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SYRIA RENEGES ON PROMISE TO KEEP ISRAEL PEACE AND CEASE-FIRE

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The Syrian radio denied in broadcasts today an official United Nations report stating it had agreed with Israel yesterday to "respect and observe the cease-fire" between the two countries.

The U.N. report was issued yesterday by a spokesman for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization after Israel and Syria had concluded a meeting of the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission which lasted more than five hours at a Syrian customs house not far from B'not Yaacov, Israel. While that meeting was under way, Syrian authorities refused to provide details about the session to newsmen, declaring that any Syrian statement on the results of the session would be broadcast over Radio Damascus.

Today, Radio Damascus said it does not recognize the U.N. spokesman's statement or the communique issued after the ISMAC session by Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the U.N. truce body. The Syrian radio spokesman charged that, at yesterday's meeting, Israel "had tried to bring up the Palestine question as a whole," presenting "general and unspecific proposals which Syria regards as inconsistent with the purpose of the meeting."

Syria, said the broadcaster, tried to "expose Israel's aggression to preserve the right of Syrian farmers to plow their land in the demilitarized zone in a calm atmosphere." Damascus, he stated, would not "guarantee the security of the Zionist criminals."

Israel Briefs Soviet Ambassador on Yesterday's Talk with Syria

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Dimitri Chuvakhin, USSR Ambassador to Israel, was briefed at the Foreign Ministry here yesterday evening on the latest developments along the Syrian-Israeli border and on the extraordinary meeting held yesterday by the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

Senior officials of the Foreign Ministry, including Yosef Tekoah, the deputy director-general who had been one of Israel's participants in yesterday's ISMAC session, participated in the briefing. Mr. Tekoah reiterated to the Soviet envoy Israel's desire for tranquility along its borders.

UNEMPLOYED DEMONSTRATE IN JERUSALEM; PICKET BUILDING OF PARLIAMENT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Two hundred representatives of work committees from various parts of the country staged a demonstration here yesterday in front of the Knesset (Parliament) building, protesting against job dismissals and calling on the Government to provide work for the jobless immediately. The demonstration was decided upon two weeks ago at a meeting of work committees in Tel Aviv, organized by left-wing elements.

While the Parliament building was being picketed here, about 50 men demonstrated in Haifa. The Haifa pickets were former employees of the Jewish National Fund who protested against dismissals and heavy work norms set up by the JNF.

EUROMART UNIT CONCLUDES HEARING ISRAEL BID FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

BRUSSELS, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The Euromart Commission concluded here today three days of talks between the European Economic Community and Israel, concerning Israel's application for associate membership in the EEC. Israel's current agreement with the EEC, on a much more limited basis, is to expire June 30.

After members of Israel's delegation, who had presented their Government's case earlier, answered questions on details posed by members of the Commission, Amiel Najar, chairman of the Israeli group and Ambassador to the EEC, reiterated his country's view that it considers associate EEC membership a matter of vital importance. Israel's delegates spelled out by financial, agricultural and industrial experts, had pointed out that granting their country associate membership would benefit both Israel and the six-member states of the Euromart -- France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

STATE DEPARTMENT OUTLINES U.S. POLICY ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUES

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The United States Government adheres "fully" to the principle of direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states, the State Department declared in an official summary of the American position regarding Israeli-Arab conflicts, made public here today.

While Washington "does not believe" that, at present, "there is a reasonable prospect of a constructive outcome" of such negotiations, it is doing all it can to "achieve increasing observance of the international rule of law" between the Arab states and Israel, the State Department said.

The U.S. policy concerning Arab-Israeli relations was spelled out in a lengthy letter from Assistant Secretary of State Dixon Donnelly to Moses Socahevsky, president of the Jewish Nazi Victims Organization of America. Mr. Donnelly's letter was an official reply to one sent by Mr. Socahevsky earlier to President Johnson.

"We realize," Mr. Donnelly wrote, "that not all Americans agree with the position the United States has taken with respect to recent incidents in this area. However, our actions should be viewed in the largest context of Arab-Israeli relations."

Mr. Donnelly noted that the U.S.A., recognizing for a long time that the Arab refugee problem "is an obstacle" to the creation of peaceful conditions in the Near East, has spent over \$315,000,000 since 1948 to help the Arab refugees and has consistently given "every encouragement to the search for progress toward a political solution of the refugee problem pursuant to United Nations resolutions."

Keeps Military Situation in Middle East Under Constant Review

The high State Department official emphasized Washington's concern with the arms race in the Near East, and the U.S. Government's opposition to the Arab boycott against Israel. Concerning the Middle East arms race, he declared:

"The United States Government has long been and continues to be concerned with the arms race in the Near East. It has repeatedly stated its opposition to the introduction into the area of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction, as well as of all sophisticated offensive weapons; its opposition to their acquisition or production by the nations of the area; and its strong hope for an abatement of the arms race in the Near East and of the tensions engendered thereby.

"To avoid contributing to the arms race, the United States has followed a policy of not becoming a major supplier of arms to any country in the Near East. On a carefully selective basis we have occasionally supplied military equipment to certain Near Eastern states to satisfy legitimate security requirements and to promote stability. It is the practice of this Government to keep the military situation in the area under constant careful review, and to study the possibilities of instituting international measures for arms limitation and control."

Does Not Condone Arab Boycott; Supports Israel's Territorial Integrity

As for the Arab boycott, Mr. Donnelly stated, it is "another source of area instability." The United States, he declared, "does not recognize or condone the Arab boycott, particularly insofar as it adversely affects United States firms, vessels, and individuals. Every appropriate opportunity is utilized, on a continuing basis, to re-emphasize this fundamental position to the governments concerned."

Mr. Donnelly recalled in his letter that, after Israel's Prime Minister Levi Eshkol visited President Johnson last year, the joint Johnson-Eshkol communique had declared:

"The President welcomed assurances of Israel's deep concern, which the United States shares, for peace in the area. He reiterated to Prime Minister Eshkol United States support for the territorial integrity and political independence of all countries in the Near East and emphasized the firm opposition of the United States to aggression and the use of force or the threat of force against any country."

HIGH OFFICIAL STRESSES U.S. CONCERN OVER TERRORIST ATTACKS ON ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- A high State Department official said today that the United States Government has "of course been greatly concerned by the terrorist attacks on Israel over the course of the past two years." He made it known that Secretary of State Dean Rusk would consider a suggestion by the Jewish War Veterans that the United States issue an up-to-date policy statement to clarify the American position on the threatened Arab "liberation war" against Israel.

Rodger P. Davies, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, wrote to JWW national commander Malcolm A. Tarlov at the personal request of Secretary Rusk. He said that, "of all the Arab states bordering Israel, only Syria appears to have

encouraged the terrorist organizations." Mr. Davies, however, sought to minimize the danger from the terrorist groups. He said that "reports of the exact relationships that Ahmed Shukairy and his followers within the Palestine Liberation Organization may have or wish to appear to have, with nations such as Communist China are still murky and vague."

Mr. Davies reviewed a series of past expressions by President Johnson, Vice-President Humphrey, and Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, pertaining to the Israeli security situation. He added "Under the circumstances, I think there should be no cause for any government or group in the Near East to doubt our determination as expressed in such a variety of public statements. The Secretary will nevertheless keep your suggestion of a further public statement under consideration as the situation develops."

U.S. AGREES ON 60 PERCENT INCREASE OF ISRAELI TEXTILE IMPORTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The United States and Israel have negotiated a new agreement to increase by 60 percent the amount of Israeli cotton textiles to be imported by the U.S.A.

The United States, after long and difficult negotiations, agreed to increase the quota of exports of cotton textiles from Israel to the United States from 14,500,000 square yards to 23,000,000 square yards. The agreement covers the period from October 1, 1966, to December 30, 1970.

MEDITERRANEAN SEARCHED IN VAIN FOR CAPSIZED ISRAELI SHIP; 22 ABOARD

NAPLES, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- With the Italian Navy and Air Force, units of the United States Sixth Fleet, and other marine and aviation facilities at work, search was continued today -- without result -- for the Israeli freighter Hashlosa. The 1,350-ton vessel, apparently capsized in high seas somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea, Tuesday night.

Captain Abraham Alexander, vice-president of the Ophir Lines of Israel, a shipping subsidiary of Histadrut, Israel's federation of labor, arrived here this morning to aid search operations. He said there were at least 22 persons aboard the vessel, perhaps 23.

The total included 20 crew members, of whom 15 were Israelis, and two women, wives of officers aboard the ship. One more sailor, he said, may have boarded the ship when she unloaded a cargo of cement Tuesday on the Greek island of Kimlos. Nothing has been heard from the Hashlosa since she sent out an incomplete SOS signal Tuesday night. No debris definitely identifiable as belonging to the Hashlosa has been found at sea so far.

LECTURE BY LEADER OF GERMAN PRO-NAZI PARTY FINALLY OFF IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The on-again-off-again Oxford University lecture by Adolf von Thadden, deputy leader of the West German neo-Nazi National Democratic Party, scheduled several times for tomorrow, is off once more.

His latest invitation -- after earlier cancellations of bids for his appearance made by the Oxford Liberal Club and the university's Conservative Club -- had been issued by the undergraduate Cosmos Club, a society "devoted to the principles of the United Nations." Today, Serge Lourie, president of Cosmos, announced that the Clarendon Press Institute, owners of the hall where von Thadden was to have lectured tomorrow, has cancelled the booking of the auditorium.

The university's senior proctor, Dr. Robin Fletcher, issued a statement today saying that the proctors have decided that the meeting could not take place in the absence of a suitable site. Prior to these latest developments, both the World Jewish Congress office in London and the British Labor Zionist Party had issued sharp protests against the scheduled appearance of von Thadden.

A delegation representing the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women today visited David Ennals, Parliamentary Under-secretary of the British Home Office, and expressed concern over the possibility of a visit by von Thadden to this country.

The delegation pointed out the "extreme right-wing policies of the NDP" and requested that the Government give due consideration to the implications of permitting von Thadden to enter Britain to act as spokesman for the NDP's program.

Mr. Ennals assured the delegation that "fullest consideration has been given and will continue to be given" to any proposed von Thadden visit. He said the Government would consider carefully von Thadden's background and affiliations, the source of any invitation extended to him, his announced program, and the country's possible reaction to such a visit.

Although the invitations for lectures by von Thadden in England have, thus far, been issued only by student groups at Oxford -- albeit the bids had to be canceled -- there was no certainty that some other British group might not seek to have him appear on some platform or other.

422 ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS REPORTED IN U.S. WITHIN FOUR YEARS

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- There have been 422 anti-Semitic incidents, of various degree of violence but all of them grave, in the United States, between 1962 and 1966, Arnold Forster, general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, reported today. In the same period, he stated, there were 749 acts of violence against the civil rights movement, 119 of these in the north.

He cited those figures in a report for delivery tomorrow before the 54th annual meeting of the ADL, which will run through Monday. At the ADL session, he said, he will call for enactment of Federal and State laws, requiring the registration of all firearms with local governments, as a step toward curbing militant, extremist, right-wing organizations.

The anti-Semitic incidents in the period 1962-66, he reported, included synagogue and Jewish cemetery desecrations, vandalism against synagogues, arson, swastika smearings and shootings. He said "the power of suggestion was so strong and the atmosphere so right" that, in 1960, following a synagogue desecration in Cologne, Germany, there were 890 anti-Semitic incidents in the United States in that one year.

Mr. Forster warned that paramilitary organizations of "assassins-in-training" are plotting armed enforcement of their "violent racial and political doctrines." Such organizations, he charged, are "brothers-in-arms" of a number of extremist, right-wing organizations. Among such groups he listed: "The Minutemen, American Nazi Party, National States Rights Party, Ku Klux Klan units "operating behind the front of rifle or sporting clubs, ' California Rangers, Texas Rangers, Green Mountain Boys and the Christian Youth Corps.

GRATZ COLLEGE WINS ACCREDITATION BY COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Gratz College, the institution for Jewish higher education and teacher training, has been accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, it was announced here today.

Receipt of the coveted accreditation, which recognizes Gratz College as an outstanding institution of higher learning, was termed by Mitchell E. Panzer, president of the college, as "one of the happiest events in our 71-year history." Dr. Elazar Goelman, dean of the college, was notified of the action by Alfred F. Meder, Jr., vice provost and dean of Rutgers University, who is chairman of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, the official accrediting body in this part of the country.

Accreditation, as explained by the Middle States Association in an official document on the subject, is an expression of confidence in an institution's "actual performance and its long-range ability to maintain and improve that performance." The evaluation committee was lavish in its praise of the Gratz College faculty, administration, board, student body, curriculum, and instruction.

STRIKE OF N.Y. CEMETERY WORKERS ENDS; JEWS END VOLUNTARY GRAVE-DIGGING

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- The three-and-a-half-week-long strike of cemetery workers, which had halted most burials in all Jewish and non-Jewish cemeteries in the New York area, was settled here yesterday, with many of the workers returning to work immediately to begin interring the accumulation of bodies that had been stored in cemetery vaults since the start of the walk-out.

During the entire period of the strike, many Orthodox Jewish families chose to dig graves themselves so as not to deviate from the traditional requirement of a proper Jewish burial as soon as possible after death.

HADASSAH GETS MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT OF ALPHA OMEGA FRATERNITY

NEW YORK, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Hadassah has been awarded the coveted Medal of Achievement of the Alpha Omega fraternity for advancing dentistry in Israel, it was announced here today. The medal was accepted by Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, national president of Hadassah. It was presented by Dr. Herbert Caplan, outgoing president of Alpha Omega, who said that this was the first time the medal has been awarded to an organization. Previous winners of the medal included Dr. Albert Einstein, Dr. Jonas E. Salk and Dr. Albert B. Sabin.

L. ZHITNITSKY, EDITOR OF JEWISH NEWSPAPER IN ARGENTINA, DEAD; WAS 72

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 26. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Dr. Lazaro Zhitnitsky, editor of the Yiddish daily, "Di Presse," who died yesterday of a heart attack at the age of 72.

Born in the Ukraine, Dr. Zhitnitsky published works in verse and in prose in Russian before emigrating to Argentina in 1928, where he specialized in literary and musical criticism. He had been editor-in-chief of "Di Presse" since 1965.