities from radioprinter to cable. Under arrangements negotiated by Victor M. Bienstock, JTA general manager, with Press Wireless, Inc., and the British Post Office, all JTA's New York-London Press communications will be shifted from radio to cable. The conversion is expected to be completed before the end of 1964.

A major advantage of cable over radioprinter is that the cable is rarely subject to the atmospheric disturbances that frequently disrupt radio communications, especially during the autumn and winter months. The North Atlantic radio path is exceptionally vulnerable to these disturbances.

JTA will continue to use radioprinter facilities for direct communication with Israel, South Africa and South America. JTA and its affiliated Israeli News Agency have their own receiving station in Tel Aviv.

EPISCOPALIANS ABSOLVE JEWS OF DEICIDE, CONDEMN ANTI-SEMITISM

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 14. (JTA) -- The House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church declared here yesterday that the charge of deicide against Jews was wrong, and that anti-Semitism was a "direct contradiction of Christian doctrine." The statement by the 150 bishops was considered the strongest on the subject ever issued by a major Protestant body in this country.

The statement said the deicide charge involved a "tragic misunderstanding of the inner significance of the crucifixion." While it is a fact that "Jesus was crucified by some Roman soldiers at the instigation of some Jews," the statement asserted, this "cannot be construed as imputing corporate guilt to every Jew in Jesus' day, much less the Jewish people in subsequent generations. Simple justice alone proclaims the charge of a corporate and inherited curse on the Jewish people to be false."

In denouncing anti-Semitism as un-Christian, the bishops declared that Jesus was a Jew "and, since the Christian church is rooted in Israel, spiritually we are Semites."