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ד'תשכ"ו

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### JEWES READY FOR PASSOVER; CONCERN OVER RUSSIAN JEWRY MARS HOLIDAY

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- Jews all over the world were prepared today to start celebrating Passover at sundown tomorrow. The fate of the Jews in the Soviet Union, where matzoh was scarce on the whole, marred an otherwise happy mood as all Jews -- even those in the USSR who were allowed to do so -- marked the traditional Festival of Liberation.

American Jews were interested, additionally, in their men and women in the United States armed services. The National Jewish Welfare Board reported that the largest number of American Jews in uniform since the signing of the Korean truce in 1953 were set to celebrate Passover in South Viet Nam and at more than 600 other overseas and United States Army, Air Force and Naval installations. Many of these men, the JWB noted, became members of the U.S. armed forces since the recent American military build-up in and around Viet Nam, and were spending their first Passover away from home.

JWB has also made it possible for the wives and children of married Jewish GIs as well as for men aboard Naval vessels and troop transports, those assigned to missile bases and tracking stations, and patients in Veterans Administration hospitals in the United States to observe Passover.

Chaplain Alan M. Greenspan, recently assigned to the U. S. Military Command in South Viet Nam, has arrived in Saigon, according to the JWB, replacing Chaplain Richard E. Dryer, who was transferred to Germany. Chaplain Greenspan and the two other Jewish chaplains now serving in South Viet Nam, Chaplain Robert L. Reiner and Chaplain Harry Z. Schreiner, will conduct sedarim for the growing number of Jewish military personnel in that area.

Through Army cooperation, all of the Jewish servicemen from II Corps, including men from the First Cavalry Division, the 25th Infantry Division and the 101st Airborne Division, will be brought to Nha Trang, Vietnam, for Passover observances in the USO Club. The waitresses, KPs and cooks will be Vietnamese. Chaplain Schreiner, in a report to the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, noting that "Passover overseas is always a major project, especially in countries like Viet Nam," said "ours in Nha Trang will be no exception."

Two Jewish chaplains flew to military bases in the North and South Atlantic on special Passover missions. Chaplain Allen S. Kaplan, of Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, will conduct Passover services in the Azores and Bermuda. Chaplain Barry D. Schwartz, stationed at Westover Air Force Base, Mass., will preside at Passover services at Goose Bay, Labrador, and Harmon Air Force Base, Newfoundland.

Jewish Army and Air Force chaplains will conduct Passover services in Ankara, Turkey, Evreux, Orleans and Verdun, France; Vicenza, Italy; and Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Ramstein, Kaiserslautern, Munich and Stuttgart, Germany. The sedarim will be conducted in officers' clubs and consolidated mess halls. Military personnel and their families from outlying areas will be accommodated in military hotels and transient billets to facilitate their attendance at the Passover services.

Jewish chaplains will also officiate at Passover services in Korea, Japan, Okinawa, the Philippines, Hawaii, Panama Canal Zone and Alaska. Jewish GIs trained by chaplain will lead the services in Greenland and Spain.

### Moscow Jew Reports on Matzoh; Claims Yeshiva Has Been Reopened

From The Soviet Union, it was reported today by the New York Herald Tribune that Ephraim Benzi Kaplan, who identified himself as the "administrator" of the Central Synagogue in Moscow, declared that 50 tons of matzoh "for 9,428 families" had been baked and distributed in the Soviet capital. Last week, the Novosti Press Agency, the official Soviet feature news agency, which serves only the foreign press and which does not have its data published inside the USSR, gave a different figure to the Jewish Telegraphic

Agency: Novosti told the JTA that 90 tons of matzoh had been distributed this year in Moscow. New York sources which received a report from Moscow last week, after the matzoh baking had been completed, gave the total figure for matzoh distribution in Moscow this year as "no more than 40 tons."

(Mr. Kaplan announced at the same time, according to the Herald Tribune dispatch from Moscow, that the Moscow yeshiva has now been reopened. He was reported as saying that the yeshiva started functioning again a month ago, with an enrollment of 12 or 13 students, aged 21 to 45. He claimed that two of the students were from Odessa, two from Kiev, three from Riga, four from Tbilisi, Georgia, two from Moscow and one from Bokhara. He was reported as saying that the yeshiva had been given a two-room dormitory, where eight of the students live. Of the total number of students at the yeshiva, he was reported saying, two are studying for the rabbinate and the remainder were preparing to be cantors or ritual slaughterers.)

#### JDC Sent 615,000 Pounds of Matzoh Overseas; Students Hold Vigil on Russia

Overseas, except in the Soviet Union, Passover provisions, including ample supplies of matzoh, were made by the Joint Distribution Committee. A total of 615,000 pounds of matzoh were provided by the JDC for thousands of Jews in need in many countries, including lands behind the Iron Curtain -- except the USSR.

The JDC shipments included even Albania, the Communist country more rigidly shut off from the Western world than any other state. "We don't know under what conditions the Jews live in Albania," the JDC stated, "we don't know whether they have a synagogue or rabbi or talmud torah. But we do know there are Jews in Albania, and once every year they break through the barriers of silence and ask for just one thing -- matzoh."

This year, JDC sent 1,520 pounds of matzoh to Albania. The JDC also sent 26,400 pounds of matzoh and 8,000 pounds of matzoh meal to Yugoslavia.

In New York, over 300 Jewish college students ended this morning an all-night vigil at Hammarskjold Plaza opposite the United Nations to dramatize the concern of American Jewry for the plight of their brethren in the Soviet Union. The students, members of the New York Youth Conference for Soviet Jewry, carried placards and banners calling on the Soviet Government to grant freedom to its Jewish citizens, and urging widespread public protests against the oppression of Russian Jews.

Throughout the vigil, the participants read portions of the Bible and the Haggadah, and sang Hebrew folk songs. The all-night demonstration was held next to the "Isaiah Wall" of the Plaza, named for the late Secretary General of the United Nations. The wall bears an inscription quoting from Isaiah: "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not take up sword against nation; nor shall they learn war any more."

#### Tourists Jam Israel for Passover; Ships, Planes Bring Record Numbers

TEL AVIV, April 3. (JTA) -- Thousands of tourists continued pouring into Israel by plane and by ship today to spend the Passover holidays in the country. Israelis jammed intercity transportation facilities and stepped up preparations for the festival which begins tomorrow at sundown.

During the past four days, some 70 flights arrived at Lydda Airport, more than double the usual number for the period. The Zim liner Shalom, currently on a Mediterranean cruise with 662 Americans aboard, docked at Haifa harbor today, where it will remain during Passover. Other Zim liners brought 1,740 passengers from the United States, Europe and Haifa in time for Passover. The line said that passengers aboard five other vessels which will be at sea during Passover, will celebrate the holiday aboard ship.

Hotels in various parts of the country have been booked to accommodate most of the visitors, each of whom receives a gift parcel from the Citrus Marketing Board on entering the country.

A highlight of the holiday week will be the Ein Gev Music Festival which opens at the settlement on Lake Tiberias, Tuesday.

In honor of the holiday, President Zalman Shazar shortened the sentences of 135 civilian and 30 military prisoners to enable their release before Passover.

Special provisions will be made for tourists to observe a second seder on Tuesday evening at leading hotels and tourist centers in various parts of the country. Israelis observe only one seder, tomorrow evening.

STATE DEPT. ANNOUNCES SUPPLY OF MILITARY JET AIRCRAFT TO JORDAN

WASHINGTON, April 3. (JTA) -- The Department of State announced yesterday that the United States has agreed to supply the Arab state of Jordan with American military jet aircraft. Official sources described the jets as supersonic military planes of modern design, and said the U.S. Air Force will train Jordanian pilots and ground crew personnel. A Department spokesman described the transaction as "consistent with our due regard for area security." The text of the spokesman's official statement follows:

"As the Department stated on February 5, the United States Government has over the years provided Jordan with limited amounts of arms to meet its defense requirements. We can confirm that an agreement has recently been reached between the United States and Jordan, providing for Jordanian purchase of a limited number of military jet aircraft for its air defense system to replace older models.

"Just as we will continue to refrain from being a principal supplier of arms to the Near East, so does it remain our policy not to discuss the specifics of arms transactions as they occur. Therefore, we are not in a position to go into details of the equipment sold in this case.

"Our sale to Jordan was made both in light of Jordan's requirements and in accordance with our policy of preventing instability from developing in the Near East. It is consistent with our due regard for area security and our general restraint as to the equipment supplied.

"We do not believe that this sale will be a destabilizing factor or contribute to imbalance in the area. In this connection, we continue to regret the massive Soviet sales of arms to certain countries of the Near East which have intensified the arms race in that area, and we will continue to strive for agreed limitations on arms buildups there."

Israel Government to Continue Efforts to Maintain Arms Balance

JERUSALEM, April 3. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel, it was revealed here today, intends to step up its efforts for the acquisition of military equipment in order to maintain the balance of forces in the Middle East, following the Washington announcement of a United States decision to supply military jet aircraft to Jordan.

A statement on the subject, reportedly drafted at the highest level was issued here today by the Foreign Ministry. The statement declared:

"The Government of Israel notes the statements of the United States Government on February 5 and April 2, indicating its desire to avoid the destabilizing factors or the creation of arms imbalance. The Government of Israel will urgently pursue its efforts to maintain the balance and correct any imbalances that may arise. The Government of Israel is fully confident that it will be able to maintain an effective deterrent to aggression and cope with any related problems that may arise from the announced U.S. sale to Jordan."

It was understood that the American decision to supply Jordan with jet aircraft did not come as a surprise to the Israel Government, which knew of the Jordanian efforts to secure the aircraft.

SYRIAN GUN POSITIONS OPEN FIRE; ISRAELI PATROL SILENCES ATTACKERS

TEL AVIV, April 3. (JTA) -- Syrian positions at Dardara, overlooking Israel's Huleh Valley opened machinegun fire this weekend on an Israeli Army unit on routine patrol. The unit returned the fire, silencing the position as well as Syrian gunners at two other places nearby which joined in the attack. The Israeli unit suffered no casualties, and returned to its base after completing its patrol.

LONDON REPORTS ON EXTENSIVE ROLE OF UNITED STATES AID TO NASSER

LONDON, April 3. (JTA)-- The extensive role of American aid to Egypt, although little publicized, has been a significant factor in the improvement of relations between the two countries, according to a Cairo dispatch today in the Sunday Observer. The report noted that Egypt is the largest per capita consumer in the world of American surplus food, and stated that more than 80 percent of all wheat and flour used in Egyptian cities is provided by the Food for Peace Program. American loans have paid for 62 percent of all land reclamation undertaken in Egypt since the 1952 revolution, and the United States has financed the construction of nearly 3,000 miles -- 62 percent -- of all paved roads built in that period, the reports said.

More than one quarter of all the health centers built in the country since 1952 were financed by the United States, and over 3,000,000 Egyptian children are fed by American volunteer agencies.

FORTY JEWISH CANDIDATES ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT IN BRITISH VOTING

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- A total of 40 Jewish candidates from both major parties were elected to Parliament, according to results of the nationwide elections here which gave Prime Minister Harold Wilson a decisive majority in the House of Commons.

All of the Jewish candidates were elected in constituencies with little or no Jewish voters, while areas with heavily Jewish populations invariably sent non-Jews to Parliament.

All Fascist candidates were not only decisively defeated in the balloting but forfeited their deposits in every case. Deposits are forfeited when the candidate receives less than one eighth of the total votes cast in the constituency.

Among those elected to the new House were both of the Jewish Conservatives who held seats in the last Parliament -- Sir Keith Joseph and Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid. The latter is president of the Jewish Colonization Association.

The Jewish Laborites elected included Emanuel Shinwell, Sir Barnett Janner, Sir Meyer Galpern, Maurice Edelman, Ian Mikardo, Marcus Lipton, Sam and Jon Silkin, David Weitzman, John Diamond, Leslie and Harold Lever, John Mendelson, Julius Silverman, David Guinsberg, Maurice Orbach, George Jeger, Austin Albu, Frank Allaun, Joel Barnett, Reginald Freeson, E. Lyons, Dr. Kerr and Sydney Silverman, a former chairman of the World Jewish Congress in Britain.

SEVEN YOUTHS GIVEN JAIL TERMS IN LONDON FOR ANTI-JEWISH ATTACK

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- Seven youths were sentenced to a detention center this weekend for periods up to six months for participating in an attack several months ago on two Jewish youths, one of whom was seriously wounded with a knife. They were found guilty after a trial in the Central Criminal Court here.

Two other youths were placed on probation for two years, one was remanded in custody for a medical report, and two were acquitted. The Jewish youth who was stabbed was Joseph Springer, son of a leader of the British Agudath Israel Organization.

CZECH NAZI MASS MURDERER OF JEWS GIVEN DEATH SENTENCE AT PRAGUE

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- Alexander Kebelec, a former Czech Nazi collaborator who was responsible for the deaths of thousands of Jews at the Theresienstadt concentration camp, has been sentenced to death by a Prague District Court for war crimes. A report appearing in the Czech newspaper, Rude Pravo, received here today, said that, until the time of his arrest, Kebelec had been living under an assumed name.

BONN CONFIRMS GHANA AGREEMENT TO EXTRADITE AUSCHWITZ PHYSICIAN

BONN, April 3. (JTA) -- The Government of Ghana has agreed to extradite Dr. Horst Schumann, a former physician at the Auschwitz death camp, wanted by West Germany for mass murders of Jews, it was confirmed here today. According to a government spokesman here, Schumann served as a medical officer in the Volta region of Ghana during the regime of the ousted president Kwame Nkrumah. West Germany is now awaiting permission from Nigeria to fly the Nazi criminal over that country's territory, the spokesman said.

MUNICH COURT ACQUITS TWO ACCUSED OF MASS MURDER OF POLISH JEWS

MUNICH, April 3. (JTA) -- Two former Nazi police officers were acquitted here this weekend of charges of having assisted in the 1939 mass murder of 350 intellectuals in central Poland, many of them Jews. The court said there was insufficient evidence to convince the men, Jakob Loglen, 69, and Horst Eichler, 55.

ISRAEL CABINET APPROVES \$5,000,000, 10-YEAR LOAN TO HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, April 3. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel today approved a loan of 15,000,000 Israeli pounds (\$5,000,000) to the Hebrew University. The loan, to be paid back over a 10-year period, is now subject to approval by the Parliament's finance committee, which will hold a special session during the six-week Passover recess, to endorse the aid measure. The loan will be guaranteed by the Government.

The loan approved today is in addition to the Government's regular financing of the University. At the same time the Government called on the Friends of the Hebrew University throughout the world to raise an additional 27,000,000 Israeli pounds (\$9,000,000) for the Jerusalem institution. The university's obligation to repay loans amounting to 40,000,000 pounds (\$13,300,000) within the next two years necessitated turning to the Government for assistance.