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STATE DEPT. SEEKS REMOVAL OF FIGHTING ARABS FROM U.N. RELIEF ROLLS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- The State Department made it known here that while the United States wants to have Palestine Liberation Army members removed from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency ration rolls, their identification is "virtually impossible" without cooperation of Arab host governments which is now being sought.

This was disclosed by Assistant Secretary of State Douglas MacArthur, 2nd, in a letter to Rep. William F. Ryan, New York Democrat. Mr. MacArthur told the Congressman that Secretary of State Dean Rusk asked him to clarify the current situation involving the distribution of UNRWA food and supplies to members of the PLA.

He said that the U.S. Government first raised the subject of removal of FLA adherents from UNRWA rolls more than a year ago and "since then, we have registered our concern with UNRWA on a number of occasions at the lack of progress on this matter."

The official reported that "UNRWA assures us that it is well aware of the problem and that it is attempting to work out arrangements with the Arab host governments whereby PLA recruits can be identified and removed from the ration rolls. Without cooperation from the host governments, however, it would be virtually impossible for UNRWA to identify PLA members."

Mr. MacArthur emphasized that "in the meantime, it is our intention to do all possible to urge UNRWA to continue its efforts to correct this abuse."

SYRIA PROPOSES 'FREEZING' BY ISRAEL OF CULTIVATION OF BORDER ZONE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Syria has proposed that Israel extend the temporary halt it had ordered three weeks ago on cultivation of certain parcels of land along the Israeli-Syrian border, Israel was informed here today by Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

Recently, while Syrian and Israeli charges and countercharges of aggression were being debated in the United Nations Security Council, Israel ordered a halt in the cultivation of the disputed land parcels, which are near Tel Katzir and Almagor. The Israeli move was an effort to help ease tensions in the area in line with Gen. Bull's requests to both Syria and Israel. Now, according to the U.N. truce chief, the Damascus Government has requested that the cultivation "freeze" be continued by Israel.

Gen. Bull relayed the latest Syrian proposals to the Foreign Ministry this morning, but it was understood that he added no recommendations of his own on the subject. After discussing the issue with Israeli Foreign Ministry officials, he left for Damascus to continue his talks with Syrian officials. Because of the complexity of the subject, and Israel's counter-proposals, it was believed here that Gen. Bull's negotiations will be lengthy.

1,000 EMPLOYEES DISMISSED IN ISRAELI GOVERNMENT-OWNED COMPANIES

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Israel's Treasury announced here today that, as part of the government's drive for economy, more than 1,000 employees in 12 large, government-owned companies have been dismissed from their jobs in the last 15 months. The number of dismissals, said the Treasury Department's spokesman, affected 5 percent of the labor force in those firms owned by the government. In spite of these dismissals, the spokesman added, production by the firms has increased during the period covered by the report.

A series of meetings was under way today in the continuing efforts to hammer out a new economic policy for Israel. There were still serious differences today between the alignment partners -- Mapai and Ahdut Avodah -- as well as between the entire alignment on the one side, and its coalition partners in the Cabinet on the other. One of the major unresolved conflicts is between the alignment and Mapam.

The secretariat of Mapam, which has been offered some concessions in the efforts by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol to win Mapam backing for the economic policy, met this morning but failed to reach a decision. A number of Mapam leaders are opposed to the portions of the economic plan outlined by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. Inside Mapai itself, there are serious rifts. A meeting of Mapai's ideological circle last night disclosed that economists on the Hebrew University faculty opposed the Sapir program as one that, they said, fails to meet Israel's needs.

KNESSET ADJOURNS FOR SUMMER; POSTPONES DEBATE ON POST MORTEM BILL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Knesset, Israel's Parliament, adjourned last night for the summer months with the adoption of a law providing that the post of Prime Minister can be given only to a member of the Knesset. Until now, all other members of the Cabinet, except the Premier, were named in the law linking Cabinet membership with Parliamentary office.

The Knesset postponed further debate on the Anatomy and Pathology bill, a measure aimed at tightening regulations regarding post mortems at hospitals. At present, hospitals are not required to obtain a kin's permission for the performance of an autopsy. Israel's religious parties have supported the stricter regulations.

In another vote, the Knesset approved the second and final reading of the amendment to the Knesset Building Immunity Law, adapting it to the area around the new building where the next Knesset session will take place.

The Knesset also passed the first reading of an amendment aimed at liberalizing the libel law approved by the last Knesset, which had resulted in widespread protest from various quarters. No one voted against the amendment, but abstentions were recorded by the Communists and by Uri Avneri, the journalist who was elected to the Knesset last year on an independent ticket.

The amendment was proposed by a special committee appointed by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in the face of growing opposition to the original measure. According to the amendment, which will be debated after the summer recess, the truth of an item and the fact that its publication is in the public interest will be sufficient defense against charges of libel. The amendment also eases the penalties for publishers and journalists found guilty of libel.

ISRAEL TO BUILD \$43,000,000 COMPLEX OF CHEMICAL PLANTS IN NEGEV

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- A new complex of plants for the chemical industry, to cost 130,000,000 Israeli pounds (over \$43,000,000) will be built near Arad, in the Negev, and will be ready to start production in 1968, the Ministry of Development announced here today.

The complex, expected, according to the Ministry, to become one of Israel's major chemical industry developments, will be built by the Madera Company, and work is expected to start within three months. The new plant, to be financed by American and Israeli capital, will have an annual output capacity of 70,000,000 Israeli pounds worth (\$23,000,000) of production, of which about \$16,000,000 worth will be earmarked for export. The export portion alone, the Ministry said, exceeds last year's total earnings by the Dead Sea chemical works.

HISTADRUT LEADER APPEALS FOR ISRAEL'S FRIENDSHIP TO GERMAN WORKERS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Israel's labor should "respond rationally and in friendly manner to the outstretched hand of the 6,500,000 West German workers," Zeev Hering, the new head of the International Affairs Department of Histadrut, Israel's federation of labor, declared here today.

Mr. Hering made that statement upon his return from Brussels, where he had attended a meeting of the executive bureau of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. He met leaders of the West German Confederation of Labor during the Brussels meeting. "We must decide," he said, "whether to put these relations (between Israeli and German workers) on a reciprocal basis -- or not to have them at all. I hope we will choose the former. After years of enjoying their support, we have to make such a friendly gesture."

RING OF SMUGGLERS BROKEN UP IN ISRAEL; BELGIAN TOURIST ARRESTED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- A ring of smugglers whose operations involved at least \$9,000,000 worth of black market money and the fraudulent import of many trucks has been uncovered and broken up in this country, the Israeli police announced today.

The announcement stated that two men are under arrest. One of them, a Belgian tourist, has been released in bail of 120,000 Israeli pounds (\$40,000). In addition, the police authorities said, 40 residents of Israel, many of them recent immigrants, were involved in the ring.

The operation, according to police, was launched about three years ago but was broken up with the arrest of the Belgian tourist. One part of a complex scheme with many ramifications, the police said, involved bringing into Israel trucks which were presumably the private property of immigrants. The trucks were then sold here without the need for import licenses. It is believed that more than 300 trucks were thus smuggled into the country. Another part of the scheme was said to be the illegal export of money on which no income taxes had been paid. The funds would then be mailed back into Israel in the guise of gifts from foreign residents to Israeli residents.

SOVIET ANTI-ISRAEL CHARGES SEEN AS PROPAGANDA PRECEDING ROSH HASHANA

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Israel considers charges printed yesterday in Izvestia, the Soviet Government's official organ, accusing Israeli diplomats of "smuggling" Zionist propaganda into the USSR, as not only unfounded but slanderously false.

Israeli sources noted today that, each year, a short time before the High Holy Days, the Soviet propaganda machinery and press habitually find methods of attacking Israel. This is done, they pointed out, because, at this time of the year, more Russian Jews think of Israel and of Jerusalem. "It appears," one knowledgeable source stated, "that this propaganda is stepped up each year before Rosh Hashana to try to counteract the increasingly warm Jewish sentiments among the Jews of the USSR."

U.S. RABBIS SEE GRIM PROSPECTS FOR SURVIVAL OF JUDAISM IN RUSSIA

NEW YORK, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Grim prospects for the survival of Jewish cultural and religious life in the Soviet Union were expressed here today by spokesmen for a delegation of 22 members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis who returned last week from a visit to Russia, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The report on the study mission of the Reform rabbinical group was made at a press conference here by Rabbi George V. Lieberman of Rockville Center, Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik of Newark and Rabbi Sidney L. Regner, executive vice-president of the CCAR. Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein, CCAR president who addressed the press conference by phone from Chicago, stressed that the report was a consensus of the delegation and did not represent the official views of the organization.

Asserting that the Soviet authorities "have almost triumphed in their battle against organized religion," Rabbi Lieberman, the only Russian-speaking member of the group, said that the Soviet Jewish community particularly was beset with "fear, loneliness and isolation, inequality, ignorance and decline."

Noting that individual Russian Jews displayed fear and tension when speaking with members of the delegation, Rabbi Lieberman said that Russian Jews were suffering of isolation from their coreligionists and were the victims of discrimination especially in the field of Jewish culture.

Found Torah Scrolls and Talmudic Books Stored Away in Vilna

The delegation spokesmen said that the synagogues in Russia "were the gathering places for the old, the halt and the retired pensioners." While, in addition to the "synagogue Jews," there were small numbers of "cultural Jews," Rabbi Pilchik said that the vast majority were "invisible Jews" who had little or no contact with Jewish life.

During their visit to Vilna, the delegation members were shown several rooms full of Torah scrolls, numerous volumes of the Talmud and other rabbinic and scholarly Jewish books which had been rescued from the Nazis by a Lithuanian priest and deposited in a synagogue after the war where they are still being stored. The delegation spokesmen said that local Jews had sought to find out if the books could be removed so that they could be preserved and used by Jewish communities elsewhere.

The spokesmen reported that an official of the Soviet Ministry of Cults had told them that 5,000 of the 10,000 Jewish prayerbooks which the Government promised would be printed, would be ready momentarily with the remainder due to be printed by the end of this month.

Believe that Anti-Semitism Is Now Increasing in Russia

"We gained the strong impression," the delegation spokesmen added, "that anti-Semitism in the USSR has not been uprooted. On the contrary, it is now on the increase. The official policy of the Government is that anti-Semitism is a crime against the state. We strongly urge the USSR to implement this official policy as a matter of highest priority."

While the Christian communities seemed to show less tension and self consciousness than Russian Jews, Rabbi Pilchik said that he thought there was little difference between the difficulties which the Jews and other communities were suffering in the area of religion.

In the cultural field, however, it was the consensus of the delegation members that "strictures and limitations were placed on the development of Jewish culture which were not true of other nationality groups such as the Ukrainian or the Lithuanian or the Georgian."

Jewish Congress Group Leaves for East European Countries

BRUSSELS, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- A group of 12 leading members of the American Jewish Congress who participated in the plenary assembly of the World Jewish Congress held here, left today for a 21-day trip to six countries in East Europe to study conditions of Jewish life there. They will visit Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. The group is led by Will Maslow, AJCongress executive director.

Mark Turkow, general secretary of the Latin American executive of the World Jewish Congress, was today refused a visa to visit Poland by the Polish Consulate here.

HADASSAH NATIONAL CONVENTION OPENS SUNDAY; 2,000 DELEGATES EXPECTED

BOSTON, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- A four-day national convention of Hadassah will open here on Sunday, with the participation of about 2,000 delegates representing the organization's more than 318,000 members in 1,350 chapters and groups throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

The convention will be addressed by a number of important American and Israeli personalities. A high point at the first plenary session will be the award of a citation to Hadassah by the U.S. Committee of the World Health Organization, an agency of the United Nations. Hadassah awards will be presented to Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman and to William Benton, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The largest individual Zionist organization in the world today, Hadassah spends more than \$9,000,000 annually on its undertakings. In Israel, Hadassah conducts comprehensive health, vocational education and social welfare programs, which include diagnostic, curative and preventive medical services, rehabilitation and education of underprivileged Jewish youth, and a land redemption program.

The Hadassah Medical Organization -- which conducts Hadassah's medical program in Israel -- is based at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center. Located at Ein Karem, a suburb of Jerusalem, the Medical Center consolidates Hadassah's medical facilities in a modern building complex. It includes a medical school; a 500-bed teaching hospital -- servicing 17,000 inpatients annually -- with service laboratories; a mother and child pavilion for maternity and infant care; an outpatient department capable of handling more than 250,000 patient visits annually; a school of nursing and residence; and a dental school.

In the United States, Hadassah -- a non-governmental organization accredited to the United Nations -- conducts an intensive American affairs program through which Hadassah members are kept informed on vital community, state, national and international developments. In addition, Hadassah interprets Israel and its people to the American public, helps foster creative Jewish living through education, and supports Jewish youth groups and camps.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE BILL OUTLAWING HATE PROPAGANDA

OTTAWA, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson announced here today that his Government will introduce a bill for the outlawry of dissemination of racial and religious hate materials. He said he was not certain whether the measure could be "squeezed" into the agenda of the national Legislature's session during the fall, but that it "would certainly be ready for the session beginning in January, 1967."

A campaign for the introduction of such legislation was started by the Canadian Jewish Congress in 1953 and intensified in 1964. Last April, a special parliamentary committee, headed by Dean Maxwell Cohen, of McGill University, recommended legislation for the outlawry of hate propaganda. But, until now, no official comment on the subject has been made by the Government.

Michael Carber, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, expressed gratification today over Premier Pearson's statement, noting that his pledge "appears to bring to fruition our campaign of many years." With the passage of a law outlawing hate propaganda, he said, "public opinion will be more readily mobilized to reject the racist and the hatemonger, and to ensure that the freedom we enjoy shall continue to prevail."

JEWISH CENTER IN YUGOSLAVIA RENOVATED; WAS DAMAGED DURING EARTHQUAKE

BELGRADE, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- The renovated Jewish Community Center at Skopje, which was badly damaged during the 1963 earthquake there, will be inaugurated October 11 and renamed in memory of Dr. Albert Vajs, late president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Yugoslavia, it was announced here today.

The Center is located on Eleventh of March Street, a thoroughfare named in memory of the date, in 1943, when 7,000 Macedonian Jews were deported to Treblinka. None of the deportees survived. Prior to World War II, Skopje had several thousand Jews. Now there are 60 Jews there; those who survived the Nazi holocaust have emigrated, mainly to Israel. Participants in the Center inauguration ceremonies will include officials of the Yugoslav Government and leaders of the Jewish community.

It was also announced here today that from October 15 to October 17, a special celebration will be held at Sarajevo to mark the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jews in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sarajevo -- where the assassination of a duke triggered World War I in 1914 -- had, prior to World War II, one of the oldest and largest Jewish communities in Yugoslavia, with more than 10,000 Jews. Now there are 1,300 Jews in Sarajevo, which is still one of the largest of Jewish communities in the country.