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### ISRAEL NOT TO ESTABLISH SOUTH VIET NAM RELATIONS AT PRESENT TIME

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- Israeli officials said tonight that diplomatic relations between Israel and South Viet Nam would not be established for the present. The same officials confirmed that "feelers" for technical cooperation had been put out by South Viet Nam officials recently.

Earlier, informed sources had been quoted as saying that Israel would not, under present circumstances, give any consideration to recognition of South Viet Nam, and that Israel had not negotiated with South Viet Nam on such aid. Those comments were made in response to a statement in Washington yesterday by South Vietnamese Ambassador Vu Van Thai that the Saigon regime had decided to establish "full and normal diplomatic relations" with Israel "as a result of negotiation with Israeli diplomats just concluded in Bangkok."

The officials declined to say what the Israeli response had been to the "feelers." But it was clear that talks had taken place between official representatives of the two governments.

The Israeli officials were emphatic in stating that the negotiations did not cover aid to the South Viet Nam Government in establishing soldier-farmer units in that country along the lines of Israel's Nahal plan, to which the South Viet Nam envoy had referred specifically in his Washington statement.

When Indochina was partitioned after the French defeat, Israel recognized Laos and Cambodia, but not South Viet Nam. This was in line with a standing procedure against recognizing divided states. This practice was rescinded later. However, the issue has not come up again until the current development.

### State Dept. Sees Israeli-South Viet Nam Issue Up to Those Governments

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey said today that the United States Government was aware of a report that Saigon had decided to establish diplomatic relations with Israel and commented that the development of these relations was a matter between those two governments.

U.S. officials, meanwhile, commented that the United States was carefully observing the Israeli response to the South Vietnamese overtures, and was eager for an expanded Israeli role in support of South Viet Nam.

### JOHNSON REPORTED TELLING NASSER HE WANTS CONTACTS ON HIGHEST LEVEL

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- The State Department declined today to comment on reports from Cairo that President Johnson has informed Egyptian President Nasser, in a personal letter, that he wants closer contacts with Egypt at the highest levels. The report said that, in this connection, President Johnson was sending Secretary of State Dean Rusk to Cairo to see Mr. Nasser. The Cairo report said the Johnson letter was delivered to Mr. Nasser by U.S. Ambassador Lucius Battle.

According to the report, high level contacts between Cairo and Washington have been scant during the 14 years of the Nasser regime with the only Cabinet level visits having been made by John Foster Dulles, as Secretary of State, in 1954, and Luther Hodges, in 1962.

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo was said to have become concerned by the lack of contact in 1965, when there was almost a constant stream of prominent visitors between Cairo and Communist countries. The ice was broken in February when Egypt's National Assembly Speaker, Anwar El-Sadat, visited the United States at the invitation of the U.S. Administration. He was the first member of the 12-man junta which overthrew the late King Farouk in 1952 to visit the United States.

### Arab-Israeli Disputes Still Defy Settlement, House Group Is Told

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- Raymond A. Hare, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, testified today before the House Foreign Affairs Committee that the Arab-Israel dispute "continues to defy settlement." He said: "The past

year witnessed no serious increases in tension or outbreaks of violence between the parties, however, and most states of the area are increasingly preoccupied with developmental and other internal problems."

He declared: "Most of the states of the Near East have continued to make economic and social progress, despite the political tensions that surround and often embroil them: It is a restless area, sensitive to the stirrings of Arab nationalism and still caught up politically, economically and emotionally in the persistent Arab-Israel dispute."

Mr. Hare noted that attention in the Middle East remained focused on the Yemen situation, and that an agreement to settle that problem has yet to be implemented, and declared: "Another source of concern to which we continue to devote considerable attention is the arms rivalry throughout the Near East."

The high official told the committee: "It remains our policy to support the independent integrity of all states in the area. We continue to work with them in helping bring about the conditions of stability in which an enduring Middle East peace can be achieved, and in aiding them to recognize Communist blandishments for what they are. Most of these nations have shown the will and ability to resist Communist penetration. By supplying selective economic assistance, we are making it possible for many Near Eastern countries to register real economic growth and, thereby, meet the aspirations of their people for greater opportunities and a higher standard of living."

#### Syria Reported Having 2,000 Soviet 'Technicians' in Deals With Moscow

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- Israeli officials were reported today to be giving special attention to a report in a Lebanese newspaper to the effect that 2,000 Soviet technicians were aiding Syria in both civilian and military programs. The Beirut newspaper, Lahayat, also declared that there were few Communist Chinese experts in Syria, contrary to reports earlier this year.

The newspaper also said that Syrian Government offices were staffed with Russians, who were exerting strong control over Syrian activities. Israeli experts indicated a belief that the Syrian regime was continuing the ties with the Soviet Union maintained by the regime it toppled in a coup recently, but that the present regime was in direct contact with Moscow, instead of working through Cairo as the former Hafaz regime had done.

#### ADENAUER CONFIRMS HE PROMISED AID TO ISRAEL IN TALK WITH BEN-GURION

BONN, March 22. (JTA) -- Dr. Konrad Adenauer confirmed here today reports that, as West German Chancellor, he had promised West German economic aid to Israel in 1960, in a talk with then Israeli Premier David Ben-Gurion, during a meeting in New York.

He made that statement in an interview with a reporter for the Tel Aviv newspaper, Yedioth Achrenoth, but refused to confirm the reported figure of \$500,000,000 in such aid. He said that the meeting with Mr. Ben-Gurion was primarily a friendly, private affair, and that business matters had been discussed only in "rough outlines." When pressed as to whether a specific figure had been considered, he gestured toward some papers and said: "These are the minutes of the meeting, but this would not be an opportune time to reveal the details, in view of the difficulties in the current German-Israel negotiations."

The long-delayed Bonn-Jerusalem negotiations on West German economic aid to Israel were started last month in Bonn, and were convened four times before being postponed until April amid reports that there were sharp differences between the Israelis and the West Germans. "I am extremely anxious that the talks should reach a successful conclusion as soon as possible," the former Chancellor added, "and I do not wish to obscure them by revealing at the present" any details of the conversations with Mr. Ben-Gurion.

He was asked to explain his recent remark that failure of the talks would have world-wide repercussions. He replied that his remarks were in the nature of a hint to the West German delegation to do everything in its power to reach a satisfactory agreement.

Asked his opinion as to the value of a frequently-discussed, but unscheduled meeting between Dr. Ludwig Erhard, his successor as Chancellor, and Premier Levi Eshkol of Israel, Dr. Adenauer replied he thought it would be a "bad thing." He said it would have an adverse effect on the Arab countries and would not advance the interests either of West Germany or Israel. He said that, when he had been Chancellor, such a meeting might have been worthwhile, since he had initiated friendly relations with Israel.

Dr. Adenauer, who resigned yesterday as chairman of the Christian Democratic Union to become honorary president, will visit Israel in May. He said he was eager to see how Israel had developed. Asked why he had waited so long to accept the invitation to visit Israel, extended to him several years ago by Mr. Ben-Gurion, he said that he would have loved to visit Israel before, but that he had not had the time, and that this was the sole reason for the delay.

ABIE NATHAN ARRIVES IN NEW YORK; SEES MISSION AS MID-EAST PEACE

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- Abie Nathan, Israel's one-man Israel-Arab peace promoter, arrived at New York's international airport tonight and told a throng of newsmen that he had come to the United States "to convey the feelings of the people of Israel for peace," and that he was seeking "to meet anyone who can further the cause."

The Tel Aviv restaurant owner and former airlines pilot arrived at John F. Kennedy Airport from Paris, his third stop on a tour he launched immediately after his recent dramatic flight to Port Said in an ancient biplane. He had hoped to see President Nasser of Egypt, but Port Said officials there refused to permit him to do so. They patched and refueled his plane, and he returned to Israel the next day to become an overnight hero and world figure.

Before coming to New York, Nathan visited Rome, where he was given an audience by Pope Paul VI, conferred with others in Italy interested in peace, and went on to Paris where he met prominent Frenchmen -- but not President Charles de Gaulle.

Upon his arrival at the airport, Mr. Nathan said: "If the Israeli Government could come to terms with West Germany after the killing of 6,000,000 Jews, I am sure that the Israelis and Arabs can get together too." He said that he felt his flight to Port Said "was a crack in the wall toward peace in the Middle East."

He summed up his mission with the statement that he was seeking someone to do for the Middle East what Soviet Premier Kosygin did at Tashkent. That Soviet city was the site of a Soviet-sponsored meeting between Pakistan and India, at which the two countries agreed to a truce in their war over Kashmir.

Says He Hopes to Meet With Sen. Robert Kennedy, Cardinal Spellman

The Israeli, who said he planned to stay in the United States for 10 days to two weeks, said he had written to many American dignitaries in an effort to arrange meetings, but that he had no definite appointments with any of them. He said he had received a "friendly reply" from Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, but no commitment for a meeting. He said he would also try to see Francis Cardinal Spellman, Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York.

He disclosed that he had accepted an invitation to speak at a protest rally in New York City Saturday against United States participation in the South Viet Nam war, and that he had done so because he had been told that Negro civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Sen. Kennedy and Sen. J. William Fulbright would address the meeting. Reporters informed him that this information was not accurate.

He disclosed that, prior to his abortive flight to Egypt, he had written to United Nations Undersecretary Ralph J. Bunche, and that he had received a reply from the U.N. official, urging him to drop the idea.

Mr. Nathan confirmed a statement issued here by the Action Committee on American-Arab relations, a pro-Arab group, that he would meet tomorrow with its general secretary, Dr. M. T. Mehdi. The Arab group, which advocates the emigration from Israel of much of its Jewish population, announced that it would hold a press conference tomorrow, immediately after the Nathan-Mehdi meeting. However, the Israeli indicated that he did not know very much about the organization, other than that he had been told it too was interested in an Arab-Israeli peace. Mrs. Mehdi and another representative of the group attended the press conference at the airport tonight.

ISRAEL EXTENDS PASSPORT OF WOMAN WHOSE MOTHER HAD BEEN A CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- The Israeli passport of Mrs. Rina Eitani, the militant Nazareth town councillor whose Christian mother was found not to have converted to Judaism, was extended today on orders of the Interior Ministry. Mrs. Eitani's status as a Jew became a subject of controversy when the Ministry's Population Registry asked her, in December, 1964, to hand in her passport because doubts had developed as to her status as a Jew.

Dr. Israel Ben Meir, Deputy Minister of the Interior, reported on the latest development in the hotly-disputed issue to the Interior Committee of the Knesset (Parliament): The Ministry sidestepped the issue of Mrs. Eitani's Jewishness by finding a legal ruling under which authorities had no power to rescind her citizenship.

Mrs. Eitani emigrated to Israel after being detained in Cyprus, served in the armed forces, and lived in a kibbutz. She was granted automatic citizenship under Israel's Law of Return. It was then discovered that her mother was not Jewish under Jewish religious law, thus raising the issue on her passport's validity.

Now the Interior Ministry explained that someone who has enjoyed the privileges granted by authorities, and has exercised his or her rights under such a grant, cannot be deprived of those privileges, even if they were granted by mistake. This rule, known as "estoppel," has been applied previously in issues of precedence before Israeli courts.

AMERICANS IN ISRAEL HAIL STEPS FOR INCREASING WESTERN IMMIGRATION

HAIFA, March 22. (JTA) -- The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel concluded its annual convention here today with the adoption of a budget for the coming year totaling 265,000 Israeli pounds (\$88,000). David Breslau, assistant director of the Hillel Foundation at the Hebrew University, was elected president of the association.

In resolutions adopted at the convention, the delegates expressed satisfaction with the improved efforts on the part of the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency to facilitate the immigration of potential settlers from the United States and Canada. The delegates urged that more emphasis should be put on new specific techniques needed for immigration of individuals and families, rather than stress on collective immigration which had been practiced in the past.

YESHIVA U. ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW TYPE OF GRADUATE SCHOOL

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University announced plans yesterday for the establishment of a new type of graduate school which will bring together, under one roof, scholars and students from a wide variety of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Details of the plan were made known by Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of the University, at an all-day symposium. The school, he said, will be known as the Ferkauf Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Concentrating its programs for doctoral level students, the new Ferkauf Graduate School will be structured so that students and scholars may simultaneously pursue their own specializations and priorities, and gain greater familiarity and respect for different but often complementary disciplines, Dr. Belkin said. He noted that "a single graduate school including sociology and psychology, special education and guidance, literature and art under one roof is a new departure in American graduate education."

At the convocation, Dr. Belkin conferred honorary degrees on Dr. Lee J. Cronbach, professor of education and psychology at Stanford University; Dr. Paul F. Lazarsfeld, professor of social science and associate director of the Bureau of Applied Social Research, at Columbia University; Dr. Ralph W. Tyler, director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, Cal.; and Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz, spiritual leader of the Hillcrest Jewish Center, Flushing, N.Y.

FRIENDS OF HEBREW U. HONOR UNION LEADER; \$100,000 RAISED AT EVENT

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- A total of \$100,000 was raised by the American Friends of the Hebrew University tonight at a dinner honoring Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, AFL-CIO, who was made an honorary fellow of the University. The funds will be used to establish a Joseph Curran Fund for the Humanities at the Hebrew University.

Israel Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohn invested the honorary fellowship on Mr. Curran, who was cited for his "outstanding contribution to the university in its work for science and scholarship for Israel and the Jewish people and for the progress of mankind as a whole." Nathaniel L. Goldstein, president of the American Friends of the Hebrew University, lauded Mr. Curran for his contributions to "a free trade movement and to free institutions of higher learning."

CONSERVATIVE EDUCATORS CREATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JEWISH TEACHING

KLAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., March 22. (JTA) -- Educators in Conservative Judaism voted here today to create a scholarship fund to encourage promising Hebrew high school graduates and college students to enter the Jewish teaching profession.

The 150 delegates to the convention of the Educators Assembly of the United Synagogue of America approved a Henry E. Goldberg Scholarship Fund as part of an ongoing effort to dramatize the critical shortage of Jewish teachers, and to help ease that shortage.

The educators acted after hearing a warning from Rabbi Seymour Fox, dean of Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Rabbi Fox said that, if Judaism was to survive "as a viable force on the American scene," it must produce "Jewish teachers and lay leaders of the first magnitude." Mr. Goldberg was the late educational director of the East Midwood Jewish Center and the Assembly's first president.

SLAWSON BEGINS WEEK'S VISIT TO WEST BERLIN, MEETS WILLY BRANDT

BERLIN, March 22. (JTA) -- Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, met here today with Mayor Willy Brandt. Dr. Slawson arrived in West Berlin yesterday as a guest of the Berlin Senate and to participate in a conference of West German educators. He will be here for a week. Dr. Slawson will be the featured speaker tomorrow at a Conference here for Promotion of Political and Civic Education and International Understanding.