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TWO ISRAELI CABINET MEMBERS RESIGN; BACK BEN-GURION AGAINST ESHKOL

TEL AVIV, May 20: (JTA) -- Shimon Peres, Deputy Defense Minister, and Yosef Almogi, Housing Minister, resigned their Cabinet posts today in the growing internal struggle in the Mapai party leadership between former Premier David Ben-Gurion and Premier Levi Eshkol.

In their letters of resignation, both men said they were doing so in response to Premier Levi Eshkol's challenge last week to Mr. Ben-Gurion's Mapai followers in the Cabinet to resign if they shared Mr. Ben-Gurion's statement that Mr. Eshkol was "unfit" to lead the party and the country.

The party crisis was deepened today when Mr. Ben-Gurion's followers called a mass rally for next Tuesday to seek to persuade the party to have Mr. Ben-Gurion head an election list for the forthcoming balloting for a new Parliament. Mr. Ben-Gurion again openly challenged Mr. Eshkol's party leadership with a letter to morning newspapers today in which he again called the Premier unqualified and added he would not allow his name to be on the joint Mapai-Achdut Avodah list negotiated by the Premier. The alignment has been vehemently denounced by Mr. Ben-Gurion.

Premier Eshkol reportedly tried to persuade Mr. Peres not to resign but the Deputy Defense Minister, after lengthy talks with leaders of the Ben-Gurion opposition faction in Mapai, decided to quit. He met with top officials of the Defense Ministry and said that after 18 years of service in the security field, he was "compelled" to resign because of "recent developments" within the Mapai party. He said he was doing so with regret and deep sorrow.

Mr. Almogi said in his resignation letter that he had resigned in response to the Premier's challenge "which left me no other way but to tender my resignation." He criticized the Premier's challenge as one that demands "confession" and one which belittled the positions of those who disagreed with the Premier. Mr. Eshkol was expected to inform Parliament next week of the resignations.

Ben-Gurion Makes His Views Against Eshkol Public in the Press

In his letter to the press, Mr. Ben-Gurion declared: "I will not give my hand to an alignment list which in my opinion does not come to strengthen the unity of Israeli labor but contrarily, although I believe many supporters of alignment want true union." Adding that he had worked with Mr. Eshkol for many years in the Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation, the Jewish Agency and the Government, he said he can only praise his "efficient work" in those areas.

"But," he continued, "it became clear to me, to my regret, that he lacks the essential qualities required for the responsible post of Premier. His qualities do not coincide with the position of Premiership. Members thinking otherwise may act as they wish. There is no obligation to place me at the head of the party's election list and I shall not be placed at the head or end of a list which, in my belief, does not fit the needs of the State of Israel."

The sharp tone of the letter, which surprised his followers, was regarded as a setback for the Ben-Gurion faction, as was the attendance at the ceremony of the Mapai-Achdut alignment signing yesterday of Mayor Abba Khoushy of Haifa, who is a Ben-Gurion supporter and who has endorsed the idea of a Mapai election list headed by Mr. Ben-Gurion.

Both Davar, the organ of the Histadrut, and Lamerhav, the newspaper of Achdut Avodah, welcomed today the alignment agreement and called on the leftist Mapam, which is not in the present coalition Government, to join the alignment. The newspapers described the pact as "more than a coalition but not quite a union."

Mapai and Achdut Avodah leaders expressed the hope that foes of the alignment would eventually support it. Efforts were underway to persuade those opponents to change their minds on the premise that "basically," all the labor parties were united in outlook. Premier Eshkol said last night that the Mapai-Achdut agreement marked "a great hour not only for the signatories but also to the nation at large." He called the agreement a turning point toward eliminating divisions in the nation and expressed the hope that there would not be a split in the Mapai.

SENATORS SUPPORT BILL PROHIBITING U.S. FIRMS TO YIELD TO ARAB BOYCOTT

WASHINGTON, May 20. (JTA) -- Broad support for a bill prohibiting cooperation by American businessmen with Arab boycott practices was voiced today by a number of Senators and Congressmen, when the International Trade Subcommittee of the House Banking and Commerce Committee resumed its hearings on this subject this morning. The law would forbid American businessmen from filling out questionnaires submitted by the Arab League Boycott Office, aimed to pressure American firms against doing business with Israel.

Last week, Department of State and Department of Commerce representatives, while expressing opposition to the Arab boycott, strongly opposed the bill for a number of reasons, the main one being that such legislation would interfere with the Administration's policy of "economic denial" against Cuba. This argument was firmly rejected by all witnesses today.

Senator Harrison A. Williams, New Jersey Democrat, co-sponsor with Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, of the bill, disclosed today to the Subcommittee that during the lengthy conferences with the State Department on the bill, before the hearings, they always stressed their concern over the reaction of the Arabs to such legislation, but not once did the State Department mention the argument about Cuba or Red China. "This bill has nothing to do with Cuba, an attempt to draw an analogy is appalling," Senator Williams stated in his testimony.

The difference between the anti-boycott legislation and American economic measures against trade with Cuba were also discussed in detail before the Committee by Senator Javits, who was today's first witness. The New York Republican stressed that "the anti-boycott bill will halt boycotts and also has the virtue of being consistent with present U.S. policy with respect to trade with Cuba and Communist China." "At the time when the need for firmness in foreign policy seems to be recognized by the Administration, our policy with respect to the Arab boycott is one of weakness," Senator Javits charged.

An impassioned plea for "unqualified backing of the law by the Government" for American businessmen against the insulting boycott practices was voiced by Congressman Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, who also rejected the Administration's claim of analogy between the Arab boycott and American trade restrictions against Cuba. Rep. Celler stressed that, if the legislation were adopted and the Arabs said that blackmailing American firms was no longer possible, they would continue to trade with the U.S. without attempts at boycott practices.

Strong support of the anti-boycott measure was also voiced in testimony today by Rep. Abraham A. Multer, of New York; James Roosevelt, of California; and Leonard Feinstein, of New York. All are Democrats. Rep. Thomas L. Ashley, Ohio Democrat, chairman of the subcommittee, conceded to Rep. Multer that the Administration has not conclusive evidence that the adoption of the anti-boycott measure would destroy U.S.-Arab relations.

LEADING ISRAELI INTELLECTUALS APPEAL TO MOSCOW ON TREATMENT OF JEWS

JERUSALEM, May 20. (JTA) -- An appeal to Soviet authorities to allow Russian Jews to exercise self-determination as Jews emerged from a meeting here today of 120 leading Israeli scientists, writers and artists.

They approved a petition asking the Soviet Union to allow Russian Jewry to develop their national culture, fulfil religious duties, establish contacts with co-religionists in other countries and organize nationally. The petition urged Soviet officials to permit emigration of Russian Jews particularly where World War II had separated families.

(A 24-hour "Day of Prayer" will be observed in synagogues throughout the New York metropolitan area Saturday as a period of meditation before the "Rally for Soviet Jewry" to be held June 3 in Madison Square Garden, it was announced today. The call for meditation was issued by the 900-member New York Board of Rabbis, representing all branches of Judaism, which is a member of the New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, sponsors of the rally.)

YAACOV DORI RESIGNS AS PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HAIFA, May 20. (JTA) -- Yaacov Dori, president of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, today submitted his resignation to the institution's board of governors, on grounds of health. He is currently undergoing treatment abroad.

Gen. Dori, who served as Chief of Staff of the Israeli armed forces from 1948 to 1950, was named president of the Technion in 1951. The Technion board of governors announced that it would attempt to persuade Gen. Dori to reverse his decision to resign.

U. J. A. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE STARTS THREE-DAY MEETING; EVALUATES DRIVE

STERLING FOREST, N. Y., May 20. (JTA) -- Thirty top-ranking Jewish leaders from a number of cities throughout the country are starting here tomorrow a three-day executive committee retreat of the United Jewish Appeal to review the status of the 1965 UJA campaign and to look into the problems that will face the 1966 campaign.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE PRESIDENT APPEALS TO VATICAN ON JEWS

NEW YORK, May 20, (JTA) -- Morris B. Abram, president of the American Jewish Committee, told the Catholic Church tonight that it now has "a great opportunity to join the Protestant world in removing an old source of bitterness and prejudice and a grave impediment to good human relations." He referred to the forthcoming session of the Ecumenical Council in September at which the much-discussed Vatican declaration repudiating the charge that Jews crucified Jesus is to be discussed for final adoption.

Mr. Abram spoke at the opening session of the annual conference of the American Jewish Committee which will last four days. Other speakers at the dinner-session included Vice President of the United States Hubert H. Humphrey and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In his presidential address, Mr. Abram also urged that Jews should not hold "the German people as a whole" guilty for all time for the acts of the "criminal Nazi state."

"Many Germans," he said, have asked: 'How long shall we be forced to remember the past?' Many Jews have asked: 'When shall we ever be able to forget the past?' It seems that to each, the answer must be the same: 'Let the past be remembered and let it not be forgotten so long as it can instruct the future.' But in our remembrance let us never visit the sins of one on to another, nor those of the fathers on to the sons."

He pointed out that it was in this spirit that Israel "established diplomatic relations with Germany" and motivated the American Jewish Committee to work "arduously for reconciliation of German and Jew on the basis of the redemptive quality of justice." He declared that in this context, the war crimes trials must continue, just reparations must be paid to all victims, not just those who had the opportunity to escape from the Iron Curtain before 1953.

The president of the American Jewish Committee, who was recently appointed by the United States as its representative on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, expressed the belief that progress is being made in the United Nations on the adoption of an international convention to eliminate religious intolerance and that "the United Nations is rubbing many abrasive differences in this area into reasonably satisfactory accommodations." However, he said, "the USSR continues unabated its persecution of Jews whose only crime is that they wish to continue to be Jews."

Vice President Humphrey, in an extensive survey on the civil rights situation, placed special emphasis on the role of the Federal Government, in cooperation with states and localities, in dealing with what he called "the new dimensions of the civil rights struggle." Dr. King spoke on the civil rights struggle and its main directions for the future.

In his address, Dr. King said: "Perhaps if there had been a broader understanding of the uses of non-violent direct action in Germany when Hitler was rising and consolidating his power, the brutal extermination of 6,000,000 Jews and millions of other war dead might have been averted and Germany might never have become totalitarian. If Protestants and Catholics had engaged in non-violent direct action and had made the oppression of the Jews their very own oppression and had come into the streets beside the Jews to scrub the sidewalks, and had Gentiles worn the stigmatizing yellow arm bands by the millions, a unique form of mass resistance to the Nazis might have developed."

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS OPENS FIVE-DAY NATIONAL PARLEY IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, May 20, (JTA) -- An increase in grants and scholarships for Jewish education was urged here today in the opening, keynote address delivered before the 14th plenary session of the Canadian Jewish Congress, which convened here today. The five-day parley, attended by more than 700 delegates from all over the Dominion, heard Saul Hayes, executive vice-president, deliver a plea for bolstering Jewish education as a necessity for the survival in this country of "meaningful Jewish living, and not merely Jewish existence." (For details on the plenary session, see Page 2 of the Community News Reporter Supplement.)

Canadian Jewry need not fear Jewish survival, Mr. Hayes said, "if by survival we mean existence." But only the vigorous promotion of every phase of Jewish education, he told the Congress, with more time and more money devoted to that aim, "will enable Canadian Jewry to have a meaningful experience and will prevent the Jews here from being simply a statistic of identity." Such meaningful Jewish living, he stated, will be possible in spite "of a few professional anti-Semites who want us consigned to concentration camps, and despite the considerable energy we devote to vigilance against these people."

On the agenda of the session, which will close Monday, are many topics covering a wide scope of issues of vital concern to Canadian Jewry. Highlights of the agenda topics are: An examination and evaluation of the contemporary aspects of Jewish life in Canada, including spiritual, religious and cultural content and trends; the Canadian Jewish community as part of worldwide Jewry, including Canadian Jewry's relationship to Israel; Jewish education, including adult education; and an analysis of the place of the Canadian Jewish community in the Dominion's general political and cultural life.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE JOINS L. C. B. C. BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA) -- The Executive Board of the American Jewish Committee approved tonight the agency's participation in the budget review process of the Large City Budgeting Conference, a voluntary organization of the larger Jewish welfare funds in the major cities of the U. S. Announcement of the action was made by Morris B. Abram, president of the American Jewish Committee.

The American Jewish Committee Board, meeting at the Americana Hotel in conjunction with the Committee's 58th annual meeting, approved the agreement negotiated by Mr. Abram, Philip E. Hoffman, chairman of the Board of Governors; Richard Maass, vice president, and Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president, with a committee headed by George Michelson, chairman of the Large City Budgeting Conference.

The Large City Budgeting Conference, established in 1948, is a cooperative activity of the member communities, which studies the programs, budgets, and sources of income of cooperating national and overseas agencies and conducts joint budget review meetings with them. Participation of member communities and of cooperating agencies is voluntary, and recommendations of the LCBC are advisory only.

In explaining the new arrangement, Mr. Abram pointed out that "for the past several years, the American Jewish Committee has been in negotiation with the LCBC, seeking a basis for our participation consistent with AJC's fundamental principles. We were especially concerned that AJC's participation in any budget review process should not in any way compromise our autonomy, in fact or in principle. We felt also that it must be made clear as a basis for our participation in the LCBC that budgeting cannot be linked to allocation of function among agencies.

"Among the other factors which concerned us were the independence of our governing bodies to determine our affiliation or non-affiliation with other groups, and our right, whenever we do not agree with a budget report, to have our own statement circulated together with such report; and to submit two separate budgets--one for our domestic program, the other for our overseas program. We believe the present agreement provides the AJC with satisfactory safeguards in all these matters.

The Large City Budgeting Conference tonight welcomed the decision of the executive board of the American Jewish Committee to participate in the LCBC budget review process. George Michelson, LCBC chairman, said: "All 23 of our participating communities join me in hailing this significant decision. Thanks are due Morris B. Abram, Philip E. Hoffman, Richard Maass and Dr. John Slawson of the American Jewish Committee and to Louis J. Fox, Donald B. Hurwitz, and Irving Levick of the LCBC committee, for their constructive efforts in developing this agreement. The LCBC and each of its constituent welfare funds anticipate great mutual benefits in this new cooperation with the American Jewish Committee."

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN JEWISH PUBLISHERS OPENS IN ATLANTA

ATLANTA, May 20. (JTA) -- The annual convention of the American Jewish Press Association, the organization of English-Jewish newspapers in this country opened here tonight. A heavy agenda for the four-day parley, including observance of National Jewish Press Week and celebration of the 40th anniversaries of two newspapers in this region, the Hebrew Watchman, of Memphis, and the Southern Israelite, of Atlanta.

At the annual convention dinner, honors were paid to the heads of the two newspapers, Leo Goldberger, of Memphis, and Adolph Rosenberg, of this city. The convention was greeted by Acting Mayor Sam Massell, Jr.; Max Cuba, on behalf of the Atlanta Jewish Community Council; and Shimon Yallon, Israel's consul-general here.

The significance of American Jewish Press Week, which was launched last Sunday, will be discussed tomorrow by Philip Slomovitz, editor-publisher of the Jewish News, Detroit, and chairman of Jewish Press Week. The parley is scheduled to close Sunday after the adoption of resolutions and election of officers.

JACOB SINCOFF, PROMINENT JEWISH PHILANTHROPIST, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, May 20; (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Jacob Sincoff, a long-time leader in Jewish philanthropy and Zionist activities, who died at his home yesterday at the age of 79.

He had been national co-treasurer of the United Jewish Appeal, a founder, trustee, and vice-president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, honorary chairman of the Jewish National Fund of America, a life-member of the Zionist Organization of America and a trustee of the Israel Bond Organization. He helped to float the first Israel Bond issue with a pledge of the first \$1,000,000 in bond purchases at a rally in Madison Square Garden.

He was also a member of the board of overseers of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He was the recipient of a Congressional Medal of Merit, signed by President Truman in 1946, for seven years of service with the Manhattan Selective Service Board.