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STATE DEPARTMENT SEEKS TO CHECK ISRAEL BY DEFERRING ACTION ON LOANS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23; (JTA) -- Indications were mounting here today that the State Department is deferring action on pending Israeli applications for loans to initiate the \$200,000,000 nuclear desalination project envisaged by President Johnson, and other assistance, to provide leverage to induce Israel to desist from development of nuclear weapons in the country.

Reference has been made to this at discussions among U.S. officials mindful of the forthcoming resumption of international talks at Geneva, aimed at preventing nuclear proliferation. Thought has been given to Israeli nuclear potentialities, conceptions of international inspection, and ideas of coaxing Israel to cooperate with promises of aid on nuclear desalination and other benefits.

The State Department has suggested notions of persuading Israel to cooperate by deferring action not only on nuclear desalination but also on pending development loan applications and by specifying less liberal terms and amounts of surplus commodity sales. The Department probably would not openly admit such pressure and might employ the pretext of cutting expenditures because of the Viet Nam war.

Suggestions for inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency and other moves to inhibit and restrict nations with civilian nuclear capabilities from developing nuclear military potentialities have been advanced by William C. Foster, U.S. delegate to the Geneva disarmament conference, which resumes January 27, and by members of the Atomic Energy Commission and Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. A few days ago, a Senate resolution on non-proliferation was offered by Sen. John O. Pastore, Rhode Island Democrat, and obtained cosponsorship of 51 other Senators.

MOSCOW REPORTED EVADING ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTION AT HAVANA PARLEY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 23; (JTA) -- The Moscow correspondent of Kol Haam, the Israeli Communist daily, reported today that Soviet sources had emphasized to him that the Soviet Union believes all conflicts between states should be solved by peaceful means, and that this included "the Israeli-Arab conflict."

Correspondent Mordecai Kaspi reported that the issue arose in connection with the Tri-Continental Solidarity Conference in Havana last week, which adopted a resolution condemning the Zionist movement and the existence of Israel "in the occupied part of Palestine."

The resolution said Palestinian Arabs had the "right to liberate their country" and called for the severance of "all political relations with Israel, its economic and cultural institutions and its expulsion from international organizations." The resolution also warned African and Asian nations against "Israeli technical and financial aid," which was termed "a new disguise of United States imperialism and neo-colonialism."

The correspondent said that "Soviet personalities" had informed him that the Soviet delegation to the Havana conference did not vote for the anti-Israel resolution. He quoted these sources as pointing out that the Soviet Union had diplomatic relations with Israel, that Israel had been established following a decision by the United Nations, of which it was a member and that Israel was an independent state.

PRESIDENT OF TUNISIA REPORTED SEEKING TO STIMULATE ARAB-ISRAELI TALKS

NEW DELHI, Jan. 23; (JTA) -- Political sources here reported today that President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia has been sounding out the possibilities of convening an Arab-Israel conference along the lines of the Tashkent cease-fire agreement between India and Pakistan.

The reports were linked to a meeting between Mongi Slim, a personal representative of President Bourguiba, with the new Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and with other Indian officials, including the Foreign Minister. Mr. Slim reportedly conveyed to the Indian leaders President Bourguiba's congratulations on the Soviet-sponsored Tashkent agreement.

Mr. Slim has already visited Pakistan, and is proceeding to Iran on the same mission. The sources said that, if the Tashkent agreement were successfully implemented, possibilities existed that India, together with other Asian and African countries, would make an appeal for similar talks between the Arab countries and Israel.

LEADER OF ISRAEL'S MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION WARNS ON INFLATION

TEL AVIV, Jan; 23; (JTA) -- "Intense inflation" faces Israel and "there seems to be no way to avoid it," Zalman Suzayeff, chairman of the presidium of the Israeli Manufacturers Association, warned here today. "Under these circumstances," he declared, "the Government's principle should be to channel the inflation into some kind of framework, so that we will be able to see the end of the inflation." He stressed that "Israel cannot absorb any further increases in production costs; Every increase in wages will be reflected immediately in the price of manufactured goods, he said.

Meanwhile, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced in Jerusalem that Israel's trade balance has improved this year. The figures showed that the trade gap -- the difference between the value of exports and the value of imports -- totaled \$406,000,000 in 1965, as compared to \$466,000,000 in 1964. Imports during both years were at almost the same level, amounting to \$835,000,000 in 1965 as against \$838,000,000 the preceding year. But 1965 exports rose by almost 15 percent in 1965, totaling a value of \$403,000,000 as against \$372,000,000 in 1964. The statistics also showed that, of the total 1965 imports, 22 percent were in investment goods.

Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir is expected to declare officially in the next few days that Israel is now in the throes of a "drought year." A request that he issue such a statement has been made by Chaim Givati, Minister of Agriculture, in view of the paucity of rain this year.

The Agriculture Ministry has sent experts to tour stricken areas in the Negev and in the lower sections of Galilee, to evaluate the situation caused by lack of rain. All requests for increased water allocations for the irrigation of crops have been granted by the Ministry of Agriculture. Due to insufficient rains, the loss of water has been estimated at several hundred million cubic meters.

HAIFA STEVEDORES END SLOW-DOWN STRIKE; START NEGOTIATIONS ON WAGES

HAIFA, Jan; 23; (JTA) -- More than 500 Haifa stevedores today ended their slow-down action which they started last week in a bid for 25 percent wage increases. Fruit-picking in Israel's citrus orchards, which had been suspended to avoid further pile-ups of unloaded crates of fruit at the Haifa docks, was resumed.

The stevedores returned to work today and made special efforts to reduce a backlog of 250,000 crates of fruit for export. The end of the slow-down action followed the start of negotiations with the United Port Services Company.

REFORM SERVICES BANNED IN B'NAI B'RITH BUILDING IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Jan; 23; (JTA) -- Protest mounted among non-Orthodox circles here today over a decision by the management of the B'nai B'rith Building here not to permit Tel Aviv's first Reform congregation to hold Sabbath services on its premises.

The congregation reportedly first received permission to hold Friday evening services in the B'nai B'rith Building but the building's management later notified the congregation that the permission had been granted without due authority and that no Reform services would be permitted in the building.

In an editorial this morning, the independent daily, Ha'aretz, attacked the B'nai B'rith decision to withdraw permission for the congregation to hold services and asked whether the organization's American membership approves such a decision.

TWO NAZIS SENTENCED IN GERMANY FOR KILLING JEWS IN MINSK AREA

BONN, Jan; 23; (JTA) -- Two former SS officers were sentenced by a Munich court this weekend to prison terms for participation in the murder of more than 600 Jews in the Soviet Union during the war.

Albert Remndorfer, 55, was convicted on charges of complicity in the killing of 446 men, women and children in the Minsk area in 1942 and 1943. He was sentenced to five years at hard labor.

Wilhelm Dadischek, 52, was convicted of complicity in the murder of 160 Jews and sentenced to three years and eight months hard labor. The defendants admitted their roles in the killings but said they had done so on orders. The Munich court held they were completely responsible because neither had made any effort to disobey the orders.

SOVIET ALBUM OF WORLD WAR II HEROES OMITS JEWISH IDENTIFICATION

LONDON, Jan; 23; (JTA) -- None of the Jews included in an album of 40 photographs of World War II heroes of the Soviet Union is identified as such, according to information received here today from Moscow. Each photograph carries some biographical data and, in most cases, the ethnic origin of the individual is included. But not a single Jew is identified as such.

AMERICAN ORT CONFERENCE APPROVES \$12,000,000 BUDGET; SETS U. S. SHARE

NEW YORK, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- A five year plan to expand vocational and educational services to impoverished and displaced Jews overseas was approved today by 500 delegates attending the 44th annual national conference of the American ORT Federation, held here at the Hotel Commodore. Almost 50,000 persons are expected to receive such aid during 1966.

The conference also approved a \$12,000,000 budget of the World ORT Union for 1966. This is the highest budget in the organization's history and is \$1,475,000 more than last year's. Major increases were assigned to ORT programs in Israel, France, Iran, India and Morocco. Allocations totaling \$3,500,000 were voted as the American share of this total. The balance is expected to be met overseas.

The delegates ratified an agreement with Joint Distribution Committee, a member agency of the United Jewish Appeal, for a contribution of \$1,950,000 toward American support of ORT services abroad. Mrs. Helen Rosenberg, president of Women's American ORT announced that her 65,000 member organization would contribute \$1,335,000 during 1966. Other groups affiliated with the American ORT Federation pledged support.

Dr. William Haber, who was reelected president of American ORT Federation, reported at the conference that the key elements of the plan include increasing ORT trade and technical high school facilities and the establishment of a network of apprenticeship centers in Israel in order to admit larger numbers of immigrant youth, the organization of teacher training programs to staff the added classrooms, construction of new trade schools in France to serve the job training needs of some 200,000 recent North African Jewish immigrants, and the enlargement of ORT programs in India, Iran and other areas.

Johnson Lauds ORT's Vocational Training Work; Braude Honored

President Lyndon B. Johnson, in a message to the conference, stated: "As an organization you have reason to take pride in your heritage. Amidst the horrors of war and upheaval, you have provided strength for more than survival, you have brought the hope of renewal to countless thousands. In Africa, the Middle East and throughout the world, working independently and in cooperation with our Agency for International Development, you continue the good work of retrieving and retraining human beings for useful careers. I note that your special guest this evening is Justice of the Supreme Court Abe Fortas. In honoring him you honor yourselves. I congratulate you both."

The delegates approved the extension of ORT contracts with the Agency for International Development for training services in the West African countries of Guinea and Mali, following a report on these projects submitted by New York Domestic Relations Judge Maurice Bernhardt, recently elected chairman of the organization's Administrative Committee. Max A. Braude, who was honored on the completion of his first decade as Director General of World ORT, reported that ORT vocational projects provided training to over 46,000 persons during 1965, an increase of 3,800 over the previous year.

U. S. Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, who was appointed by President Johnson last July, addressed an evening dinner session of the conference. Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, addressing the same session, declared that the "era of mass transplantations, in the course of which 1,750,000 Jews have migrated to new lands, is still with us. We have come to rely on immigration as the method by which scattered and endangered communities shall be enabled to rejoin the main body of the Jewish people."

In presenting the 1966 budget, Paul Bernick, executive director of the American ORT Federation, warned that these expenditures anticipated a deficit of over \$600,000, but that "we dare not cut this without doing great hurt to many people who look to ORT to help them." He announced that during 1966, ORT will pass the \$100,000,000 mark in postwar expenditures for economic relief and training of 565,000 persons in 35 countries.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON APPEALS TO ALL AMERICANS TO HELP ERADICATE BIGOTRY

NEW YORK, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- President Lyndon B. Johnson urged Americans today to "join with the National Conference of Christians and Jews in working toward the eradication of the sources of discord which have turned brother against brother and man against his neighbor in a land resplendent in the bounty of God's blessings." The president cited, as the occasion for his plea, this year's NCCJ Brotherhood Week observance, February 20-27.

The President expressed the hope that "the humanitarian spirit symbolic of this Brotherhood Week enkindle in the hearts and minds of all Americans a strong and enduring endeavor to restore righteousness and human dignity to those plagued by injustice and bigotry and to bring to every citizen of our land a lasting participation in the American dream."

Pointing out that "an unstinting dedication to freedom, tolerance and individual dignity" made the nation mighty, the President said that "we must stand ready to preserve our legacy. Americans of all races, creeds, and walks of life must join hands to meet the problems which tend to corrode the very core of our nation's life."

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE SPONSORS 28 CONFERENCES WITH CHRISTIANS

NEW YORK, Jan. 23: (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee announced that it would sponsor a series of 28 conferences during the current year aimed at fostering "mutual understanding and respect" between Christians and Jews. The first conference in the series opened today at Woodstock College, a Jesuit theological seminary near Baltimore, with the participation of Catholic professors and Jewish theologians.

The conferences, which are planned under interfaith auspices of Roman Catholic and Protestant seminaries throughout the country, are in accordance with the doctrine promulgated by the recent Ecumenical Council in Rome.

AMERICANS JOIN COMMITTEE FOR SHARETT INSTITUTE AT TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK, Jan. 23: (JTA) -- A distinguished group of Americans have joined the Committee for the Moshe Sharett Institute of Educational Sciences of Tel Aviv University, which is designed to further and improve the general educational standards in Israel, it was announced here today by Daniel G. Ross, chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University.

Launching the Committee's activities will be an Inaugural Dinner at the New York Hilton Hotel, at which the guest of honor will be the newly-designated Israel Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Abba Eban, who was a very close friend and colleague of the late Moshe Sharett, a former Foreign Minister and Prime Minister of Israel.

The Institute will train teachers for specialized subjects, principals, district superintendents, administrators, educational psychologists and social workers, and other specialists urgently needed in the expanding Israel school system.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON, PRESIDENT SHAZAR GREET WEINBERG ON 90th BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 23: (JTA) -- Morris Weinberg, publisher of The Day-Jewish Journal, national Yiddish daily newspaper, was the recipient today of numerous greetings on his 90th birthday, including greetings from President Johnson and Israel's President Zalman Shazar.

Among those who sent messages of greeting to Mr. Weinberg were also Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Mayor John V. Lindsay, and Jewish leaders from all over the United States. Greetings were telegraphed also by Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey, Israel's former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, and many other notable personalities.

CHARLES BASSINE NAMED BOARD CHAIRMAN OF EINSTEIN COLLEGE HOSPITAL

NEW YORK, Jan. 23: (JTA) -- Charles C. Bassine, Jewish communal leader, who has contributed millions of dollars to the advancement of health, education and medical research, has been named chairman of the board of The Hospital of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University.

The new hospital, a 12-story general hospital, with a capacity of 375 beds, opened earlier this month. Mr. Bassine is a founder of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He is a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, a trustee and vice-president of Long Island Jewish Hospital and a trustee and member of the board of directors of the United Jewish Appeal. He also is a Fellow at Brandeis University and a board member of the Brooklyn Home and Hospital for the Aged.

CLEVELAND JEWISH TEMPLE GETS CHURCH AWARD FOR 'SPIRITUAL CREATIVITY'

CLEVELAND, Jan. 23: (JTA) -- The Guideposts Church Award, an honor bestowed annually on a congregation considered outstanding in its "efforts to understand and help their fellowmen," was given here to Fairmount Temple, the first synagogue ever to receive the award.

The Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, president of the Protestant Council of New York, presented the bronze plaque going with the award to Edward Ginsberg, president of Fairmount Temple, citing the Reform congregation for "reaching beyond the normal call of religion, its initiative and spiritual creativity."

Others participating in the ceremonies were Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, spiritual leader of Fairmount Temple; Irving J. Fain, of Providence, representing the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; the Very Rev. H. E. Dunn, president of John Carroll University, a Catholic institution; and the Rev. Dr. Donald Jacobs, president of the Cleveland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.