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### TWO ISSUES PREVENT ERHARD'S EMISSARY FROM LEAVING ISRAEL ON TIME

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Birrenbach, West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's special emissary, who was to return to Bonn today after a second round of conferences with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol on issues still outstanding in connection with Bonn-Jerusalem rapprochement, postponed his departure until tomorrow.

He was awaiting further instructions from Bonn regarding some important issues not yet resolved between the two governments. The issues include Israel's demand that Bonn keep its agreement to aid Israel armament by supplying the remainder of weapons not yet shipped; and the timing and other details about establishment of full diplomatic relations, to which both governments have now agreed.

Regarding the arms deal, Dr. Birrenbach has reportedly offered financial compensation for the remainder of the weapons agreed to under the old arrangement, but Israel has thus far refused to accept money in lieu of arms, insisting on the principle involved. As to the envisaged exchange of ambassadors between the two governments, Dr. Birrenbach appears to have been authorized by Bonn to include that agreement in a joint communique which would state it has been reached in principle. Bonn apparently wants to delay implementation of the diplomatic agreement until a later date.

It is assumed here that Chancellor Erhard wants leeway on both issues, while he is still trying to appease the Arab states. But Israel insists she cannot view its relations with West Germany in the context of Bonn's relationships with the Arab states. Unless agreement between Mr. Eshkol and Dr. Birrenbach is reached by the latter's departure tomorrow, the Erhard emissary may have to go home, and return again with new instructions at the end of this week.

### Bonn Reported Offering \$50,000,000 Aid to Israel Annually

In his latest series of talks here, Dr. Birrenbach brought to Mr. Eshkol replies from Dr. Erhard concerning a number of questions posed by Israel earlier. Israel is understood to have agreed to a German proposal of aid reported to be in the range of \$50,000,000 annually for a number of years. Regarding the ambassadorial issue, Bonn is said to prefer to establish its Israeli embassy in Tel Aviv, rather than in Jerusalem, and Mr. Eshkol is believed to be ready not to press that matter.

The question of the German scientists at work on sophisticated weapons in Egypt had also been brought into the Eshkol-Birrenbach talks, with the German envoy insisting that only one major German scientist, Wolfgang Pilz, is still in Egypt. He said that three ranking German scientists recently left Egypt, and that his Government would "remain alive to the problem."

Israeli sources confirmed press reports from Bonn to the effect that Dr. Erhard issued his proposal for establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel only after the German leader had received an ultimatum on that issue from Rainer Barzel, chairman of Dr. Erhard's own Christian Democratic Party. Mr. Barzel had reportedly issued that ultimatum to his Chancellor after returning from a visit to the United States and emphasizing that there had been sharp reactions among non-Jews against Bonn's intended surrender to Egypt's President Nasser.

According to these reports, Mr. Barzel had threatened to split the Christian Democratic Party and bring down the Erhard Government. It was only then, the reports stated, that Dr. Erhard sent new instructions to Dr. Birrenbach, who was already en route to Israel, regarding the offer of diplomatic relations.

### ISRAEL CABINET HEARS REPORT ON SYRIAN ATTACKS FROM CHIEF OF STAFF

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, chief of staff of Israel's defense forces, reported to the entire Cabinet here today on the latest series of Syrian attacks on the northern frontier, where another exchange of fire took place last night between Syrian gunposts and Israeli units on the northern frontier.

The latest clash developed last night after two Syrian gun positions opened fire from the heights on their side of the border against the Israeli village of Ashmoura. Israelis returned the fire. No casualties were reported on the Israeli side.

## JOHNSON DECLINES TO INDICATE WHETHER U. S. WILL SUPPLY ARMS TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 21. (JTA) -- President Johnson declined at his press conference this weekend to indicate whether the United States would provide arms to Israel. He was asked by one of the correspondents present at the conference the following question:

"The West German arms supply to Israel instituted with United States support has been cut off. In view of this would the United States be willing to supply arms to Israel to maintain a balance of power?"

President Johnson replied: "We don't discuss iffy questions like that. We will give consideration to the problems and the needs of the various nations and countries, and while we have them under consideration we'll try to evaluate them. If a decision is reached in any area with any country, why, we will carry it out. But we don't think that it's desirable to speculate or engage in any prophesies that may or may not work out."

## ISRAEL'S DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH RESIGNS; REFUTES INQUIRY CHARGES

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- Yitzhak Rafael, Israel's Deputy Minister of Health, resigned from his office today as an aftermath to a scandal in which a high official of the Ministry has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for allegedly receiving kickbacks from contractors. Prime Minister Levi Eshkol announced the resignation at a meeting of the Cabinet today.

In a letter to Minister of Health Moshe Shapiro, Mr. Rafael stated he was resigning so as to be free to take legal action to refute findings which he called "a miscarriage of justice."

The Premier told the Cabinet he had received a report from District Court Judge Moshe Gaulan, of Jerusalem, whom he had appointed as a one-man committee to probe into the kickback charges. Yehuda Spiegel, the Ministry's former deputy director-general, had been convicted and sent to jail on charges he had gotten kickbacks from contractors. In Judge Gaulan's report, it is charged that Mr. Rafael knew of those kickbacks which, allegedly, were given to an educational institution of which Mr. Rafael was chairman, and to a yeshiva.

In his announcement that he would take legal action, Mr. Rafael said he had asked the Premier to name a three-man inquiry committee to be headed by a justice of the Supreme Court. He stated he knew nothing of the kickback arrangements between Spiegel and the contractors, and would refute all the implications of the charges against him.

## GERMAN PARLIAMENT EXPECTED TO EXTEND STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS THIS WEEK

BONN, March 21. (JTA) -- The Bundestag, lower house of the West German Parliament, is expected to prolong this week the statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals from May 8, 1965, to 1980, following recommendations received today from the Bundestag's legal committee.

The principle of prolongation of the cut-off date was adopted by the Bundestag 10 days ago, and referred to the legal committee for the drafting of details. The committee has recommended extension in two steps: 1) The starting date would be fixed as January 1, 1950, when West Germany became a sovereign state, instead of 1945, when World War II ended officially; 2) The statute would run for 30 years from the 1950 date, thus setting the cut-off date as effective in 1980. The committee defeated a proposal by the opposition Social Democrats that no limitation at all be fixed on prosecutions for major war crimes.

A second bill to be brought into the Bundestag by the committee this week will give judges the authority to throw out cases against minor Nazi offenders. Both bills are to come up for second and third reading this week, and their adoption is expected.

## MATZ OH BAKING IN SOVIET RUSSIA STILL BANNED IN VARIOUS CITIES

LONDON, March 21. (JTA) -- Despite recent claims of adequate matzoh baking facilities this year in Moscow and Leningrad, informed sources here reported today that generally, there is still no organized matzoh baking in those cities and each individual must bring his own flour.

The sources noted that baking has so far been permitted only at three ovens in three synagogues in the Moscow area and one in Leningrad. They contradicted a claim by Soviet Ambassador to Israel, Dimitri Chuvakhin, that matzoh baking was permitted in Kiev and said that no permit had been granted to the Kiev synagogue which has one oven. The sources also said that a permit had not been granted to the Riga synagogue.

They noted that while the Soviet authorities had recently shown foreign correspondents the ovens in Moscow where matzoh baking was being carried out, no such facilities had been shown to correspondents in Kiev. They voiced the hope that the matzoh ban would be rescinded throughout the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, the Board of Deputies of British Jews today decided to convene a conference of various Jewish organizations to discuss the position of Soviet Jewry. The meeting will be held on April 8.

U. N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS STARTS SESSION TODAY; W.J.C. SUBMITS PLEA

GENEVA, March 21, (JTA) -- A memorandum appealing for worldwide action to bring Nazi criminals to justice regardless of their present whereabouts, was presented by the World Jewish Congress to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights which begins its session here tomorrow.

The memorandum, circulated among the delegates, supports a Polish proposal to add an item to the agenda entitled "The Question of Punishment of War Criminals." The Polish proposal would call upon all governments "to undertake necessary measures in order to prevent the termination of the legal prosecution" of crimes committed by war criminals, and "accede as soon as possible" to the Genocide Convention of 1948.

The WJC submission takes note of the action by European governments of different political and social ideologies to prevent war criminals from escaping trial under provisions of statutes of limitation, but points out that this problem has long ceased to be of exclusive European concern. Reasons for refusing extradition were either "the political nature of the deeds" or, more frequently, the existence of local statutes of limitation.

WJC leaders have been assured that a draft UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Religious Intolerance would, if ratified by the higher organs of the UN in its present form, fully meet the needs of Jews who are suffering discrimination in the exercise of their religious freedom in various parts of the world.

Reporting to the WJC American Section on the draft convention formulated by the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, who participated in the meeting on behalf of the WJC, described the document as "without doubt the most important step taken in the United Nations to ensure genuine religious freedom in all its member states. This text will come up for review at the meeting of the Commission on Human Rights which opens here tomorrow.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATE IN SELMA MARCH SUPPORTING NEGROES

NEW YORK, March 21, (JTA) -- Representatives of national and various local Jewish organizations around the country, both lay and rabbinical, were participating today in the march from Selma, Ala., to Montgomery, supporting demands for equal voting rights for Negroes and backing President Johnson's proposal for legislation guaranteeing such rights, according to dispatches received here today.

The American Jewish Committee, in a call by its executive vice-president, Dr. John Slawson, urged all its chapters and members throughout the country "to participate to the fullest extent possible" in the Selma-Montgomery march. Dr. Slawson announced that the AJC has designated two men to represent the organization in the march. Brant Cooper-Smith, AJC area director for the Upper South, he said, headed the AJC delegation on the first leg of the march today, from Selma to the first overnight stopping place, 11 miles away. Later this week, Harry Fleischman, race relations coordinator for the AJC, will head the AJC's delegation on the final two legs of the march into Montgomery.

Three national Jewish religious women's groups sent a joint telegram to President Johnson, supporting his demand that Congress act promptly on the proposed voting rights bill. The organizations were the women's Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Organizations of America, the National Women's League of the United Synagogue of America (Conservative), and the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (Reform).

Similar wires to President Johnson and to the Congressional delegations from New York were sent by the Farband-Labor Zionist Order and by the Brooklyn Jewish Community Council. Previously, every major Jewish national organization had sent telegrams to the President, taking the same stand.

A Selma Jew, Seymour Palmer, who had told newsmen in an interview in the Alabama city that northerners were at least partly responsible for the violence in Alabama by coming there to help "defy authority," was answered today in a statement by Rabbi Seymour Siegel, secretary of the Rabbinical Assembly, the organization of Conservative rabbis. Dr. Siegel, who is associate professor of theology at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and Rabbi S. Gershon Levi, treasurer of the Assembly, led a group of Conservative rabbis who went to Selma last week to participate in the civil rights demonstrations there. Addressing Mr. Palmer directly, Rabbi Siegel stated:

"We are both Jews whose ancestors taught the world the principles of justice. We are both Jews who have suffered too much for so long. Let us both join in prayer and action to turn the hearts of men from hatred to love; from discrimination to acceptance of all men as brothers; and from passive indifference to constructive and courageous action on behalf of all who suffer."

READING OF MEGILLAH IN MOSCOW SYNAGOGUE ATTRACTS 1,000 WORSHIPERS

NEW YORK, March 21, (JTA) -- The reading of the Megillah in the Central Synagogue in Moscow on March 17, attracted more than 1,000 worshipers, among them a large number of young people, according to information reaching here from reliable sources. There has never been as many young Jews in the synagogue for a Purim service as there was this year, the Moscow report said.

### Z. O. A. HOLDS BRIEFING CONFERENCE ON 'WATER AND PEACE' IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- The first of a series of briefing conferences on the current situation in the Middle East, sponsored by the Public Affairs Department of the Zionist Organization of America, was held today at the Carnegie Endowment Building with several hundred Zionist representatives from the metropolitan area in attendance.

Devoted to the theme "Water and Peace," the conference, which was addressed by a panel of experts on the Middle East, discussed such vital issues as the Arab plan to choke off the headwaters of the Jordan to deprive Israel of its rightful share of water essential for its survival, Nasser's new threats of aggression against Israel, the Soviet arms influx to the Arab lands and the Arab boycott against American firms in this country.

The all-day conference which was presided over by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, chairman of the ZOA Public Affairs Committee, was also addressed by Hon. Yaakov Morris of the Jewish Agency, formerly Israel Consul in New York; Eliahu Ben-Horin, noted writer and author and recognized authority on Middle Eastern problems; and Milton A. Chase, Engineering Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior in charge of water and power, and member of the Joint U. S. - Israel Water Desalination Team.

### CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE HONORS J. T. A. YIDDISH EDITOR FOR POETRY

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- The Congress for Jewish Culture last night honored Aleph Katz, noted Yiddish poet and Yiddish editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency on the occasion of the appearance of his latest book of poems, "Di Emese Chassene," which received the Kessel Prize for Yiddish Literature. The occasion also marked 40 years of his literary work.

Principal speakers at the event, which took place at the Picadilli Hotel, included Dr. S. Margoshes, the two noted Jewish poets A. Glanz-Leyeles and Efraim Auerbach, and Yudi Mark, one of the editors of monumental Dictionary of the Yiddish Language which is now in preparation. Mr. Katz, in replying, stressed his interest in creative Jewish journalism no less than in poetry, and read some of his poems to the audience.

### 'TALMUDIC SEMINAR' OF THE AIR' MARKS ANNIVERSARY; HAS LARGE FOLLOWING

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- The Talmudic Seminar of the Air, a weekly Talmud lecture broadcast every Saturday evening over radio station WEVD here, marked its 13th anniversary last night with a special hour-long program in which leading scholars took part. The lectures are given by Rabbi Pinchas M. Teitz, member of the presidium of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

The lecture broadcasts, which have attracted a large following of listeners, has also been carried by radio stations in Miami, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Detroit and Montreal and has been beamed to Europe by Israel's short-wave network program, Kol Zion Lagolan.

### HEBREW MAGAZINE FOR CHILDREN TO PRESENT AWARD TO OGDEN REID

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- The illustrated Hebrew publication for children and youth, "Olam Hadash," the only one of its kind in the United States, will present its first annual award to Ogden Reid, member of the U. S. House of Representatives and former U. S. Ambassador to Israel, in recognition of his deep interest in the Hebrew language and culture, it was announced today by Mr. Jacob Kinzler, president of the publication.

The presentation of the award will take place at a luncheon at the Essex House on April 4. Jacob Goodman, vice-president and treasurer of the publication, will be toastmaster at the luncheon. The "Olam Hadash" was founded in New York in September 1961 by Asher Wolk, journalist, and one of the present editors of the publication.

### DR. ERWIN GOODENOUGH, AUTHOR OF 10 VOLUMES ON JEWISH SYMBOOLS, DEAD

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 21. (JTA) -- Dr. Erwin R. Goodenough, a world renowned non-Jewish Biblical scholar who has written extensively on Judaic themes, died here yesterday at the age of 71. A professor emeritus in religion at Yale University, Dr. Goodenough was also a visiting lecturer at Brandeis University.

His major work was "Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period," a 10-volume discussion of the influence he said pagan culture had exercised on Palestinian Judaism. The work based its main conclusions on what it claimed was the presence of pagan symbols and designs in early Jewish art and expressions of religion.

### SHLOMO DICKMAN, PROMINENT HEBREW WRITER, DIES IN ISRAEL; WAS 48

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- President Zalman Shazar and Education Minister Zalman Arrane attended funeral services here today for Shlomo Dickman, prominent writer and translator, who died here at the age of 48. A native of Poland, Dickman arrived in Israel five years ago. A member of the Hebrew Language Academy, he translated Virgil, Sophocles and other classics into Hebrew.