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AGREEMENT ON GERMAN AID TO ISRAEL WILL BE SIGNED IN BONN TODAY

BONN, May 11. (JTA) -- Agreement has been reached on a West German program of economic aid to Israel for 1966 and the pact will be signed tomorrow, State Secretary Gunther von Hase, the Government press spokesman, announced at a press conference today. He said that a communique would be issued giving all the details of the agreement. He added that the agreement covered only the current year and that new negotiations would have to take place for aid in future years.

Chancellor Ludwig Erhard and his Cabinet are grateful for the reception Israel extended to former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer on his visit last week, von Hase told the press conference. Reporting on a meeting of the Cabinet, von Hase said that the visit was regarded by Chancellor Erhard and the Cabinet as having contributed to understanding and normalization of relations between West Germany and Israel.

POLAND REFUSES VISAS TO JEWISH JOURNALISTS ON EBAN'S VISIT TO WARSAW

PARIS, May 11. (JTA) -- The Polish Embassy in Paris refused today to provide visas for Israeli journalists, including a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, who had planned to go from here to Poland to cover the visit there of Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

The Embassy, which had accepted the requests for the visas, expressed apologies for being unable to provide the visas for lack of "a positive answer" from officials in Warsaw. Israeli officials in Paris were trying to determine why the Polish Government had rejected the right of journalists to enter Poland for strictly professional work.

JORDAN FIRES ON ISRAELIS IN MT. HEBRON AREA; 2 KILLED, 3 WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, May 11. (JTA) -- Two Israelis were killed and three wounded last night in an attack by Jordanian gunposts on a unit of Israeli soldiers working on a patrol path in the Mount Hebron area.

Israel had notified Jordan on Monday through the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization that work would begin this morning on the path, which is near the Dvir settlement, west of Mount Hebron about 800 feet from the border. The workers, aided by a tractor and a ground leveller, were on the job without being disturbed through most of the day. However, late in the day, the Jordanians suddenly opened fire, first with machineguns then with mortars.

The covering army unit immediately returned the fire using machineguns and mortars. One of the workers was killed and the three injured in the initial round of shooting. The second Israeli fatality was a member of a unit sent in as a reinforcement. United Nations officials arranged a cease fire which was broken by the Jordanians in ten minutes. The Jordanians ignored three additional ceasefire proposals and continued to fire intermittently late into the night.

Mordechai Kidron, head of the Foreign Ministry's armistice division, conferred with Gen. Odd Bull, chief of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization. He asked Gen. Bull to take all possible steps to prevent recurrences. Gen. Bull promised an extensive investigation and U.N. truce officers left this morning for the area, accompanied by Israeli officers.

Israel considers the attack by Jordan near Mount Hebron as one of exceptional gravity, and has instructed its diplomats in western capitals to inform those governments of Israel's concern, it was reported here today. Israeli representatives in Washington, London and Paris received a full report on the incident. Israeli Foreign Ministry officials also conferred with the American and British Ambassadors to whom similar concern was conveyed.

Israel Protests to U.N. Security Council Against Jordan

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 11. (JTA) -- Israel filed a sharp protest with the Security Council here today against Jordan, accusing the Amman Government of a "gross violation" of the Jordanian-Israeli armistice agreement by carrying out an unprovoked attack against an Israeli road-repair gang in the Mount Hebron area, resulting in the death of two Israelis and the wounding of three others, two of them seriously.

The complaint -- which did not request a meeting of the Security Council -- was handed to Dr. J.C. de Beus, this month's president of the Council, by Ambassador Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative at the U.N.

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RECEPTIVE TO HADASSAH REQUEST

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- The House Foreign Affairs Committee indicated today a favorable response to testimony by Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, national president of Hadassah, who asked for adoption of an amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill to provide \$1,000,000 in Israel pounds for Hadassah medical needs in Israel.

The amendment was sought because the Administration denied a Hadassah request for inclusion in an aid bill provision benefitting American institutions assisting educational and medical programs abroad. Committee chairman Thomas E. Morgan, Pennsylvania Democrat, said the Administration wanted to limit funds under this provision -- Section 214 -- to the American University in Beirut and other institutions aided in previous years. However, Rep. Morgan indicated that he would vote for the amendment.

A number of other members of the Committee commented favorably on Hadassah's work and indicated they would back the amendment. Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat and a member of the Committee, said he would offer the formal amendment and characterized the Hadassah program as an extension of U.S. efforts to help underdeveloped countries because of the Hadassah role involving African and Asian nations. Other support came from Rep. William Murphy, Illinois Democrat, and Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, California Democrat, and Rep. Frances P. Packer, Ohio Republican. Also lauding Hadassah's work and supporting the request of Mrs. Jacobson was Rep. Lester Wolff, New York Democrat.

NASSER ASKS KOSYGIN ABOUT 'IMPROVEMENT' OF SOVIET STAND ON ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 11. (JTA) -- Israeli newspapers reported today that Egyptian President Nasser has asked visiting Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin for information about the "improvement in Soviet-Israeli relations."

The newspapers quoted well-informed sources that secret diplomatic contacts between Egypt and Russia dealt with that issue prior to Premier Kosygin's arrival in Cairo yesterday. Israeli sources indicated concern that Egyptian pressures, combined with the Soviet desire to increase its influence in Syria, might still further retard the recent slight improvement in Israeli-Russian relations.

In welcoming the Soviet leader, President Nasser lashed out yesterday at Israel and pro-Western forces in the Middle East. The Soviet Premier, in his response, made almost no comments on the Middle East situation except to emphasize Soviet-Egyptian solidarity, according to reports here from Cairo.

WASHINGTON PROVIDES EGYPT WITH ISRAELI STUDY ON DESALINATION

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- The United States Government has discussed possible nuclear desalting aid to Egypt and provided Egyptian authorities with a complete copy of the joint American-Israeli engineering feasibility study of a large-scale combination power-desalting plant for Israel.

No firm commitments have been made by the United States in response to Egyptian indications of desire for longterm loans or technical assistance grants to finance desalting in Egypt. But U.S. sources said the matter was fluid and might be covered in the \$100,000,000 proposed for Egypt for the new fiscal year apart from the \$150,000,000 in "food for peace."

Cairo is now studying the findings of the U.S.-Israel joint board as stated in the final report of the engineering feasibility and economic study performed under contract by Kaiser Engineers of Oakland, Calif., in association with Catalytic Construction Company of Philadelphia, Pa. The joint board, established by the two governments to oversee the study, included Aharon Wiener, director of "Tahal" (water planning for Israel); Dr. Haim Cats, the Israeli Electric Corp.; and Dr. Shimon Yiftah, of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission.

U.S. sources said Egypt was seriously studying the desalting problem and that it was easily understandable that Egyptian officials would avail themselves of the Israeli study. It was pointed out that it did not matter whether the United States gave the full Israeli study to Egypt because it is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office for only \$2.00 a copy. The extent of United States cooperation with Egypt in nuclear desalting discussions was not disclosed although it is known that officials of the U.S. Department of Interior's office of saline waters have been involved.

The American-Israeli joint board last March 7 received the final report on the feasibility study and recommended that it be accepted. At that time it was learned that the State Department carefully heeded the recommendations of U.S. policy makers, concerned about proliferation of nuclear weapons. They thought in terms of International Atomic Energy Agency inspection of Israeli installations as a condition for a nuclear desalting loan to Israel at liberal interest rates. The Government of Israel, however, has maintained that following completion of the study, Israel wanted time to consider all aspects of the matter without regard to the reported "conditioning" of aid. Therefore, the project, initiated in June, 1964, has now been placed in temporary suspension.

U.S. officials said it was too speculative and "premature" to comment on whether aid to Egypt would be conditioned on an Egyptian agreement to submit to the same non-proliferation and inspection requirements desired from Israel. Washington circles considered it ironic that Egypt was studying possible utilization of aspects of a feasibility study that Israeli scientific authorities helped draft.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TESTIFIES ON U.S. MILITARY AID TO MID-EAST

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- Defense Secretary Robert McNamara told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today that the Middle East situation was "tinder dry and difficult," and "must be watched carefully."

He said that judicious allocation of limited United States arms aid, both grants and sales, was useful in acting as a "ceiling" to hold down the Arab-Israeli arms race. He stressed that Soviet military shipments to the region were a factor that must be considered. He added that the United States uses its aid program to maintain a "delicate balance."

The Defense Secretary told the committee also that he would not describe Egypt as a part of the Communist world. Sen. Burke Hickenlooper, ranking Republican on the committee, said Nasser "violates all agreements" and "calls us venomous names." Sen. Wayne Morse, Oregon Democrat, expressed concern about United States arms shipments to the Middle East.

ISRAEL MINISTER SEEKS TO SETTLE 'SLOW-DOWN' STRIKE OF DOCK WORKERS

HAIFA, May 11. (JTA) -- Minister of Transport Moshe Carmel today entered the dispute here between dock workers and ship owners which, for two weeks, has hampered this harbor's operations, and, according to the ship owners, has cost them hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The dock workers have been on a "slow-down" strike for more than a fortnight, demanding agreement on three issues: Higher pay for men with seniority; automatic upgrading of all the workers; and monthly status for all men after eight years of work. As a result of the slow-down, in which the workers are doing their jobs at half speed, many sailings have been delayed while 17 ships were tied up in the port today awaiting their turn for loading or unloading.

Mr. Carmel said he would meet with the ship owners during the day to discuss the requests by the dock workers. The latter had made a number of other demands but said that they were willing to postpone implementation of their other requests if the owners would agree to the three major points at issue.

'SELF-DESTRUCTION' OF U.S. JEWRY BY ASSIMILATION DENIED AT PARLEY

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., May 11. (JTA) -- Israel Breslow, a vice-president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, who was unanimously elected this morning president of the Workmen's Circle at the quadrennial national convention of the organization, which has a membership of 60,000 families and is the world's largest Jewish labor fraternal order, said that statements by Dr. Joachim Prinz, until recently president of the American Jewish Congress and by former Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion that the American Jewish community was assimilating itself to self-destruction "are written with the hands of doom and spoken with the lips of myth, not history."

Mr. Breslow said that Jews have survived pogroms, exiles, extermination and medieval persecution. "The miracle is not only the State of Israel but the people of Israel, and the miracle of survival of 2,000 years of history is not to be surrendered to the pious effusions of men who forget that the will to live saved the Jewish people from disintegration," he declared in his acceptance speech. Mr. Breslow argued that attempts to depict American Jews as a people of only merchants, lawyers, and financiers, "falsifies" the fact that American Jews are still the workers of this country.

"Jews, in America, are in the professions and service industries, they are organized as workers in these professions and industries, and all attempts to make it appear that American Jews are sinking into the swampland of affluency and being assimilated into the general community have no basis in fact," he declared. He said that the same decline in the number of blue collar workers that has taken place in industries that were once considered to be mostly Jewish has also taken place in the non-Jewish community. He emphasized the need for secular Jewishness but said that a negative approach to religion would not achieve the success of such a program. Instead, he said, it was essential for the Jew to know his origins and his culture in order to arrive at a positive secularism.

LABORITES WIN IN JEWISH COMMUNITY ELECTIONS IN BUENOS AIRES

BUENOS AIRES, May 11. (JTA) -- A tabulation of voting in the election for the Buenos Aires Community Council, based on a party system analogous to that of Israel, showed today that a joint Mapai-Achdut Avodah ticket took 43 of the Council's 90 seats as the leading bloc.

The results in such elections extend beyond the Council because the proportions received by the parties serve later to establish the party representation in community institutions and international Jewish events. Although the balloting is regarded as the most important event in local Jewish life, only 2,000 of the 42,000 Buenos Aires Jews eligible to vote cast ballots.

The joint General Zionist-Liberals ticket obtained 14 seats this year, compared with nine each in 1960 on independent tickets. Mapam won 10 seats compared with five in 1960 but this year, the party had some support from the extreme left. Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, the Religious Zionists, won seven seats, one more than in 1960. The Revisionists won five seats, two more than in 1960. The Jewish Socialist Bund won four seats, the same as in the prior election. Agudat Israel won three seats. With no ticket of their own, non-party electors were shut out in the elections and have virtually no participation in Community Council affairs.

DAROFF APPEALS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMS TO COMBAT ASSIMILATION

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- An urgent appeal to "every Jewish and Zionist organization" in the United States to enact "a constructive program" to combat the threat of assimilation was made by Samuel Daroff, president of the American Jewish League for Israel.

Speaking at a board meeting, he cited statistics indicating that Judaism lost seven of every 10 children born in mixed marriages and a Jewish birthrate of 2.2 per family. He warned that if such trends continued unabated, "the proportion of Jews in this country's population will diminish from its present 2.9 percent to 1.6 percent by the end of the twentieth century."

"It is the holy duty of every Jewish and Zionist organization to formulate and enact a constructive program to counteract this threat, to find ways and means of attracting young people back to self-conscious Judaism, to make them want to regain their Jewish identity and be proud of it," Mr. Daroff declared.

Dr. Judah L. Shapiro, chairman of the North American Committee of the Reorganization Commission, urged creation of a single comprehensive Zionist organization in the United States. He said American synagogues and other Jewish institutions "are interested in incorporating the Zionist ideal into their program of activities but they have no single representative of American Zionism who can guide and enlighten them in the tenets and principles of Zionism." He added that the committee recognized this need and was working for formation of such a single organization.

Eleazar Lipsky, vice-president of the League, rejected the thesis that Zionism had fulfilled its mission with the restoration of Israel. He asserted that "apart from its unfinished task of assuring Jewish unity and survival, Zionism has something to say about every important issue or problem."

JEWISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE DISCUSSES INTERDATING AND INTERMARRIAGE

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- Interdating and intermarriage, the dilemma of religious identity and practices of the Jewish college student away from home, and the general breakdown of values in our times, occupied the attention of 300 Jewish women leaders assembled here for an all-day seminar which was sponsored by the National Women's League of the United Synagogue, largest women's synagogue organization in the world.

The three principal participants -- a psychiatrist, an editor and a rabbi -- in a seminar devoted to "Threats Confronting the Jewish Family Today" agreed that "family and religion are the two mainstays of security for the Jewish child and that school and synagogue alone are incapable of providing a proper substitute for the warmth of family living so necessary to the rearing of a generation of Jewish youth which can be expected to continue in the traditions of its faith."

Dr. Ira Eisenstein, editor of the Jewish Reconstructionist, Dr. Pector Ritey, medical director of the Metropolitan Center for Mental Health, and Rabbi Theodore Friedman, a former president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, stressed that the emotional factors engendered by the closely-knit family often provided the vital ingredient required to impel the Jewish child to continue to live according to the traditions in which he was brought up.

HOWARD SAMUELS SEEKS NOMINATION FOR GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK

ALBANY, N.Y., May 11. (JTA) -- Howard J. Samuels, an industrial engineer active in Jewish affairs, announced last night his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor of New York.

The candidate is chairman of the American Histadrut Cultural Exchange Institute, a member of the executive committee of the American Israel Public Affairs Commission, and served as chairman of the 1964 annual dinner of Boys Town of Jerusalem.

JEW DESIGNATED AS 'INVENTOR OF THE YEAR' BY WASHINGTON INSTITUTE

WASHINGTON, May 11. (JTA) -- Dr. Samuel Ruben, an inventor, who is a Jew, who perfected the mercury battery used in the life-saving heart pacemaker, has been designated "Inventor of the Year for 1965," it was announced here by the Patent, Trademarks, and Copyright Institute of George Washington University. He was recognized for his many achievements in electronics. The mercury battery is but one of some 300 inventions patented by Dr. Ruben.

ABRAHAM SHAMOS DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS BOARD MEMBER OF HEBREW U.

NEW YORK, May 11. (JTA) -- Abraham Shamos of New York, an attorney who was active in Jewish affairs, died yesterday at New York Hospital at the age of 59.

He was a member of the board of the Hebrew University, secretary of the American Friends of Hebrew University and a member of the board of the Associated Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Associations of Greater New York. He was a protege of the late Samuel Untermyer and of the late Louis Marshall.