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## U.N. DIPLOMATS FEAR COLLAPSE OF TALKS AT ISRAEL-SYRIAN COMMISSION

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Fears were expressed by diplomats here today that Secretary-General U Thant's efforts to bring tranquility to the Syrian-Israeli borders through his summons of an extraordinary session of the dormant Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission may fall far short of the hoped-for results.

The Commission has held two meetings thus far, last Wednesday and yesterday. A third session has been set for Thursday by Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization, who originally urged Mr. Thant to summon such a parley. Gen. Bull set the next meeting -- to be held on the Syrian side of the frontier -- after Syria had failed at yesterday's meeting to make any practical proposal regarding farm-land cultivation in the demilitarized zone between the two countries.

The pessimism noted by diplomats here today -- although the United Nations itself has made no comment whatever on the latest developments -- followed Syria's official report on what its chief delegate had said at yesterday's ISMAC meeting.

According to Radio Damascus, Syria's delegation chairman, Capt. Adam Abdullah, had told Israel it must pull out its "armed forces" from the demilitarized zones and "remove its fortifications" there if Syria was expected to observe the cease-fire between the two countries negotiated by the UNTSO. He also called for the return of former Arab inhabitants to their properties in the disputed areas. Additionally, Capt. Abdullah objected to Israel's reference to the ISMAC meetings as "a direct contact between the Syrian and Israeli Governments." He charged Israel with efforts to "mislead" world public opinion.

The ISMAC's sole agenda item is limited to a discussion of land cultivation rights in the demilitarized zones. The Syrian statement yesterday dealt with the very reason for Israel's boycott of ISMAC since 1958, due to Syria's challenge of Israel's sovereignty over the demilitarized zones.

## ISRAEL GOVERNMENT OFFERS TOKEN PAYMENTS ON SCHEDULED WAGE HIKES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Tension mounted here today over the Government's apparent intention to avoid payment of the cost-of-living allowance, for the first six months of the year, in line with efforts to reduce inflationary pressures and to bring Israel's economy back to a more even keel.

Against opposition of Mapam, left-wing labor party, the Government is urging the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, not to press for the entire increase now.

Government economic ministers maintain that labor's acceptance of a token payment now, with the balance to be paid in six months, will encourage industrial activity and stimulate employment. Mapam leaders, however, have reiterated demands that the Government implement last year's promise to provide the payments in full as scheduled.

## TWO PRIVATE BANKERS IN ISRAEL ARRESTED; 'MISMANAGEMENT' IS ALLEGED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Arrest of two bank officials was announced here today as investigation continued into the alleged mismanagement of two well-known private banks. The Attorney General has asked the police to deal with the case.

The banks were formerly known as Feuchtwanger's and Ellern's, but were recently placed under a single management as Feuchtwanger's acquired control of the Ellern institution. The banks were taken over last week by the Bank of Israel, after examiners discovered irregularities in its operation, including the extension of "exaggerated" credit to some stockholders, thereby jeopardizing their financial stability. The Bank of Israel has fully guaranteed all depositors and holders of foreign currency in the two banks against any losses.

## RASSCO FIRM TO GET \$12,300,000 ADVANCES, ISRAEL CABINET ANNOUNCES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- A total of \$12,300,000 will be advanced by the Israel Government, the Jewish Agency and the Anglo-Israel Bank, a subsidiary of the Bank Leumi L'Israel, to Rassco, the Israel Cabinet disclosed here today. The sum will be used to

strengthen the corporation's finances in Israel and abroad. It was recommended by a ministerial committee headed by Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, with the participation of the Jewish Agency chairman, Aryeh L. Pincus.

Committee recommendations included an overhaul of Rassco's administration, divestment of some subsidiaries, and withdrawal from industrial ventures. Rassco's main shareholder is the Jewish Agency, but 13,000 shares are also held by Jews abroad. Its major activities are in development of housing and agricultural settlements.

#### BANK OF ISRAEL SEES INCOME BY ISRAELIS QUITE 'EVENLY DISTRIBUTED'

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- More than half of Israelis earn between 500 and 1,500 pounds (\$167-\$500) per month, with only 6 percent of the population exceeding the latter amount, it was reported here today by David Horowitz, Governor of the Bank of Israel.

Mr. Horowitz noted that the Israeli population's incomes are "exceptionally evenly distributed, more so than in most other countries, providing greatest economic and social equality." The report was based on a study prepared for the Bank of Israel by a special committee headed by Mr. Horowitz.

#### RIFT BETWEEN TWO BRITISH RABBINIC BODIES HEALED IN NEW AGREEMENT

LONDON, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- An unprecedented agreement aimed at coordinating the activities of the Orthodox rabbinic and congregational bodies in Britain was announced here today by the office of the Chief Rabbinate. The pact, which was signed by Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits, newly-elected Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth, and Rabbi Eliezer Kirzner, newly-appointed principal rabbi of the Federation of Synagogues of Britain, heals a rift that developed a year ago when the Federation withdrew from the Beth Din (religious court) that served all of British Jewry.

The agreement calls for the recognition of the Chief Rabbi as the spokesman and authority of the entire British Ashkenazi community, with the Chief Rabbi agreeing to consult with the head of the Federation on all matters affecting that body. The pact also calls for the setting up of a "unified and departmentalized Beth Din, in which the Sephardi Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese community was also invited to participate. The "departmentalized" structure of the Beth Din would ensure the preservation of the individualized character of each of the participating communities. The agreement also provides for the "eventual representation of the Federation of Synagogues on the Chief Rabbinate Council," which would be another unifying innovation in British Jewry.

The large majority of British Jewry are Orthodox, with some 75 percent of these affiliated with the United Hebrew Congregations. The Federation of Synagogues comprises some 50 congregations. Both Dr. Jakobovits and Rabbi Kirzner were named to their respective posts last fall. Dr. Jakobovits, spiritual leader of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York, will take up his post in March. Rabbi Kirzner, of Sons of Judah Congregation in Brooklyn, will assume his post later this year.

The agreement was negotiated between Dr. Jakobovits and Rabbi Kirzner to heal the split that developed when Federation officials charged that an understanding providing for their representation on the Beth Din was not being carried out. The new "departmentalized" Beth Din will include such representation.

#### ITALIAN PARLIAMENT ADOPTS BILL AGAINST GENOCIDE BY VOTE OF 446-10

ROME, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- A law for the prevention and punishment of crimes of genocide was passed by the Italian Parliament today by a vote of 446 to 10. An amendment offered by the Communist Party that would have increased the proposed penalties, and a Socialist Party amendment that would have disallowed application of any statute of limitations to genocidal crimes, were defeated.

The new law, in its present form, is compatible with the United Nations Genocide Convention, which was signed and ratified by Italy. Rapid approval of the new measure is expected by the Italian Senate.

#### RARE SNOWFALL BLANKETS JERUSALEM; HEAVY RAINS CONTINUE IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Snow, one of the rarest sights ever witnessed in the city and nearby areas, delighted children here who had never seen it before. But, elsewhere, heavy rains have drenched the country for six consecutive days, causing numerous floods and much hardship. Reports indicate that rainfall so far this year is already approaching the total for last year, amid predictions that heavy precipitation will continue.

The unusual rains, so far, have not generally impaired the agricultural situation, it was reported. However, some citrus harvesting had been temporarily suspended, while ship-loadings at Haifa have been interfered with by the rains.

ADL WARNED OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN 'RADICAL RIGHT,' JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

NEW YORK, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- America's "radical right" has created "a huge patch-work blanket" of radio broadcasts, has made easier the recruitment of members by the John Birch Society, which "contributes to anti-Semitism," and poses "the greatest danger" to the civil rights movement, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith was warned today.

The warning came from Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the ADL, and Arnold Forster, the League's general counsel. They presented a special report dealing with the radical right to the League's national commissioners at the closing session of the ADL's 54th annual meeting, which has been in session since Friday.

They accused the John Birch Society again of "contributing to anti-Semitism." They noted that, last year, the ADL had exposed the "rantings and ravings" of the radical right, including the Birch Society. "Since then," they said, "the Society has done nothing to solve the continuous problem. Instead, it has concentrated on attacking its critic, the ADL, rather than its critical problem, that of attracting anti-Semites to its ranks."

Radio Broadcasts Reported by Epstein, Forster, Beam Bigotry

The report declared that a "united front" attack on the civil rights movement as an alleged Communist conspiracy is being waged by right-wing extremism, led by the John Birch Society "which provides leadership, strategy and necessary tools." According to the Epstein-Forster report:

More than 600 radio stations carry the Twentieth Century Reformation Hour, broadcast by the Rev. Carl McIntire, a New Jersey-based fundamentalist clergyman;

Some 400 stations broadcast commentaries by Clarence Manion, a member of the national council of the John Birch Society;

Almost 200 stations carry broadcasts by the Rev. Billy James Hargis, termed as "a fiery evangelist of both religious and political fundamentalism";

More than 125 stations broadcast the speeches of another right-winger, Dan Smoot;

More than 150 stations broadcast the messages of the White Citizens Council;

Other stations beam the commentaries of Maj. Edgar C. Bundy, and of Richard Cotten. The report called the latter "an undisguised anti-Semite."

The ADL leaders said they believed that, in the long run, "America will reject the Birch Society and its allies," but voiced deep concern over the "hazy borderlines" between the radical right and "true conservatives."

GERMAN POLITICAL LEADER DENIED FACILITIES FOR NEW YORK CONFERENCES

NEW YORK, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- A leader of Germany's major neo-Nazi party, who was slated to hold a press conference here tomorrow, was denied the use of a hall in the Hotel Commodore here because the management feared the effect of a possible picket line. Adolf von Thadden, deputy chairman of the West German National Democratic Party, was also unable to reserve the Overseas Press Club for a news conference "because of prior bookings."

Both the hotel and the club said today that the efforts to set up a news conference for von Thadden had been made by Kurt Ehm, of Hopatcong, N.J., who had termed himself as "a correspondent for West German newspapers." Ehm is not known to any of the West German information centers in New York or at the United Nations. A United Nations accreditation officer said today the man does not hold fulltime U.N. press accreditation, "although he may have been here on a temporary basis."

Several of the sources checked said they had information to the effect that he was a correspondent for or contributor to the Deutsche National und Soldatenzeitung, a West German newspaper frequently labeled by Bonn officials as pro-Nazi, and to the official organ of the NDP, published at Hanover, West Germany.

Dr. Max Nussbaum, chairman of the American section of the World Jewish Congress, who recently returned from a 10-day visit to West Germany, said von Thadden had attended a conference of Fascist leaders in Venice in 1962, and had signed a "protocol" to create "a national European party."

Commenting on von Thadden's political affiliation, Dr. Nussbaum said the party shuns outright attacks on German Jews because today this would not give the party "a nice image," but it calls for attacks on Israel, instead. The party also urges, Dr. Nussbaum said, an end to the war crimes trials and an end to compensation and reparation payments to Hitler's victims. The NDP, Dr. Nussbaum added, had evoked "deep concern but not undue worry" by its recent electoral successes. He expressed "astonishment," however, over the views of Cardinal Frings of Cologne, who attributed the rise of Hitlerism to a disproportionate number of Jews in business, education, the arts and "every area of German life."

BRONFMAN URGES WORLD JEWRY TO FIGHT ANTI-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

MONTREAL, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Samuel Bronfman, vice-president of the World Jewish Congress, warned here last night against the revival of Nazism, and urged action by world Jewry to counter anti-democratic trends evidenced in recent West German elections.

Speaking at a conference of the eastern region of the Canadian Jewish Congress, of which he is chairman of the board of governors, Mr. Bronfman proposed a program to halt further gains by reactionary forces in Germany. The conference, attended by delegates representing all local and national Jewish organizations in Quebec Province, centered on the role of the CJC in Jewish education and community relations.

WORLD PARLEY ON SOVIET JEWRY URGED BY RABBINICAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Jan. 30. (JTA) -- In the light of the changes "however small" which apparently are taking place in the Soviet Union regarding its policies toward the Jews there, the head of the Rabbinical Council of America called today for an international conference of Jewish leaders to reassess the situation and chart a new course in behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Rabbi Pesach Z. Levovitz, president of the Council, an Orthodox body, told the 500 delegates at the opening session of his organization's special religious convocation here that one of the most hopeful signs, which the world conference would be asked to assess, is Soviet Premier Kosygin's recent promise that emigration would be allowed for the purpose of reuniting families.

Rabbi Levovitz told the convocation that the world conference, which should be held "as soon as possible," probably in Geneva, should consist of such organizations as the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, the British and South African Boards of Jewish Deputies, the Consistoire Generale and other interested organizations in France, and similar organizations elsewhere in Europe and America.

Rabbi Joseph Karasick, national president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, addressing the dinner session of the convocation last night, called on President Johnson to issue a declaration "guaranteeing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Israel, and to invite the Arab states to join with Israel in a peace effort which will benefit the entire region."

N.Y. BOARD OF RABBIS HEAD CALLS ON UNITY AMONG JEWISH FACTIONS

NEW YORK, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, newly-reelected president of the New York Board of Rabbis, the organization comprising 900 Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis, appealed today to Jews of all branches of Judaism to initiate a "moratorium on suspicion, jealousy, malice, and the tactic of non-recognition of the existence and the right of existence of any other group but their own."

The spiritual leader of Temple Beth El, Cedarhurst, L.I., said he was "distressed and grieved at the extent of intercommunity strife, the lack of what our sages call Ahavat Israel, the regard and love that one Jew should have for another." Contention, he added, should be replaced by concentration on the way to counteract "the corroding influence of intermarriage and assimilation, and the inadequate support for Jewish education, the synagogue and Hebrew culture."

JERUSALEM GETS NEW CENTER FOR IMMIGRANTS NEAR JORDANIAN BORDER

PALM BEACH, Fla., Jan. 30. (JTA) -- A community center will be established in Jerusalem less than 100 yards from the No-Man's Land separating Israel from Jordan, with funds contributed by Fred P. Pomerantz, of New York, to the Israel Education Fund of the United Jewish Appeal. Albert Parker, general chairman of the New York UJA campaign, and a national chairman of both the UJA and IEF, made the announcement.

The Pomerantz Center will be located in Sanhedria, at the northeast corner of Jerusalem, and will serve a surrounding population consisting mainly of new immigrants from Moslem countries of North Africa and Asia.

RABBI FELDMAN NAMED TO FACULTY OF CATHOLIC COLLEGE IN HARTFORD

WEST HARTFORD, Conn., Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, editor of the Connecticut Jewish Ledger, has been appointed to the faculty of St. Joseph College where he will teach a course in Jewish religious life and practices. He is the first rabbi ever to teach at that Catholic institution.

JACOB GROPER, JEWISH POET, TRANSLATOR, DIES IN RUMANIA, AGED 76

LONDON, Jan. 30. (JTA) -- Jacob Groper, a Rumanian Jewish poet, author and lecturer, died in his native land at the age of 76, it was reported here today from Bucharest. In addition to his own creative work, Mr. Groper translated into Yiddish a number of noted Rumanian poets and poetry of Goethe, Heine, Baudelaire and Verlaine.