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### EBAN RETURNS TO ISRAEL; BRINGS STRONG ASSURANCES FROM PRESIDENT JOHNSON

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17; (JTA) -- President Johnson told Foreign Minister Abba Eban in Washington that as long as he was President, Israel does not need to fear for existence.

This was reported by the Foreign Ministry here today following the return of Mr. Eban from his first visit as Foreign Minister to the United States, Canada, Britain and France. Official sources here said the results of the talks were a confirmation of Israel's close and friendly links with those nations. They stressed that Mr. Eban was met in all four capitals with deep understanding for Israel's problems and assurances for its security.

Middle East experts here reported today that Mr. Eban's tour of western capitals has been getting considerable attention in the Arab countries. They said Arab attention has been focused particularly on Mr. Eban's discussion of the possibility of the Soviet Union duplicating in the Middle East its successful mediation in Tashkent of the India-Pakistan dispute.

The press in Arab countries has taken this to mean that Mr. Eban hopes for a Tashkent-style initiative for peace in the Middle East, the experts reported. A Cairo radio commentator rejected this prospect as "impossible" on grounds that the Soviet Union would not agree to "a design" which would be "perpetuating the imperialist base called Israel." The Lebanese newspaper, Al Hayat, commented on Mr. Eban's "flexible realism" and welcomed it.

### Soviet Diplomat in Israel Advocates 'Tashkent Spirit'

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17; (JTA) -- A prominent Soviet diplomat stationed in Israel declared in a public lecture here that the "Tashkent spirit" could exert a most important influence on Arab-Israeli relations and possibly bring about a solution to the Middle East deadlock.

The comment by Ivan Dadiole, First Counsellor in the Soviet Embassy, was the first recorded Soviet hint that Russia might want to influence the Middle East conflict in the direction of a peaceful solution. The Embassy official stressed the role the Soviet Union has had in solving past conflicts and hinted broadly that this effort could apply also in the Middle East.

Foreign Ministry officials were studying the diplomat's remarks which were described as "interesting" but they added they were not ready to comment officially.

### EMPLOYEES IN ISRAEL'S MILITARY INDUSTRIES CUT THEIR SALARY VOLUNTARILY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 17; (JTA) -- Responding to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol's call to restrain wage increases and prices in order to combat inflation, senior employees in Israel's military industries today agreed to forego five percent of their salary as of February. A letter to this effect was sent by their spokesmen to the Premier. They expressed the hope that others would follow their example in order to bolster the government's anti-inflation campaign.

A plea by Israeli manufacturers for reinstatement of government export premiums was in the meantime rejected by Trade and Industry Minister Haim Zadok. He proposed instead other incentives to encourage exports, such as easier credit and broader tax rebate approaches.

Addressing a meeting of the Council of the Export Institute, Mr. Zadok warned that a return to export premiums not only would not increase industrial exports but would also lead to further increases in taxes, both direct and indirect, because such premiums would be financed by the national budget. He added that premiums financed by excise duties would increase domestic prices.

He reported that import of goods and services in the past year reached 1,250,000,000 pounds (\$413,700,000) compared to 750,000,000 pounds (\$350,000,000) in exported goods and services.

BOENI CLAIMS IT DID NOT SHORT-CHANGE VICTIMS OF NAZISM ON PENSIONS

BOENI, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Ministry of Finance today denied reports that victims of Nazism receiving pensions and restitution had been short-changed by the Government. Most of those victims are Jews.

Press dispatches had reported that, through an "error" charging the victims with income taxes on tax-free payments and through failure to increase their pensions to the same scales paid civil service workers, the restitution recipients had been short-changed by about \$100,000,000 in the last 10 years.

Terming those reports "untrue," the Finance Ministry spokesman said that indemnity courts had, so far, found not a single case in which restitution payments were lower than the amounts due. Just because salaries paid to Government officials, he added, have been raised by 10 percent, it should not be assumed that the pensions paid to victims of Nazism were less than the amounts due.

AUSTRIAN JURY ACQUITS TWO BROTHERS CHARGED WITH MASS-MURDER OF JEWS

SALZBURG, Austria, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A Salzburg jury acquitted today two brothers, Wilhelm and Johann Maurer, of charges of participating in mass murders of Jews in occupied Poland on grounds that they had acted under "compulsory orders."

The Salzburg Senate immediately acted to suspend the verdict and submitted the court proceedings for review by the Austrian High Court. A number of survivors gave eye-witness testimony that the Maurer brothers had killed Jews in Stanislawow. Witnesses had been brought from several countries, including Israel.

NAZI SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR KILLING JEWS IN POLAND

BOENI, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Kurt Jericho, 57, was sentenced to life imprisonment in Luenen yesterday for murdering four Jews, including two children, in the Czenstochowa Ghetto in occupied Poland in 1942 and 1943. Alfred Loebel, 51, one of Jericho's co-defendants, was acquitted.

The principal defendant is Paul Degenhardt, 71, charged with personally murdering or ordering the execution of 496 Jews in the ghetto and with helping to choose thousands of the ghetto's 50,000 prisoners for the gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp. His trial will be continued.

JEVISH MARTYRS MEMORIAL AT GENEVA SYNAGOGUE DEFACED FOR SECOND TIME

GENEVA, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The Jewish Martyrs Memorial in front of the Great Synagogue here was found defaced with red paint today for the second time this month. Authorities and spiritual leaders of the various churches in Geneva denounced "this shameful act" and Chief Rabbi Alexander Safran expressed deep consternation.

There was some belief that the incident might be connected with cancellation of a poetry recital dedicated to Robert Brassilac, a World War II French collaborator and anti-Semite, who was executed after France was liberated, and with the confiscation of an anti-Semitic book published several weeks ago in Vevey.

POLICE CHECK DISTURBANCES AT 'THE DEPUTY' PERFORMANCE IN BRUSSELS

BRUSSELS, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Catholic high school and university students inside and outside a Brussels theater presenting the controversial play "The Deputy," about the late Pope Pius XII, provoked incidents here which led to police intervention and several arrests. The performance of West German playwright Rolf Hochhuth's play was the first public one in Brussels.

About 100 students inside the theater engaged in efforts throughout the performance to drown it out. Other spectators shouted "Young Fascists, you are afraid of the truth." The theme of the play is that the late pontiff failed to speak out against the Nazi slaughter of 5,000,000 European Jews. Police were called in. When they were unable to halt the disturbance, they arrested three of the students.

Around the theater, other Catholic students distributed pamphlets which asserted that the Pope had sought to save Jews. They soon clashed with other persons and police intervened, wielding truncheons. The police arrested three more persons.

ANTI-SEMITIC SLOGANS SMEARED ON JEWISH STORE IN WEST BERLIN

BERLIN, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- West Berlin police reported today that anti-Semitic slogans had been smeared on the shop owned by a Jewish couple in the West Berlin district of Neukoenig.

MOSCOW RABBI REPORTED SURROUNDED BY SUSPECTED GOVERNMENT AGENTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 17: (JTA) -- Moscow's Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin is always surrounded when he is visited by foreigners, by men suspected of being Soviet Government agents, two prominent Catholic writers, who visited Moscow recently, declared here today. The report on that facet of Soviet Jewish religious life, among others, was made by the Rev. Thurston N. Davis and the Rev. Eugene K. Culhane, Jesuit priests. Father Davis is editor-in-chief of America, a Jesuit weekly, while Father Culhane is the publication's managing editor.

The priests were members of an interfaith delegation that went to Moscow and Leningrad last month to seek information on Soviet Jewish religious life. All the members of the group represented the Appeal to Conscience Foundation. Among the members of the delegation was one Jew, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, of Congregation Zichron Ephraim, of New York. The report by the priests was printed in today's issue of America.

Reporting in general that there is "little to contradict the charge of Soviet anti-Semitism," the priests stated that Soviet Jewish leaders live in fear of government reprisals. Regarding statements issued by Jewish leaders in the USSR, reportedly "more obsequious to the government than those of other religious communities," they stated:

"If the Chief Rabbi of Moscow is the one who signs such statements, our guess is that these statements are written for him by others, probably by the minor lay officials who are officers of his synagogue and who surround him like a bodyguard. The Chief Rabbi can rarely be visited in privacy. His lay committeemen close in on him when a visitor arrives, and inject themselves into the conversation. The little that he was free to tell us about the conditions of Jewish life was carefully tailored to the sensibilities of his lay advisors."

"One possible key to the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union," the priests declared, "lies in what was to us the ominous activity of the lay committeemen who surround the aging rabbis. It is difficult to believe that these salaried laymen are not government agents!"

Fathers Davis and Culhane also revealed, for the first time, that the delegation was forbidden to see Rabbi Levin when they wanted to talk to him on a second visit to Moscow, after returning to the Soviet capital from Leningrad. They said they were told Rabbi Levin was ill in a hospital and "in quarantine," and that the lay officers of his synagogue would not reveal his whereabouts. Finally, they reported, Rabbi Schneier was permitted to talk to Rabbi Levin by telephone. "The Chief Rabbi," stated the priests, "said that he was doing all he could in the situation, that he was not free to say where he was, and that he sent regards to his brethren in the United States."

BOENN ENVOY AND JEWISH LEADER IN 'DIALOGUE' ON GERMAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

WALTHAM, Mass., Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A rabbi whom Hitler had expelled from Berlin called here tonight for re-education of the German people of the present generation, while the German Ambassador to Washington suggested the creation of an agency to publicize Jewish-German "brotherhood."

The two statements were made at a Brandeis University forum addressed respectively by Dr. Joachim Prinz, president of the American Jewish Congress, and Karl H. Knappstein, Bonn's envoy to the United States. The appearance of the two men on the same platform was said to be the first German-Jewish dialogue in this country since the end of World War II.

Dr. Prinz, whom the Nazis expelled in 1937 from Berlin, where he headed a large congregation, warned that there are still in West Germany today signs indicating a rise in jingoism and anti-Semitism. "There are disturbing signs of a new nationalism arising in Germany today," he said. "A totalitarian and anti-Semitic, neo-Nazi paper is currently the largest weekly in Germany." If German re-education can be achieved, he said, "there is hope that the years of shame and horror will be followed by decades of peace and hope."

Ambassador Knappstein charged that the American press had blown out of proportion certain anti-Semitic actions in Germany, failing to report fully demonstrations protesting such activities. He said that "some mistakes were made in denazification" because, initially, "mass productions involving millions of people included great numbers of rather harmless citizens who had been merely formal members of some Nazi organization which they had joined under pressure." Defendants in current war crimes trials, he declared, still get light sentences "because of inadequate evidence and due to witnesses who were sometimes confused in their memory."

Both speakers agreed that Germany's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel has been a healthy development. Dr. Knappstein said Germany's support of Israel is like a "Marshall Plan" which strengthens Israel's defense "even though it put us into difficulties with the Arabs."

CONSERVATIVE RABBIS CONSIDER PLAN ON CONVERSION OF NON-JEWS TO JUDAISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 17: (JTA) -- A plan to set up a "School of Jewish Studies" to regulate procedures of conversion of non-Jews to Judaism is being considered by the Metropolitan Region of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, the association of Conservative rabbis.

The plan was proposed to a conference of the New York City region held in conjunction with the Philadelphia region, by Rabbi Seymour P. Friedman, who reported on a study of conversion problems. The rabbis responded enthusiastically to the proposal and decided that it would receive final action at a later meeting.

Rabbi Friedman told his colleagues that the number of persons seeking to convert to Judaism was increasing. He said that while precise statistics were not available, there were an estimated 16,000 conversions in the past decade performed by Reform rabbis in the New York City area. He estimated that Conservative rabbis were admitting 1,000 converts annually.

He said that while the vast majority of would-be converts wanted to marry Jews, there had been a significant increase in the number of young people investigating Judaism for possible answers to the moral problems of the day. He pointed out also that there was no standardized conversion curriculum for Conservative rabbis, each setting up his own procedure for prospective converts.

For the suggested school, he proposed a nine-month curriculum for converts, divided between set periods of formal instruction and "practice." After completion of the course, the convert would be required to appear before a Beth Din rabbinical court for determination of the completeness of his or her knowledge and commitment and then returned to the original rabbi for the final act of conversion. Under the proposal, would-be converts would be eligible for the procedure only through referral by a rabbi who would oversee the educational procedure.

B'NAI ZION DELEGATION RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON; PRESENTS MEDAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17: (JTA) -- President Lyndon B. Johnson expressed appreciation to a delegation representing B'nai Zion which called on him yesterday to present a golden medallion symbolizing the group's "Bill of Rights" award. The President was informed that a forest of trees had been planted in his name in Israel.

The delegation included Rep. Abraham J. Multer, New York Democratic Congressman and national vice-president of B'nai Zion; Edward Sharf, president; former president Norman Levine; Herman Naitman, national secretary, and Raymond Patt.

BLAUSTEIN REAPPOINTED CONSULTANT TO STATE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BODY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17: (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein, who served under the Kennedy Administration as a member of the 5-man Advisory Committee on International Business Problems has been reappointed by the present Administration as a member of the enlarged 11-member committee.

This Committee meets periodically to review the handling by the State Department and its missions abroad of problems faced by American business in connection with overseas operations. Some of these are specific in nature, others relate to broad problem areas involving complex political and economic issues.

PHYSICIANS 'SERIOUSLY CONCERNED' OVER RABBI ADLER'S CHANCES FOR SURVIVAL

DETROIT, Feb. 17: (JTA) -- The condition of Rabbi Morris Adler, who was shot during Sabbath services at his Temple Shaarey Zedek last Saturday by a demented youth who shot himself also and has since died, continued to be "very, very grave," a medical bulletin issued today at Sinai Hospital reported.

According to the medical and surgical teams attending Rabbi Adler, the physicians are "seriously concerned" about his chances for survival. The hospital said that the rabbi is still in a coma, as he has been since he was admitted last Saturday noon. Six blood transfusions have been given the rabbi, and his loss of blood is considered one of the chief difficulties in his case, physicians stated.

Dr. Stephen Gurdjian, head of the neurosurgical department of Wayne State University's Medical College here, joined the specialists already at work on the case today. The other specialists aiding Dr. Adler are Dr. Harvey Gass and Dr. Milton Soroock. Meanwhile, prayers for Rabbi Adler's recovery continued here today in many Protestant, Catholic and Jewish houses of worship.

Today many more messages of sympathy over Rabbi Adler's condition were received both by his family and his congregation. Hospital authorities said that, at one point this week, so many telephone calls were being received from abroad, inquiring about the rabbi's condition, that they had to ask local callers not to telephone.

A.D.I.L. SURVEYS ATTITUDE OF NEGROES ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN MAJOR CITIES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A survey commissioned by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, sampling the attitudes of 1,000 Negroes in four major cities, has shown that anti-Semitism among Negroes is not "significantly" on the rise, it was announced here today. The survey sampled Negro attitudes on the issue in Chicago, New York, Atlanta and Birmingham.

One Negro leader, Marion Barry, Jr., a director of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, was quoted as saying: "I would have to say that anti-Semitism is on the increase in the Negro ghettos." But a prominent scholar, Prof. Butler Jones, chairman of the sociology department at Ohio Wesleyan University, cautioned that Mr. Barry's view might be misinterpreted. "The Negro," he said, "is more vocal about anti-Semitism mainly because he is more vocal about everything."

CONNECTICUT REPUBLICANS PROBE POSSIBLE LINK TO ANTI-SEMITIC RAT FINKS

NEW BRITAIN, Conn., Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The Connecticut State Republican committee disclosed today it was making an inquiry to determine whether there was any connection between Connecticut Young Republicans and a group of ultra-conservatives in New Jersey charged with anti-Semitic and racist activities.

The executive board of the Connecticut Young Republicans at the same time voted overwhelmingly in favor of a resolution denouncing the Rat Finks, the self-applied name of the New Jersey rightwingers. The Rat Finks are the subject of scheduled formal investigations both by senior New Jersey Republicans and the Young Republican organization in New Jersey later this month.

The resolution charged that the Rat Finks had "brought stigma, embarrassment and shame upon the Young Republicans nationally and the constituent state and local groups." The resolution added that the Connecticut Young Republicans Executive Committee "condemns and dissociates itself from the New Jersey Rat Finks, their members, their associates, all songs, statements and activities."

The board also approved a committee to investigate a complaint that the "militant rightwing ideology of those who control the Young Republicans" has led to a serious decline of Republican popularity on college campuses.

GROUP OF JEWISH MEMBERS OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY FORM ORGANIZATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Two Jews, who said they are members of the John Birch Society, announced here today that they are forming a new organization, called the Jewish Society of Americanists. The men are Samuel Blumenfeld, an employee of the John Birch Society, in Boston; and Alan Stang, of New York, author of a book linking the civil rights movement with Communism.

They issued a statement of principles declaring that the society's aim will be "to demonstrate to our fellow Americans and coreligionists that the Americanist principles, beliefs and aims of the John Birch Society are based on the very precepts of Judaism."

At a news conference they said that, since an announcement two weeks ago in a Birch Society publication that the Jewish group would be formed, "several hundred" Jews around the country have endorsed the move. Mr. Stang, declaring the title of the society a "misnomer," said the group will admit not only non-Jews but also non-members of the John Birch Society.

Thomas J. Davis, public relations manager for Eastern United States of the John Birch Society, claimed there are 1,000 Jews in the USA among the society's 130,000 members. Listed among the officers of the new group are Michael S. Kogan, chairman; Mr. Blumenfeld, vice-chairman; and W.C. Solomon, executive secretary. None of them is known in Jewish public life.

RULING PERMITTING NEO-NAZIS TO USE NEW YORK SCHOOLS MAY FACE COURT TEST

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The possibility arose today that there may be a court test of a ruling requiring the New York City Board of Education to allow the tiny neo-Nazi National Renaissance Party to hold meetings in public schools after school hours.

Some members of the Board expressed deep concern over the ruling by New York City Corporation Counsel J. Lee Rankin, indicating they feared the possibility of violence developing at such meetings. Mr. Rankin ruled that the group had a legal right to meet in schools. The ruling stemmed from an original decision of the Board rejecting a request from the neo-Nazis to meet in a New York school building.

The Joint New York-New Jersey Action Committee of the Jewish War Veterans sent a letter to Lloyd K. Garrison, president of the Board of Education, asking that the neo-Nazis be denied use of public school facilities for meetings. The JWV said that previous meetings of the neo-Nazis led to clashes, injuries and arrests.

HUMANE SLAUGHTER BILL OBJECTIONABLE TO JEWS WITHDRAWN IN N.Y. STATE

ALBANY, Feb. 17, (JTA) -- A humane slaughter bill that had come under heavy fire from Jewish organizations in the State was withdrawn by its sponsor in the New York Legislature yesterday. Another bill, which remains on the legislative calendar, has been called unobjectionable by Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbinic associations, national congregational bodies of Conservatism and Reform, and major Jewish civic organizations.

The measure that was withdrawn was the so-called Hausbeck bill, sponsored by Assemblymen Albert J. Hausbeck of Buffalo and backed publicly by the Friends of Animals, Inc. The still pending bill is known by the name of its chief sponsor, Senator Kenneth R. Willard of Ithaca, who represents Genesee, Livingston and Monroe Counties. That bill has the backing of the New York State Humane Association, which includes most of the humane societies in the state.

Mr. Hausbeck announced withdrawal of his bill on the Assembly floor the same day that every member of the Legislature received individual letters signed jointly by the presidents of rabbinic, and Jewish congregational and civic organizations, stating they were "unalterably opposed" to the Hausbeck bill but had "no objection whatsoever" to the Willard Bill.

The signatories were: Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Jewish Labor Committee; Rabbinical Council of America; American Jewish Congress; United Synagogue of America; Rabbinical Assembly; Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.; Central Conference of American Rabbis; and National Council of Jewish Women.

YIVO PUBLISHES BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARTICLES ON JEWS UNDER THE NAZIS

NEW YORK, Feb. 17, (JTA) -- The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research published today a "Bibliography of Articles on the Catastrophe and Heroism in Yiddish Periodicals." This volume, edited by Joseph Gar, is part of the Bibliographical Series on Jews under the Nazis, a project in which YIVO is jointly engaged with Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

A total of 3,597 entries from over 250 Yiddish periodicals in Europe for the period from 1939 to 1950 are presented, including those published by the rescued Jews in Poland, France and other countries; the publications of the displaced persons that were issued in the camps after liberation; and the "Einigkeit" of Moscow. Of its 308 double-column pages, 95 contain the index of approximately 2,700 names and over 1,000 places in English. The preface, introduction and table of contents are also in English. The material for the volume has been culled from the rich collections of the YIVO library and from libraries in this country and Israel.

DR. JAKOBOWITS WINS AWARD OF ORTHODOX JEWISH SCIENTIST ASSOCIATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 17, (JTA) -- The Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists announced today that its M. M. Feder Award for special achievement in the field of Jewish Religious Law and Science had been awarded to Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, rabbi of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue, New York, for the Jewish year 5725 and to Dr. Leo Levi, Assistant Professor of Physics at the City College of New York for 5726.

Rabbi Jakobovits received the award for his contributions in the field of Jewish Religious Law and Medicine. He is the author of "Jewish Medical Ethics." Dr. Levi was honored for a paper on "The Astronomical Basis of Twilight in Jewish Religious Law." They received awards of \$500 each at a ceremony here this week. The awards were endowed by the Feder Family and are given annually by the Association.

GERMAN FOUNDATION GIVES \$75,000 FOR LEO BAECK INSTITUTE IN NEW YORK

BONN, Feb. 17, (JTA) -- The Leo Baeck Institute in New York, a central agency for the collection and study of documents on Jewish life in Germany, has been awarded a \$75,000 grant by the Volkswagen Foundation for expansion of the Institute's archives and library, it was announced here today.

Since it was established 10 years ago by Jews from Germany, the Leo Baeck Institute, named for the late Chief Rabbi of Germany, has gathered what scholars throughout the world consider to be a rare collection of documents and literature on the 1,000-year history of German Jewry. The Volkswagen Foundation, the largest private foundation in West Germany, was set up five years ago when the automobile concern was partially denationalized by the sale of shares of stock.

FRANKFURT MUNICIPALITY TO NAME HIGH SCHOOL AFTER PROF. BUBER

FRANKFURT, Feb. 17, (JTA) -- A new high school here will be named after Martin Buber, the German-born Jewish philosopher who died in Israel last year. The decision to name the school after the world-famous philosopher was adopted by the Frankfurt municipality at the request of the Christian Democratic faction. The municipality had also considered naming a street after Buber, but the idea was dropped to avoid confusion with the already existing Martin Luckerstrasse.