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STATE DEPARTMENT WATCHES TIES BETWEEN ARABS AND COMMUNIST CHINA

WASHINGTON, June 20. (JTA) -- The State Department today disclosed that it is carefully observing the ties between Communist China and Arab extremists. It reported that Communist China has given the Palestine Liberation Organization some noisy propaganda support, "but added that "we have no solid information which would confirm the claim that Chinese Communist arms or personnel have arrived in the Near East to help equip or train the PLO.

Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur II also said: "There have been reports of uncertain authenticity that a small number of Palestine Liberation Army recruits have been sent to Communist China for military training. We will continue to follow this closely."

In a letter to Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, the State Department official stated: "We agree wholeheartedly with your opinion that the statements of Mr. Shukairy must be treated with reserve. (Ahmed Shukairy is chairman of the PLO.) As you know, the United States Government has strongly urged the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and the host countries to make every effort to assure that the PLO receive no support in the form of UNRWA rations for Palestine Liberation Army recruits."

"I can assure you that the Department has the situation in the Near East under constant and careful review with particular concern for any development that would lead to an increase of tension between Israel and the Arab states," Mr. MacArthur stressed.

The Jewish War Veterans today commended the State Department for asking the United Nations to suspend ration distribution to Arabs who are training in military guerrilla tactics. "It is now essential for the State Department to follow through and see to it that the United Nations does, in fact, drop the offending Arabs from the UNRWA relief rolls." J WV national commander Milton Walder said. He urged the U.S. to "remind the U.N. Secretary-General that the United States has paid more than 70 percent of the UNRWA bill since that agency was created 16 years ago."

U.N. Secretary-General Requests Report on Aid to Arab Refugees

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 20. (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant announced here today that he has asked Commissioner-General Laurence Michelmore, of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees to submit a report about the allegations that Arab refugees on the UNRWA relief rolls receive ration cards while serving in the Palestine Liberation Organization. The PLO is the Arab League's fighting arm being trained for war against Israel.

At a general news conference, Mr. Thant was asked about the Arab refugees enlisted in the PLO. He replied that he had been informed of the ration card situation a few days ago and has, consequently, requested Mr. Michelmore to report to him on that issue. He did not identify the source of the report he had received. However, it was noted here that the last Middle East representative listed on his appointment calendar in the last week was Ambassador Michael Comay, Israel's permanent representative here.

CAMPAIGN TO REMOVE GERMAN NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS FROM EGYPT SUCCESSFUL

TEL AVIV, June 20. (JTA) -- Isser Harel, former chief of Israel's security services, who conducted a campaign for the removal from Egypt of scientists at work for Nasser on sophisticated arms designed for war against Israel, said here today that the campaign was entirely successful.

Mr. Harel, whose name as chief of security could never be mentioned publicly in Israel or in news dispatches abroad during the time he held that position, is now an adviser to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol. Addressing a meeting here today, Mr. Harel said his campaign had borne fruit. "The work of German scientists in Nasser's service now is insignificant," he said. "When a German is at present given an offer to work against Israel, he thinks twice before accepting the offer."

He declared he disagrees with those Israelis who say that there is no Nazism left in Germany. He implied that his resignation from the highly sensitive post, three years ago, had been due to a disagreement on whether there was a "new" Germany.

PRESIDENT DE GAULLE URGED TO RAISE IN MOSCOW ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- A hope that French President Charles de Gaulle will discuss with Soviet authorities the situation of Russian Jewry, and help thereby to alleviate the oppressive conditions being imposed on the Jews in the USSR, was expressed here tonight by Jacques Torczyner, president of the Zionist Organization of America.

Addressing a dinner of several hundred Zionist representatives honoring Shimon Peres, Israel's former Deputy Minister of Defense, who had just concluded a 10-day visit to the United States, Mr. Torczyner referred to President de Gaulle's current visit to Moscow, and said:

"It is our fervent hope that, during his current meeting with the leaders of Soviet Russia, President de Gaulle, a world statesman of courage and vision, will discuss the plight of the Jewish community there, with a view that it be accorded equal treatment as guaranteed under the Soviet constitution to all minorities.

"Recent declarations by the Soviet Government, in response to protests against discriminations practiced there toward the Jewish community, manifest that it is sensitive to public opinion in a larger measure than heretofore." The ZOA president continued: "The voice of President de Gaulle, particularly a direct plea on his part, will go a long way toward redressing the discriminations practiced against Soviet Jewry."

Mr. Peres, who is now general secretary of Rafi, Israel's newest political party formed by former Premier David Ben-Gurion, warned that the present balance of arms in the Middle East "may be disrupted because of the growing competition between East and West in the Middle East, and the slow infiltration of the Red Chinese in that area." Discussing Israel's economy, Mr. Peres said that affiliation of Israel with the European Common Market "is a prerequisite for the broadening of its economy."

SCIENTIST BROUGHT FROM JORDAN TO ISRAEL FOR CURE FROM SNAKE POISON

TEL AVIV, June 20. (JTA) -- A world-renowned Austrian scientist, Dr. Friedrich Kniezanek, was in a serious condition at Beilinson Hospital outside Tel Aviv today, after a dramatic rescue from certain death through swift action by members of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization and Israeli health officials.

Dr. Kniezanek is an expert on studying snakes. He was "milking" an asp in the desert in Jordan, across from Israel's frontier, yesterday, when he was bitten by the viper. There was no serum available on the Jordanian side, and some serum was rushed to the border by the Israeli authorities, who had been notified by UNTSO. However, the Jordanians refused to accept the serum, saying there was "no responsible official" on hand to deal with the Israelis even on a life-saving mission.

Israeli authorities dispatched a helicopter to the border, while the UNTSO personnel brought the scientist across the frontier. Dr. Kniezanek was then flown to Beilinson Hospital. Physicians at the hospital said today his condition was "very serious" because too much time had elapsed before doctors could inject the serum into the man suffering from snake-bite.

ANTI-NAZIS IN ISRAEL PLEDGE TO PREVENT PLAYING OF WAGNER'S MUSIC

TEL AVIV, June 20. (JTA) -- The Organization of Partisans and Anti-Nazi Fighters pledged at a meeting held here last night "to do everything in our power" to prevent the playing of music by Richard Strauss and Richard Wagner by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Philharmonic announced yesterday that it will resume performing Strauss and Wagner works this season. Music by these German composers had been banned by the Philharmonic since 1938. In calling for a Philharmonic reversal of its new attitude, the organization that met last night referred to Strauss and Wagner as "fathers of hatred and murder."

TRIAL AGAINST NAZI CHARGED WITH KILLING JEWS OPENS IN BREMEN

BREMEN, June 20. (JTA) -- A war crimes trial expected to last nine months started here today against Fritz Hildebrand, a former high officer in Hitler's SS. Hildebrand, who is 63, is charged with participating in the individual murders of 15 Jews, and in aiding six mass killings of Jews, during World War II, in Galicia and Poland. Witnesses against Hildebrand have been brought here from various parts of the world. The prosecutor said that the costs of the trial are expected to reach 500,000 Deutschmarks (\$125,000).

Meanwhile, the international congress of the European Assembly of Persecutees of Nazism, meeting in Frankfurt, requested the German Government to expedite investigations into Nazi war crimes. The congress also adopted a resolution criticizing the German Government for the manner and pace in awarding indemnification to victims of Nazism.

U.S. CLERGYMEN SEEK SOVIET PERMISSION TO SEND 10,000 SIDDURIM TO RUSSIA

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- Two Christian clergymen -- a Catholic and a Methodist -- announced here today they have asked Soviet authorities for permission to send a gift of 10,000 Hebrew prayerbooks to Jews in the Soviet Union. The clergymen are the Rev. Thurston N. Davis, editor of the Jesuit weekly, America; and Dr. Harold A. Bosley, minister of Christ Church, Methodist. Both are vice-presidents of the Appeal to Conscience Foundation, an organization founded a year ago to aid restoration of religious freedom for Jews in the USSR.

Father Davis and the Rev. Bosley were members of an interfaith team that visited the Soviet Union last winter to look into the situation of religious freedoms there, especially for Jews. A member of the team was Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal to Conscience Foundation. Upon their return, all three clergymen reported that, in Moscow, they had been promised by Peter Makartsev, of the Soviet Ministry of Religious Cults, that 10,000 Hebrew prayer books, to replace old, tattered copies, would be printed as soon as technical arrangements could be completed.

Pointing out that now, five months after that promise, the Hebrew prayerbooks have not as yet been furnished to the Jewish community in the Soviet Union, the clergymen said that, by granting permission to them to ship those books, the Soviet Government could "go a long way toward restoring world faith and confidence in the USSR, and would help regain its prestige among the family of nations."

The clergymen said they sent their request to the Soviet Ministry of Religious Cults last week through the Soviet embassy in Washington. They added that "the situation facing the Jewish community of the Soviet Union cannot remain the sole concern of Jewry, but is a matter of concern to all men, regardless of creed."

TWO INJURED IN CLASH AT TORONTO OPEN AIR RALLY OF CANADIAN NAZIS

TORONTO, June 20. (JTA) -- Two persons were injured and one arrested when 500 hooting, jeering persons, including 50 Jewish survivors from Nazi concentration camps, staged a counter-demonstration here yesterday afternoon against an open-air rally conducted by John Beattie, self-styled leader of Canadian Nazis.

Beattie opened his rally in Allan Gardens, Toronto's leading public park, under the protection of 50 uniformed policemen and a cordon of mounted patrolmen. As the victims of Nazism waved anti-Nazi placards, the crowd booed Beattie so vigorously that his remarks could not be heard. The rally lasted a short time after which, to protect him, the police authorities rushed him into a police wagon and drove away with him.

As Beattie was being taken away for protection, the anti-Nazi crowd broke loose, and policemen rode their horses into the demonstrators. The two members of the crowd who were hurt were not injured seriously. Police arrested one youth, who was charged with obstructing the police. He was freed on bail.

N.C.J.W. ASKS RABBIS TO MODIFY JEWISH LAWS CAUSING HARDSHIPS FOR WOMEN

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- Rabbinical authorities were called upon by the National Council of Jewish Women to reinterpret ancient Jewish religious laws which bring hardships to women in matters of divorce, remarriage and inheritance. A decision to support a worldwide drive for the modernization of women's status under Jewish law was adopted here at the three-day meeting of the NCJW's executive committee. The drive was launched in London last month by the International Council of Jewish Women, which represents 500,000 women in 19 countries.

Jewish law stipulates that only a husband can obtain a divorce. According to a report to the executive committee by Mrs. Frank Cohen, chairman of the NCJW's committee on the Status of Women Under Jewish Law, a significant number of husbands refuse to grant a religious divorce even though the marriage has been dissolved in civil law, or insist on a monetary reward for granting the religious divorce, or are unable to consent to it because of mental illness.

Women whose husbands have disappeared may be barred from remarriage, Mrs. Cohen explained, because Jewish law makes no presumption of death after a certain number of years. She reported that the Orthodox rabbinate, which regards the law as unchangeable, has relaxed traditional interpretations to free these "chained wives" to remarry only in cases of disappearance arising from the Nazi holocaust.

Jewish law also requires that a childless widow marry her late husband's surviving brother or be freed by him to marry another in a ceremony known as Chalitzah, in which she throws a shoe at him. Women have been forced to wait years until child brothers-in-law reach the age of 13, when they become qualified to undergo this ceremony. The NCJW is

seeking to ease woman's plight when the man cannot free her because of his age or distance, or when he unreasonably refuses to give Chalitzah or demands a monetary reward in exchange for it.

While Mrs. Cohen stressed that "cases of hardship and tragedy occur in our country as well as elsewhere," she noted that American Jewish women are better off than their sisters in Oriental countries where religious minorities live under the laws of their own religions. In calling for support of the drive among American Jewish women, Mrs. Joseph Willen, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, said that "the anomalies of these family laws increase the temptations and excuses existing today for young people to forsake the traditions of their fathers."

The Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative movement believes, that a pledge which it added to the marriage contract 15 years ago has proved to be an effective solution to problems of religious divorce. This stipulates that should the couple receive a civil divorce, husbands and wives are required to carry out a decision of the rabbinical court concerning religious dissolution of the marriage. Reform rabbis consider divorce a civil, not a religious function, and will remarry a woman without requiring religious divorce, Chalitzah or a religious court's presumption of a husband's death.

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES OPENS ITS FIRST CONVENTION

PHILADELPHIA, June 20. (JTA) -- With Jewish librarians and library workers from all of the United States and Canada in attendance, the first national convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries opened here last night. The parley, to last through Wednesday, is being held at Gratz College.

The association is a consolidation of two former organizations: The Jewish Librarians' Association, comprised mainly of academic and research facilities; and the Synagogue and Jewish Center Library Association. Provisional president of the consolidated organization is Herbert Z. Zafren, librarian of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion at Cincinnati.

A statement issued by the new organization declared: "The amalgamation of the talents and resources of the nation's Jewish librarians and library workers is an expression of their conviction that they must intensify their efforts to promote the dissemination of Jewish cultural values and a deeper self-understanding through the Jewish book and associated media."

CHICAGO COLLEGE OF JEWISH STUDIES AWARDS DEGREES TO 15 GRADUATES

CHICAGO, Ill., June 20. (JTA) -- Fifteen graduates of the College of Jewish Studies were awarded degrees and diplomas here yesterday in graduation exercises which were addressed by Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, chief United States Delegate to the United Nations. An honorary degree was conferred on Ambassador Goldberg.

The degrees granted by the college include a doctorate of Hebrew literature, three master of Hebrew literature, six bachelor of Hebrew literature, three associate in Jewish studies degrees and two Hebrew teacher's diplomas.

BOSTON POLICE TAKE MEASURES TO CURB VANDALISM AGAINST SYNAGOGUE

BOSTON, June 20. (JTA) -- Police took measures here today to curb further acts of vandalism against the historic Blue Hill Avenue Shul which has been the target for numerous attacks climaxed last week by an assault on a synagogue official who surprised five youths in the act of desecrating the sanctuary.

In the latest incident, Julius Epstein, 83, who runs the synagogue's thrift shop, found the lock on the front door broken when he arrived at the building. When he entered the synagogue, he found the Torahs removed from the ark and prayerbooks and prayer-shawls scattered about the sanctuary.

The intruders, believed to be 17 or 18 years of age, knocked him to the floor and pummeled him, inflicting severe cuts on his eye, forehead and elsewhere about the face. By the time congregants found Mr. Epstein bleeding on the floor, the assailants had fled. When a worshiper tried to phone the police, he found that the telephone wires had been cut.

ACADEMY OF FOUNDERS OF BOYS TOWN IN JERUSALEM FORMED IN U.S.

NEW YORK, June 20. (JTA) -- The Academy of Founders of Boys Town Jerusalem, a comprehensive high school, was established here today, with David G. Baird, New York financier and philanthropist, as its chairman. The institution, located in the Bayit V'Gan suburb of Jerusalem, provides 700 teenage youth with academic, vocational and religious training.