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NEW RULER OF SYRIA CALLS FOR 'IMMEDIATE WAR' AGAINST ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, March 8: (JTA) -- Syria's new Chief of State, Nureddin Atassi, today called for an immediate "liberation war" against Israel as "the best way of achieving Arab unity." Speaking at a military parade on the 10th anniversary of the Baath Socialist Party's seizure of power, he attacked the Western powers, especially the United States, and underlined Syria's intention to cooperate more closely with the Communistic bloc.

Meanwhile it was officially reported here today that Syrian gun posts near the shores of Lake Tiberias -- a body of water entirely within Israeli jurisdiction -- fired on Israeli fishermen on the lake yesterday afternoon, riddling one of the Israeli boats with machinegun bullets. An Israeli patrol boat returned the fire, and rescued the fishermen. There were no casualties on the Israeli side.

The attack was the third in the last month against Israeli fishing boats on the lake. Israel has filed a complaint against Syria with the United Nations Syrian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission. Such Syrian attacks against Israeli fishermen occur very often at this time of the year, as the Syrians attempt to bar the Israelis from the rich fishing waters at one point on Lake Tiberias.

ISRAELI INDUSTRY URGED TO FREEZE PRICES IN COMBATTING INFLATION

JERUSALEM, March 8: (JTA) -- In a further Government effort to reverse the trend toward inflation in this country, Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Zadok called on Israeli industry last night to freeze prices. The Israeli Manufacturers Association promptly reacted to the call with alarm, summoning a special, country-wide assembly of its members to consider the Ministry's plan. The Government had earlier called for a freeze on wages and salaries and on the prices of agricultural products.

Another effort to improve the economy was launched by Mr. Zadok at a ceremony today at a Hebrew University auditorium, where he presented certificates of merit to 300 Israeli exporters who have made sales abroad of at least \$100,000 each last year. This step was aimed at encouraging greater exports abroad, thus increasing Israel's foreign currency and reducing the gap between imports and exports.

The Defense Ministry announced today that it had made an agreement with France, granting to Israel the exclusive rights for the production of certain tools, instruments and parts for leading French industries. The result of this pact, it was said, will be that the French industrialists will pay 25 percent of the cost of the increasing Israeli procurement from France. Until now, a smaller percentage of the cost of those procurements from France has come back to Israel in the form of payments to Israel for the servicing of French aircraft and engines at an Israeli maintenance plant.

Histadrut, Israel's federation of labor, took a step today to increase efficiency in its own offices, as part of the general drive to fight the inflationary trend. This move, of a relatively minor nature, took the form of an order to all Histadrut officials to do away with the traditional practice of drinking tea during office hours, so as to leave more time for necessary office work. The office "tea break," both summer and winter, is an old custom in many Israeli offices.

ARAB SPY SENTENCED IN ISRAEL TO 15 YEARS; ANOTHER TO ESCAPE EXECUTION

HAIFA, March 8. (JTA) -- An Arab caught in November, 1964, as he attempted to infiltrate into Israel was sentenced here in the Haifa District Court today to 15 years' imprisonment, after being convicted on a charge of spying. The man, a Lebanese, had been wounded in a gun battle with Israeli security forces during the 1964 incident, but has now recovered fully from his injury.

Mahmoud Hijazi, a Jordanian Arab sentenced here to death a year ago after he was captured as a member of an El Fatah gang bent on sabotage inside Israel, will escape execution, it was indicated today. He is now on trial again before a military court, having been granted a second trial following his earlier death sentence because he had not been defended by foreign counsel.

Today, the prosecutor of the case said he will not ask for the death sentence, due to "special circumstances" in the case. Hijazi has pleaded not guilty to all four points in the indictment facing the military court. He is accused of firing at members of Israel's defense

forces; throwing a hand grenade at an Israeli patrol unit, illegally carrying firearms, and being a member of "a gang of felons." He was captured in January, 1964, after infiltrating into Israel near the Jordanian border, along with other members of El Fatah;

U.S. ASKS ACTION BY U.N. BODY ON OUTLAWING RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y.; March 8, (JTA) -- The United States Government today called on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to give highest priority to the adoption of a long-pending draft Declaration and draft International Convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance.

That request was voiced on the first day of the Commission's three-week session, which opened today, by Morris B. Abram, the American representative on the Commission. Mr. Abram is also president of the American Jewish Committee.

Addressing the Commission as it was about to consider a long 20-point agenda, Mr. Abram told the body that it was high time that an effort be made to close the gap between practice and the high principles of the 18-year-old Universal Declaration of Human Rights. That Declaration was adopted in 1948.

Mr. Abram proposed that, in view of the heavy agenda, the current session give priorities first to the draft instruments outlawing religious intolerance, then to a proposal banning statutes of limitations for the trial and punishment of war criminals. He also called for action on the plan to observe the International Year for Human Rights in 1968, and implementation of a previous decision to name a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Moscow Has Been Seeking to Prevent U. N. Discussion on the Subject

Mr. Abram's insistence on foremost priority to the religious freedoms issue was considered by most delegates on the 21-member Commission as a demand that the Soviet Union halt its campaign, under way since 1960, to keep the U.N. from speaking out against religious intolerance.

The U.S. delegate, in his opening address, took other oblique steps against the USSR, without mentioning the Soviet Government. Noting that another agenda item deals with freedom of information, he called upon all countries to permit "the right to publish domestically, and to send abroad, any idea, paper, book -- fiction or nonfiction, parody, camouflaged satire or caricature -- no matter how favorable or unfavorable to one's government."

All understood Mr. Abram to be referring, in that context, to a recent case in Moscow where two authors were given heavy prison terms for writing critical works published outside the USSR. "We are not really sure," he said, "that a particular human right subscribed to on paper means the same thing to each nation."

Another item on the Commission's agenda, in addition to those pinpointed for priority by Mr. Abram, is a proposal for implementing the recently adopted Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Intolerance. That instrument was opened for signature only yesterday, with Israel among the first to sign the document.

The agenda includes also drafts of steps to be taken to insure for all people everywhere their right to leave their own country or return thereto -- aimed partially at giving Soviet Jews the right to emigrate; and various moves to insure protection for all minorities and the elimination of various types of prejudice.

One item not on the agenda may be added, in the opinion of some of the Commission members: That would attempt to name anti-Semitism specifically as a prejudice to be formally condemned. Efforts to pass such a condemnation as part of the Convention against racism were defeated by the Soviet Union last fall.

ISRAEL TO ENABLE ITS ARAB CITIZENS TO MAKE PILGRIMAGES TO MECCA

JERUSALEM, March 8. (JTA) -- Arab citizens of Israel will be given all facilities for pilgrimages to the Moslem shrines at Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia; Dr. Zorach Warhaftig, Minister for Religious Affairs, promised here today.

He made that pledge to a delegation of Arabs from Nazareth who had requested such privileges. Dr. Warhaftig said the Israeli Moslems will be given the same privileges of pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia that they have been extended since Israel was reborn in 1948 for visits to Christian shrines in Jordan. Each year, since 1948, thousands of Israeli Arabs have crossed into Jordan to visit Bethlehem and other Christian holy places, especially during the Christmas and Easter periods. The pilgrims often use the occasion to visit relatives in the Arab refugee camps in Jordan, and have had no trouble being readmitted to Israel.

SIX NAZIS GO ON TRIAL IN GERMANY FOR KILLING JEWS AND SICK PERSONS

DUSSELDORF, March 8: (JTA) -- Six former Nazis went on trial here on charges of participating in multiple wartime murders of Jews and sick persons in Tarschtsha, in occupied Ukraine;

The defendants were members of Einsatz Commando unit number 5, one of the special squads which followed in the wake of Hitler's advancing armies with the assignment of wiping out all actual or potential resistance in conquered territories by killing Jews, partisans and other "undesirable elements."

The defendants are Karl Jung, 53, former Chief Criminal Commissar; Guido Horst Huhn, Dusseldorf, 55; Christian Sterling, 61, Kurt Syplie of Berlin, 56, Fritz Sievert, Lubeck, 51; and Oskar Jeger, 63, a factory worker.

Jung was accused of giving orders for the shootings as a leader of a section of the unit in Tarschtsha. Huhn, who succeeded Jung in 1941 as head of the unit section, was charged with participation in the liquidation of the Tarschtsha Jewish population. Huhn was accused of shooting at least 200 men, women and children in the neck. Sterling and Syplie were charged with being members of the firing squad. Sievert was accused of organizing the murder action.

The indictment charged that 15 members of the commando unit took 25 patients from a hospital near Kiev in 1941 and shot them. Jeger was charged with killing two or three of the patients in that atrocity.

J.D.C. SENDS PASSOVER SUPPLIES TO JEWS IN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee has shipped 616,500 pounds of matzoh and other Passover supplies to some ten countries in Europe to enable needy Jews to observe the holidays appropriately, it was announced today by Louis Broido, JDC chairman.

Last year JDC shipped close to 720,000 pounds of Passover supplies to Europe. In 1964 the total was over 370,000 pounds. Passover starts this year on the evening of Monday, April 4. Funds for Passover relief and other JDC welfare and rehabilitation programs are provided mainly by the campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal.

Supplies shipped this year include 481,500 pounds to Rumania and other East European countries, 36,000 pounds to France and 34,410 pounds to Yugoslavia. Other countries to which Passover supplies were shipped are Albania, Belgium, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

In addition to the supplies sent to aid Jewish communities in Europe, JDC has made special grants to enable needy Jews in Algeria, Iran, Morocco and Tunisia to purchase matzoh and other Passover supplies locally. In Poland matzoh is baked by the religious community with equipment supplied by JDC. Needy Jews there are given funds to purchase matzoh and other supplies produced locally.

JOHNSON ACCEPTS ABBA SCHWARTZ'S RESIGNATION WITHOUT COMMENT

WASHINGTON, March 8: (JTA) -- Acceptance of the resignation of Assistant Secretary of State Abba P. Schwartz, administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, and the Administration's architect of the 1965 act that liberalized the basic immigration law, eliminating the national origins quota system, was announced by the White House today.

Mr. Schwartz tendered his resignation last weekend when, upon returning from a confidential Government mission abroad, he discovered that plans for eliminating his State Department bureau had been in the works for months. He submitted his resignation to President Johnson. Today, the White House confirmed that, instead of dealing with the resignation on the topmost level, President Johnson has merely referred the resignation to the State Department for the Department's "action."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, of Massachusetts, who had engineered the passage of the new Immigration Act in the Senate, last year, said he was considering a hearing on the Schwartz resignation by a Senate subcommittee concerned with refugees. Mr. Kennedy praised Mr. Schwartz as "a direct-action, liberal public servant." Neither the White House nor the State Department would comment on the reasons why the action to unseat Mr. Schwartz from his post had been taken without his knowledge.

Mr. Schwartz was offered a post vaguely described as that of special assistant to Mr. Rusk on refugee affairs, but no effort was being made to present this as an equivalent to his old post.

JEWS IN POLAND HOLD CONVENTION; DISCUSS EDUCATION OF JEWISH YOUTH

WARSAW, March 8. (JTA) -- Before a large gathering of Jewish delegates from all over Poland, and representatives of the Polish Government and non-Jewish organizations of intellectuals, the Jewish Social and Cultural Organizations of Poland opened their fifth national convention here last night.

The principal topics on the agenda included these subjects: Youth work for preparation of the next generation of Jews in Poland to continue the activities of the association; the integration of Polish Jewry into the framework of modern Polish society, while preserving Jewishness; and the language problem. In the latter regard, the agenda emphasized the fact that the Yiddish language as a vernacular is "shrinking" and is being replaced too often by the Polish language.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS ANNOUNCES AGENDA FOR CONVENTION IN BRUSSELS

PARIS, March 8. (JTA) -- Relations between Jews and Arabs, and the situation of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union, will be discussed at the next World Jewish Congress session, to be convened in Brussels in July, it was announced here today by Dr. Gerhardt Riegner, WJC general secretary.

Dr. Riegner announced also the composition of several major committees of the European Division of the WJC: Vidal Modiano, of France, was elected to the Governing Council, and one seat on that body was reserved for a British representative. Added to the Commission on International Affairs, headed by Dr. S. Levenberg, of London, were David Lambert, of France; Dr. Ladislav Kadelburg, of Yugoslavia; and Hendrick van Dam, of West Germany.

SOVIET DESIGNS FOR BABI YAR MEMORIAL DO NOT IDENTIFY VICTIMS AS JEWS

WASHINGTON, March 8. (JTA) -- Ten designs for a memorial to be erected at Babi Yar, where between 70,000 and 100,000 Ukrainian Jews were massacred by the Nazi occupation forces during World War II, are on display in the Kiev Architects Club, the Soviet Embassy announced today.

In photographs of the proposed memorial designs made available here through the Novosti Press Agency, an official Soviet service, the victims of the massacre are not identified as Jews. One of the proposed designs has the words, "Babi Yar" carved on a stone in four languages, one of them Yiddish, but there is no indication that the Nazi victims the memorial was designed to commemorate were Jewish.

This design was described as the joint submission of three artists, A. Rybachuk, V. Melnichenko and A. Miletsky. Selection of the winning design is expected to be announced soon.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT DECORATES JEWISH PROFESSOR IN HOLLAND

PARIS, March 8. (JTA) -- The French Government today conferred decoration on Dr. Leo Kukenheim, professor of French literature at the State University at Leyden, for his "contributions to French culture in Holland." Dr. Kukenheim, a Jew, was awarded a knighthood of the French Legion of Honor.

Five members of the French Chamber of Deputies left today for a 10-day study of cultural, social and family affairs in Israel. The delegation is to confer with Foreign Minister Abba Eban on steps to be taken by their Government and by Israel for implementation of the latest in a series of Franco-Israeli cultural exchange pacts.

REVISIONIST ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ZIONIST FEDERATION OF MEXICO

MEXICO-CITY, March 8. (JTA) -- Benjamin Rosenthal, one of the Mexican leaders of the Zionists-Revisionists movement, was elected here as president of the Zionist Federation of Mexico. The secretary general of the federation is Avner Aliphas, representing the Labor Israel and Poale Zion factions of the Federation.

SOL COHEN, LEADING PIONEER IN AMERICAN ZIONISM, DEAD; WAS 73

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here for Sol Cohen, a leading pioneer in American Zionism, who died here last weekend at the age of 73. He was a founder and past president of the Long Island Region of the Zionist Organization of America and a cofounder along with the late Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of the Herzl Zion Club of New York.

Born in Russia, Mr. Cohen emigrated to the United States in 1905 and immediately became active in the American Zionist movement. He aided in the establishment of Neve Ilan settlement in Israel, where a square was named in his honor. He was active on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish National Fund.