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EBAN HOLDS URGENT TALKS ON SYRIA WITH U.N. CHIEF; STRESSES GRAVITY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The gravity with which Israel views the new border hostility created by Syria in the Lake Tiberias area was stressed today by Foreign Minister Abba Eban at an urgently-summoned conference with Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

As the aftermath of a sea and air clash over Lake Tiberias on August 15, in which two Soviet-made Syrian MIGs were shot down, one with its pilot into the Lake, Syria has refused to allow Israel to salvage a Coast Guard vessel stranded on a sandbar in the lake. The vessel was the initial target of the Syrian action. Israel halted salvage operations shortly after a U.N. cease-fire was established as a step to ease the border tensions.

An equally serious development was an announcement in Damascus by Syrian Chief of Staff Swedani that Syria had decided to halt efforts to resolve border conflicts through such international forums as the U.N., and to move directly with military action against Israeli "aggression."

Mr. Eban warned Gen. Bull today of possible "serious" developments, and told the U.N. official that, while Israel had shown great restraint and patience while waiting for Gen. Bull to continue negotiations with Syrian authorities in Damascus, Israel could not wait indefinitely or permit the situation to continue without some specific information of progress to resolve the deadlock. Mr. Eban asked Gen. Bull to ask Syria for a definite reply to enable Israel to proceed with the salvage operation.

Syrian Radio Continues to Broadcast Threats Against Israel

It was indicated that Mr. Eban also informed Gen. Bull about Israel's concern over Syria's open threats against Israel's security and territorial integrity. It was noted that not only had Syria refused to allow Israel to salvage the Coast Guard ship which is within Israeli sovereign territory, but also that Syria had assembled armor and troops in the area with the apparent intention of using force to prevent the salvage effort.

Meanwhile, Damascus Radio continued today to assert that Syria was no longer practicing "defensive action" but that it had "taken the offensive." Israeli sources said that Israel could not tolerate indefinitely either the prevention of salvage of the ship or the Syrian threats against its existence.

Mr. Eban reportedly conveyed many of these views to Gen. Bull in what may have been one of the most solemn talks between the two in recent months. Gen. Bull also met briefly yesterday with Moshe Sasson, the new director of the armistice affairs division of the Foreign Ministry, and with outgoing director Mordechai Kidron.

It was learned from UNTSO sources here that Gen. Bull still has received no clear reply from the Syrian Government on salvaging of the Coast Guard vessel. UNTSO sources said that Gen. Bull was determined to continue his efforts with Syrian authorities to end a deadlock which has already lasted for more than a week.

U.S. AND ISRAEL SIGN PACT BROADENING CIVILIAN USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- American and Israeli officials today signed an agreement amending and broadening a previous accord on civilian use of atomic energy. It provided for an increase in the amount and grade of uranium that may be made available under the original agreement for Israel's Nahal Sorek research reactor.

The new agreement, which must be ratified by Congress within a specified time, was signed by Dr. Glen Seaborg, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission; Raymond Hare, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs; and charge d'affaires Ephraim Evron, of the Israel Embassy. Operation of the Nahal Sorek reactor is covered by International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.

The new amendment will enable Israel to achieve more efficient and economical utilization of the reactor for research in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The quantitative ceiling of enriched uranium was raised from 10 kilograms to 40. The percentage of enrichment was increased above 90 percent. Another provision permits the two governments to authorize scientific and public institutions to order nuclear material through commercial channels.

JEWISH AGENCY PLANS FORMATION OF SUPREME IMMIGRATION AUTHORITY

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Formation of a Supreme Immigration Authority which would amalgamate the functions of all the Jewish Agency departments dealing with immigration and absorption was proposed today by Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Agency.

Methods for fusing the immigration and absorption departments have been under consideration by the Agency for some time as part of several moves to streamline the various departments and saving expenditures and personnel.

Under the new plan, which Mr. Pincus laid today before the various political parties represented on the Agency executive, the new Authority would be headed by three members of the executive who would rotate among the various immigration-absorption offices now maintained in Jerusalem, Europe and New York. The new plan is to be submitted to the meeting to be held here by the Agency executive, September 1-9.

21,000 ATTEND OPENING OF PAN-AMERICAN MACCABIAH GAMES IN BRAZIL

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The sixth Pan-American Maccabiah Games were inaugurated last night at the Ibirapuera state gymnasium here with all of the stadium's 21,000 seats filled and more than 5,000 persons unable to gain admittance.

The pageant by contingents of Jewish athletes included two Israelis and a 34-member United States team, the first sent to the Pan-American Maccabiah. Among the high officials present for the inauguration were Cardinal Archbishop Dom Angella Rossi; Machado de Carvalho, the Sao Paulo Secretary of State; Major Silvio de Magalhães Padilha, president of the Brazilian Olympic Committee; and Manuel Epstein, representing the World Maccabi Union.

Dr. Isaac Fischer, president of the Pan-American Maccabi Federation, greeted the athletes. Sao Paulo State Governor Laudo Natel declared the Maccabiah Games open. Brazilian and Israeli anthems were sung, the Maccabi flag was hoisted, the Olympic torch was lit, and the athletes took the oath of competition. A display of folklore from the different countries represented was held at the conclusion of the start of the biggest Maccabiah Games organized outside of Israel.

NUMBER OF JEWS SEEKING LOANS FROM J.D.C. FUNDS REPORTED DECLINED

GENEVA, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The reduction in the total amount of money loaned by Joint Distribution Committee-supported loan funds during 1965 was negligible, despite an overall drop of 11 percent in the total number of loans to needy Jews made by the loan funds, Charles E. Jordan, JDC director general reported here today.

He attributed the smallness of the reduction to world-wide inflationary trends and price increases, which necessitated a further raise in the ceilings on such loans. As a result, he said, the average amount of loans reached an all-time high of \$747, up 6 percent over the average in 1964.

He said the total number of loans made in 1965 in 19 countries where JDC funds operate was 4,613 in 1965, compared with 5,202 in 1964. He added that "the primary cause for the reduction in the number of loans has been a considerable drop in loan activities in North African countries, where Jewish communities continue to shrink. Also the virtual cessation of loan fund operations in Latin America where Jewish immigration sharply diminished"

Other factors, he said, were "a fading out of loan activities in Israel, and an upward economic trend in western Europe."

TOWN OFFICIALS OF CHICAGO SUBURB REFUSE TO PERMIT ROCKWELL MEETING

CHICAGO, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Town officials of Chicago's suburb of Cicero announced today that they had turned down an application from George Lincoln Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi Party, for a permit for a rally he said he wanted to hold Saturday in front of the Cicero City Hall.

In his application, Rockwell told the officials he wanted "to organize the white people of Cicero to defend their homes and neighborhood against Martin Luther King's black invasion." The Rev. Mr. King, leader of the Negro drive in Chicago to remove racial bias from the housing field, has scheduled a march to be held in Cicero on Sunday.

Cook County Sheriff Richard Ogilvie said that he would have Rockwell arrested on sight if the man set foot anywhere in the county outside the Chicago city limits. Rockwell has been stirring hatred among white residents in this area against the Negro drive, and his assistants have been furnishing swastika-embazoned posters for the opponents of civil rights. He has also been delivering speeches at public meetings.

OFFICIAL DOUBTS INCLUSION OF QUESTION OF RELIGION IN U.S. CENSUS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A. Ross Eckler, director of the U.S. Census Bureau, told a House census subcommittee that he doubted the forthcoming national census of 1970 would require citizens to state their religion, although he believed such a question would be valuable.

Mr. Eckler's statement came in response to testimony by Rep. Cornelius Gallagher, New Jersey Democrat, that Nazi Germany used the census to identify Jews, and "it was just such a system that facilitated the mass murders in Germany during the 1930's and 1940's." Rep. Gallagher, chairman of a House subcommittee investigating invasion of privacy, warned the Census Bureau to beware of invading the individual's right to privacy in a zealous search for information.

The Congressman said that probing by the Government into religious affiliations was "a dangerous step backward" and "could lead to a secret police state." He said that "such questions are asked in a census of totalitarian states. They should not be asked by the United States Government."

"We cannot and should not forget that a census of Jews led to machinery that made possible the Nazi apprehension and murder of many people," he declared. Mr. Eckler, commenting on Rep. Gallagher's assertions, said he anticipated a "storm" of emotional protests on the religious issue.

The Rev. Paul Tanner, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, testified today before the subcommittee that "the vast majority of Americans would find no embarrassment or objection" to declaring their religious affiliations in response to the 1970 census. He advocated inclusion of a question to elicit the religious convictions of citizens.

RIGHT OF DISSENT WITHIN JEWISH COMMUNITY STRESSED BY N.C.R.A.C. HEAD

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Predicting that "the occasions for disagreement and dissent within the Jewish community are likely to increase" as the concept of social change broadens, Aaron Goldman, chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, told the 71st annual national convention of the Jewish War Veterans here today that Jews should strongly support the right to dissent.

Mr. Goldman's remarks to the veterans were obviously in response to the JWV veto of a resolution supporting dissent in connection with Viet Nam, at the recent Washington plenary session of the NCRAC. Mr. Goldman stressed that "this nation was founded by dissenters," and said: "Let us always remember that Jews -- as a minority -- have been dissenters from the prevailing forms and practices of many societies."

He pointed out that dissent must be preserved both in the nation generally and in the Jewish community, including the NCRAC, which reflects the views of diverse organizations. He said that "freedom is only as secure as the freedom of the dissenter to express his dissenting opinion, however unpopular or obnoxious it may be."

"Liberty is best served by scrupulous protection of dissent, and never more so than in difficult times when the nation is confronted by agonizing choices of momentous historic import," the NCRAC chairman said. "It is precisely at such times that dissent, by compelling the most rigorous examination of official views, contributes most to the wisdom of foreign policy. If this be true of Government, how much more true it is of a voluntary association like NCRAC?"

He lauded the JWV role on a number of issues, but indicated that he did not share the JWV philosophy on dissent as expressed by the veto invoked at the Washington plenary meeting.

President Johnson, in a second message to the JWV, commended the veterans' patriotism and said: "You will, I know, continue to support the objectives of our nation and our men in uniform, who are giving so greatly of themselves." Vice-President Humphrey will address the convention tomorrow.

NO DANGER OF CHOLERA IN ISRAEL; SITUATION IN JORDAN AND IRAQ WATCHED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- The Israeli Health Ministry announced today there was no danger of cholera in Israel after reports of an outbreak of the disease in Iraq and Jordan. Israeli health experts were reported keeping a close watch on reports from the stricken areas. All possible precautions have been taken in Israel, the Ministry said.

Since there is no direct border between Iraq and Israel, there has been no danger of anyone from Iraq bringing the disease over into Israel. The crossing from Jordan to Israel is similarly rare and very restrictive. Thus Israeli health authorities are in a position to examine more closely those foreigners who receive permits to cross from Jordan into Israel.

STUDY SHOWS NC RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN CANADIAN STOCK EXCHANGES

TORONTO, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- A pending case of alleged discrimination against a Jewish job applicant by a Montreal brokerage firm highlighted a discussion today as to whether there was anti-Jewish discrimination in the securities field in Canada.

The Globe and Mail reported that its inquiries had produced a virtually unanimous response that there was no religious discrimination in the stock exchanges in either Toronto or Montreal, although discrimination on the basis of age, citizenship and sex was admitted.

The newspaper study showed that the Toronto Stock Exchange did not name a Jewish member, T.M. Sterling, until 1962, and that the Montreal Exchange did not name a Jewish member, Harry Shapiro, until last March. One Jewish senior partner in a stock exchange member-firm told the newspaper that "anyone who makes charges of discrimination against the exchange does not know what he is talking about." Another Jewish broker suggested, however, that it was strange that, in the combined 200 years of the Toronto and Montreal exchanges, each had only one Jewish member.

The Montreal brokerage firm is challenging the case, filed under the Quebec Employment Discrimination Act, on grounds that the province does not have the constitutional right to act in this area.

NEW JERSEY SYNAGOGUE DEFACED; 18 SWASTIKAS PAINTED; ADULTS SUSPECTED

TEANECK, N.J., Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Police pushed an investigation today in the swastika defacing of Congregation Beth Shalom here, in what was termed the first such desecration of a religious structure in this community. Police Chief Robert Fitzpatrick said the defacing of the synagogue was a crime but that the nature of the smearings "makes this particularly grave."

Rabbi Harry Schaeffer said 18 swastikas had been "carefully inscribed" with white paint on window panes, pavement, doors and wood trim of the synagogue. He said "this was not the work of little children who did not know what they were doing." He said an oil-base paint was used which will make it very difficult to remove the swastikas.

In saying he was hopeful that arrests would be made, the rabbi explained that he was not so much concerned about punishment of the vandals as he was that such persons had to be educated "to the enormity of their act. By displaying this symbol, they are displaying their ignorance of the evil it stands for." The congregation was considering offering a reward for information leading to arrest of the vandals. Teaneck has four other synagogues.

RABBI MANDELBAUM APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum has been appointed president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, according to an announcement made today by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, chancellor of the Seminary, and president of its faculties. The post of president of the 80-year old institution, academic and spiritual center of the Conservative movement in Judaism, had always been combined with the presidency of the faculties until 1952, when Dr. Finkelstein, fourth president of the Seminary, was named chancellor. Rabbi Mandelbaum is the first to fill the newly-defined post of president.

Rabbi Mandelbaum joined the faculty of the Seminary in 1946 as registrar of the Seminary's rabbinical school. He was appointed dean of students in 1951, and provost of the Seminary in 1959. Editor and author of a number of scholarly works, he has also taught in the rabbinical department, most recently as reader in Midrash and Seminary professor of homiletics.

Filling the post of president at this time, according to Dr. Finkelstein, is part of a program to strengthen top administration in order to prepare for the planned expansion of the institution. He also announced the appointment of Rabbi David C. Kogen, formerly assistant to the chancellor, to the newly created post of administrative vice-chancellor, and of Rabbi Eugene Weiner as director of the Ferbert H. Lehman Institute of Talmudic Ethics. In the past year, the Seminary raised \$12,000,000 toward a \$35,000,000 building and endowment goal.

JEWISH GROUP NAMES OBSERVER TO U.N. SEMINAR ON APARTHEID IN BRAZIL

SAO PAULO, Aug. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Alfred Hirschberg has been named observer to the United Nations' Seminar on Apartheid by the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations which has consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the U.N. Economic and Social Council. The Seminar opened in Brasilia today and will continue for about two weeks.