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STATE DEPARTMENT ENVOY TO DISCUSS ARMS AND WATER ISSUE IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 31. (JTA) -- Phillips Talbot, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, may discuss the arms supply and water diversion issues when he visits the Middle East, including Israel, on his return from the GENTO conference in Teheran on April 8, it was learned today.

It was meanwhile officially announced that Secretary of State Dean Rusk, on his way back from the Teheran conference, will stop in Geneva for a one-day meeting with the U.S. ambassadors to Israel and other Middle Eastern nations. This will occur on April 9. Mr. Talbot does not as yet have a definite itinerary for his visit to the Middle East although it is thought that he may stop in Cairo as well as Tel Aviv.

ESHKOL LEAVES ENGLAND; SAYS HE ACHIEVED HIS AIMS DURING LONDON VISIT

LONDON, March 31. (JTA) -- Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol left here today after a week-long visit to England during which he met with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and other British leaders. Mr. Eshkol will spend several days in southern France with Mrs. Eshkol before returning to Israel.

In a brief prepared statement which Mr. Eshkol read before his departure, the Israeli Premier said that he had come to Britain to discuss a number of questions such as the political situation in the Middle East, the water situation, Israel's security position and economic issues as well as to meet the Jewish community here. "These aims have been achieved," he declared.

In reply to a question, Mr. Eshkol said that Israel and West Germany will probably exchange ambassadors and open embassies in each country within one or two months. Replying to another question, the Premier said: "No pressure had been exerted on us here or anywhere else. We are a sovereign state. We may have been tendered advice and counsel on a number of questions but this in no way can be interpreted as pressure."

He reiterated his support for a complete arms embargo in the Middle East but said that this was a most complicated problem since it is linked with numerous kinds of weapons in the area and had to be accompanied by close inspection. Asserting that he was not contemplating a visit to the United States in the near future, Mr. Eshkol said, however, that there was a possibility of such a visit by Foreign Minister Golda Meir.

KNESSET APPROVES \$4,000,000,000-POUND NATIONAL BUDGET FOR YEAR

JERUSALEM, March 31. (JTA) -- Asserting that "we shall do everything in our power to prevent a war with the Arabs," Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told the Knesset (Parliament) today that Israel will defend its water rights. "Israel will do anything necessary to stop the Arabs from diverting our water resources," she declared.

Mrs. Meir made these statements as she concluded the Knesset debate on her Ministry's budget, which Parliament approved after she had finished her presentation. In a separate vote, the Knesset approved the overall, national budget for the fiscal year 1965-66, which will be in excess of 4,000,000,000 Israeli pounds (\$1,333,333,333).

During the debate, the Government was criticized by the left-wing Mapam Party for failing to respond favorably to a statement recently made by Habib Bourguiba, president of Tunisia, who, in a speech in Jordan, seemingly called for an Arab-Israeli rapprochement. "While it is true," replied Mrs. Meir, "that Mr. Bourguiba said there should be no war, it is not clear what he proposes. We must see first what he really meant."

(President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia today urged Arab Palestinians to go slow in trying to win back their disputed land from Israel. In Turkey on a state visit, he told a news conference in Istanbul that Tunisia followed such a gradual approach "in freeing itself from colonialism.")

Knesset Approves Luxury Taxes on Night Clubs and Driving Lessons

JERUSALEM, March 31. (JTA) -- Israel's Knesset (Parliament) approved today a proposal by its finance committee for the levying of luxury taxes on night clubs, driving lessons and the hiring of halls. The night club tax will be 10 percent of the customer's bill.

JEWS IN BYELORUSSIA TO HAVE NO MATZOH; NO BAKING EVEN IN MINSK

LONDON, March 31. (JTA) -- No matzoh is being baked anywhere in the Byelorussian Soviet Republic, not even in the capital city of Minsk, authentic information received here from the Soviet Union revealed today.

The Jewish population of Byelorussia is 250,000. In addition to Minsk, one of the foremost centers of Jewish religion and culture in modern Russia, both under the Czarist and the Soviet regimes, another city with a sizable Jewish population in the region is Pukhovichi.

PRO-SOVIET NEWSPAPER IN U.S. ATTACKS SOVIET ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- The Morning Freiheit, the daily Yiddish newspaper which maintains a strong pro-Soviet attitude, sharply criticized today the continuation of anti-Semitic propaganda in the Soviet Union. "It seems that, among the anti-religious propagandists of the Soviet Union, there are many ignorant persons, often among them poisonous anti-Semites," the paper stated in an editorial.

The Freiheit noted that, earlier this week, the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry published a report about an article in "Zviazda," of Minsk, largest daily in Byelorussia, which had conjured up canards about alleged Jewish ritual practices, condemned Judaism as a religion that "defends what is rotten and dead," and charged that American Jewish organizations are headed by such leaders of big business as Guggenheim, Morgenthau, Harriman and Rockefeller. The latter two are not Jews.

The editorial stated that the Freiheit would ignore a report of this nature if there had been indications of trial and punishment of other anti-Semitic authors in the USSR, like Prof. Kitchko who had authored the infamous anti-Semitic work, "Judaism Without Enlightenment."

"The report from Minsk," stated the editorial, "would not be acceptable to us if we had heard about action against the other 'anti-religious' books. To our sorrow, we know from experience that, in the Soviet Union, anti-religious propaganda is often carried out in inept and ignorant fashion. Such propaganda convinces no one. On the contrary, we know of many (Jewish) religious men in America, rabbis and others, who play an outstanding role in the struggle against racism and war. Many religious Jews in the Soviet Union itself showed heroism and martyrdom during the war against Hitler.

"It is high time that such propaganda be stopped," the pro-Soviet Jewish newspaper urged. "The Soviet Union which has, among its principles, the abolition of all national boundaries, must cleanse itself and halt all anti-religious propaganda of a vulgar and harmful nature. Anti-religious propaganda of that kind only plays into the hands of the cold war elements."

AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT VOTES TO ABOLISH STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON NAZIS

VIENNA, March 31. (JTA) -- The Austrian Parliament voted today to amend the Criminal Code with the effect of abolishing the Statute of Limitations with regard to the arrest, prosecution and punishment of certain capital crimes including Nazi war crimes.

The amendment specifically referred to "all crimes committed by the Nazis between 1930 and 1945," specifying that prosecution for such crimes may be begun any time in the future "without any time limitation."

VIENNA STUDENTS CLASH ON DEMAND FOR DISMISSAL OF EX-NAZI PROFESSOR

VIENNA, March 31. (JTA) -- Agitation for the dismissal of Prof. Taras Boradajkewicz, an alleged neo-Nazi and a history teacher at the Vienna University School of World Trade, mounted here today as hundreds of former resistance fighters and students from Socialist, Catholic and Communist youth organizations demonstrated against the continued employment of the teacher, who has admitted publicly that he was a member of the Hitler SS during World War II.

While the demonstration--the second in two days--was under way, students who oppose the professor's discharge fought with the demonstrators. Several participants from both sides were injured, one seriously, as the youths fought with fists, rocks, fruit and some small mortars. The Ministry of Education is investigating charges that the teacher is a neo-Nazi "spreading Nazi poison among Austrian youth." Jewish organizations have also demanded his discharge.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR ASSURES U.S. JEWISH LEADER ON PROSECUTION OF NAZIS

DUSSELDORF, March 31. (JTA) -- Rabbi Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress and chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish American Organizations, expressed "full confidence" here today in West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard.

He made that statement following his conference yesterday with Dr. Erhard in which the German leader assured Dr. Prinz that the issue of the prosecution of major Nazi war criminals will be reconsidered and extended during the next four and a half years.

ISRAELI SHIPS REPORTED BARRED FROM SPANISH PORTS; VERIFICATION SOUGHT

WASHINGTON, March 31, (JTA) -- The Spanish Embassy here today made known that it is cabling to Madrid for information on reports from Haifa that Spain has notified Israeli shipping companies that Israeli ships will no longer be welcome in Spanish ports, because of the Arab boycott.

Reports from Haifa today said that Spain has decided to impose Arab boycott restrictions on Israel beginning tomorrow. Spain has no diplomatic relations with Israel, but has encouraged Jewish tourism and provided facilities in its ports to Israeli ships. The Arab boycott authorities have been pressing Spain to sever all commercial ties with Israel.

(In Israel, the Foreign Ministry began an investigation today of reports in maritime circles that Spain has been refusing to grant harbor facilities to Israeli shipping. While the Ministry was not sure of the authenticity of the reports, a spokesman for the Ministry said that Israel would ask a friendly nation which has a legation in Spain to clarify the matter.)

HEBREW UNIVERSITY TRANSFERS TEL AVIV BRANCHES TO TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, March 31, (JTA) -- The board of governors of the Hebrew University today approved a decision by the university's senate to transfer the Tel Aviv branches of the Hebrew University to the Tel Aviv University. The decision was taken by a vote of 43 to 14, with five abstentions.

Dr. Eliahu Elath, president of the Hebrew University, headed those who favored the transfer, while Prof. Yoel Racah, rector of the university, led the opposition. The controversy, which has been going on for several months, reached its peak when Dr. Elath threatened to resign unless the transfer is approved. Before acting on the issue, the board of governors appointed two committees which yesterday decided to recommend the transfer.

KU KLUX KLAN WILL SEEK CONGRESSIONAL PROBE OF ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., March 31, (JTA) -- Robert Shelton, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, United Klans of America, announced here today he would ask the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington to investigate the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, National Conference of Christians and Jews, and other groups.

He made this announcement in responding to a decision adopted yesterday by the House committee to make a full investigation of the KKK and to continue preliminary probes into the activities of the American Nazi Party. Rep. Edwin E. Willis, Louisiana Democrat, who is chairman of the House committee, stated: "Klanism is incompatible with Americanism." The KKK imperial wizard, seeking probes of the ADL and the NCCJ, said: "These and many other organizations have been financing, provoking and agitating the Southerner. The investigation, is not a one-way street."

N.C.J.W. CONVENTION VOICES WARNING ON AID TO EDUCATION BILL

NEW YORK, March 31, (JTA) -- The National Council of Jewish Women, holding its 26th biennial convention here, adopted a resolution today, warning that the Johnson Administration's aid to education bill would "open the door to an involvement of sectarian educators to decisions affecting public education."

The resolution warned the Administration that the measure, now pending in the Senate after adoption by the House of Representatives, must be buttressed by safeguards to avoid undermining "our tradition of separation of church from state."

Among other clauses, the bill would provide special services for shared-time classes, counseling and mobile units to be provided to students in parochial and other private schools, and \$100,000 for free textbooks and library materials to students in both public and private schools, including parochial schools. Many Jewish organizations have opposed the bill due to these clauses, but Orthodox Jewry, on the whole, supported the measure.

ISRAEL OFFERS MEDICAL AID FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN CHILE

SANTIAGO, Chile, March 31, (JTA)-- Israel today offered to the Government of Chile to send antibiotics, X-ray films and other pharmaceutical and medical supplies needed to aid the victims of last Sunday's catastrophic earthquake, which caused many deaths and left many thousands homeless in the central regions of this country. The aid was offered through the Israel Embassy here by Israel's Foreign Minister Golda Meir.

The Jewish communities in the affected area suffered little damage on the whole. But Jewish organizations here, as well as individuals, were contributing large sums for aid to the earthquake victims. Leaders of the Central Committee of the Jewish Community today handed a check for 10,000 escudos (\$10,000) to Secretary of the Interior Bernardo Leighton, telling the latter that the sum was only a first installment, and that a campaign for more funds would be conducted among the Jewish population here. President Frei today received a check for \$20,000 from a Jewish immigrant, A. Burger, a refugee from Nazi Germany, who owns a clothing factory.

FRAGMENTS OF HEBREW ORIGINAL OF 'BOOK OF JUBILEES' FOUND IN MASSADA

JERUSALEM, March 31. (JTA) -- Fragments of the long-lost Hebrew original of the Book of Jubilees, an apocryphal version of portions of the Book of Genesis, have been found in the excavations at Massada, the stronghold near the Dead Sea where the last Jewish defenders held out against the Romans in the first century of the Common Era.

Announcement of the new find was made today by Dr. Yigael Yadin, Hebrew University archaeologist and director of the current excavations which are being concluded this week. The Book of Jubilees, which had been available until now only from an Ethiopic translation of a Greek text, deals with episodes from the time of the creation until the Exodus from Egypt. The fragments found at Massada relate the efforts of the Archangel of Hatred to overthrow Moses.

Another recent discovery at the site is a collection of 53 shekels and half shekels which, together with the 17 found last year, constitute the largest single group known to exist today and the only ones in a definite single archaeological level which confirms their dating at between 66 to 73 Common Era. Summarizing the results of the excavations, Dr. Yadin reported that a total of 3,800 coins were found at the site as well as more than 1,000,000 pottery fragments.

One of the mysteries still remaining with regard to the fortress, Dr. Yadin pointed out, was the fact that only 28 skeletons have been found of the 970 defenders known to have died at the site. He said that 50,000 cubic meters of earth and stones were sifted in the course of the 11 months of excavation which uncovered about 10 miles of walls and many buildings. He estimated that plans to maintain the site would cost about 250,000 pounds (\$83,000) annually.

Academy in India Possesses Rare Hebrew Manuscript on Palm Leaf

JERUSALEM, March 31. (JTA) -- A palm leaf Hebrew manuscript preserved in the Sanskrit Academy of Osmania University in India, has been identified by the Hebrew Language Academy here as the 37th chapter of the Book of Genesis.

The Hebrew Academy had been asked to furnish information on the rare manuscript which is now believed to be the only Biblical one inscribed on a palm leaf in Hebrew. The document, which had been in the possession of the Sanskrit Academy for many years, is believed to have been written by Jews who came to the Malabar coast nearly 2,000 years ago.

H. U. C. - J. I. R. AND CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY ESTABLISH ACADEMIC TIES

LOS ANGELES, March 31. (JTA) -- The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the American Reform rabbinical seminary, and the University of Southern California have approved plans for an academic relationship.

Dr. Norman Topping, president of the USC, the oldest and largest private nonsectarian university in the West, said that the agreement calls for exchange of academic credits, use of facilities jointly and faculty supervision of students involved in the joint programs. As part of the arrangement, the Hebrew Union College will relocate its California school from Hollywood Hills to a tract of land it acquired adjacent to the USC campus.

Also as part of the exchange agreement, the HUC will bring to its USC addition its present library of more than 40,000 volumes, considered the most authoritative Judaica collection and Near East books in the Los Angeles area. The exchange provides that the 150,000 books in the HUC Cincinnati school and the 40,000 volumes in the New York branch will be available to USC faculty and students. Scholars from the other HUC branches will visit the USC campus in the exchange program.

HYMAN SAFRAN RE-ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF DETROIT JEWISH FEDERATION

DETROIT, March 31. (JTA) -- Hyman Safran was re-elected for a second term as president of the Jewish Welfare Federation here by the Federation board of governors. Other newly elected officers are Jack O. Lefton, Louis Tabashnik and Paul Zuckerman, vice-presidents; William Avrunin, secretary; Jacob A. Citrin, treasurer.

AMERICA-ISRAEL CULTURAL FOUNDATION ACQUIRES FIVE-STORY HOUSE IN N. Y.

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- The America-Israel Cultural Foundation has contracted for the purchase of a five-story building here, which will become the Israel Culture House, it was announced today by Isaac Stern, the Foundation's president.

In discussing plans for the house, Mr. Stern said that the Foundation intends to make it into a center in the United States for all of Israel's cultural life--its creative expression and performing arts. The property is located at 4 East 54th Street. The Foundation is this year celebrating its 25th anniversary.