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BEN-GURION ARRIVES IN U.S. TODAY; 400 JEWISH LEADERS TO WELCOME HIM

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- More than 400 Jewish lay and religious leaders, representing 50 national Jewish organizations, will meet David Ben-Gurion, former Prime Minister of Israel, at Kennedy International Airport upon his arrival here tomorrow for a three-week stay in the United States, where Jewish communities will celebrate his 80th birthday.

The invitation to Mr. Ben-Gurion to come to the United States was extended by the United Jewish Appeal and the "Public Committee for the Celebration of the 80th Birthday of David Ben-Gurion" of which Max M. Fisher, general chairman of the UJA is also chairman. The Committee is composed of Jewish organizations representing every shade of opinion in the Jewish community.

Mr. Ben-Gurion will visit five major cities on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal's 1967 national campaign. They are Philadelphia, on March 6; Los Angeles, March 8; Chicago, March 11; New York, March 13; and Boston, March 19. He will also address the Israel Bond Organization's Annual Banquet at the Fontainebleu Hotel in Miami Beach, Fla., on March 4. In each of these cities, Mr. Ben-Gurion will also meet with Jewish leaders on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal's Israel Education Fund which is conducting a capital fund program to build and equip schools, libraries and youth centers in Israel.

While here, Mr. Ben-Gurion will be the guest of college students and faculty members at the following institutions of higher learning: Hebrew Union College -- Jewish Institute of Religion, Jewish Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University and New York University, in New York City; Dropsie and Gratz Colleges in Philadelphia; the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations of the University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles in Los Angeles; the University of Illinois and other universities in the Chicago area; and in Boston, the Boston Hebrew College, Harvard University, Brandeis University and Boston University.

In New York, Mr. Ben-Gurion will receive the Herbert H. Lehman Memorial Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Achievement at the Inaugural Dinner of the United Jewish Appeal at which Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller will be one of the principal speakers. The award was established by the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York in the form of a bronze medallion. One of its previous recipients was Edward M. M. Warburg, New York UJA president.

SYRIA INFORMS SECURITY COUNCIL ON SUSPENSION IN TALKS WITH ISRAEL

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Apparently preparing its excuses for scuttling the extraordinary session of the Israeli-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission -- which is now stymied by Syrian refusals to adhere to that session's one-point agenda -- Syria has presented a lengthy letter to the Security Council here, charging that Israel has "strayed away" from the agenda.

The letter, dated February 23 but made public here only today, accused Israel of insisting on "finalizing" her alleged military occupation of the demilitarized zones on the Syrian-Israeli frontiers, building up "military fortifications" in the area, refusing to remove those installations after being requested to do so by United Nations military observers, and expelling "Arab farmers from their villages."

The ISMAC's extraordinary session was convened by U.N. Secretary-General U Thant after a proposal by Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization. The U.N. feared the possible outbreak of large-scale warfare on the Israeli-Syrian borders as a result of continuing sabotage incursion into Israel, for which Israel blamed the Damascus Government. ISMAC first met on January 25, and the single point on its agenda, agreed to by all sides, concerned cultivation and rights of cultivation in the demilitarized zones.

After three meetings of ISMAC, Gen. Bull adjourned the session just as it was ready to hold a fourth meeting because Syria insisted on broadening the agenda.

AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTY PARLEY TO DISCUSS SOVIET ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The Communist Party of the United States announced here today that a national conference on the party's work "among the Jewish people" which is to include a debate on anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, will definitely be held "in the next few months."

A resolution calling for the convening of such a special meeting on the national level was adopted at the 18th convention of the American Communist Party last summer. Later, there were reports that, due to disagreements inside the party on the question of Soviet anti-Semitism, plans for the conference had been canceled. Today, The Worker, official organ of the CPUSA, announced that the conference will take place.

The Worker revealed at the same time that very sharp differences on the issue of Soviet anti-Semitism had developed inside the party during the behind-the-scenes debate of whether or not to hold the special conference. The newspaper, regretting these divisions, reported that some "comrades" called those who wanted the Soviet-Jewish issue to come to the surface such names as "bourgeois nationalists," "national chauvinists" and "anti-Soviet." Those thus accused retorted with such labels as "national nihilists," "sectarian" and "irresponsible."

The "most serious" development, however, according to The Worker, is the fact that some party members, busy throwing rocks at one another, have overlooked the "alarming growth of anti-Semitism in the United States" and have failed to combat the cold war propaganda regarding "alleged Soviet anti-Semitism" which the newspaper attributed to "the State Department and right-wing reaction."

ORTHODOX SOLDIER REFUSES TO SERVE IN VIET NAM; TAKEN TO MENTAL WARD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A U.S. Army private who embarked on a "death fast" because he claimed his religious conviction as an Orthodox Jew prevented him from serving "an army practicing violence" in Viet Nam has been taken into custody and confined in a mental ward at Madigan General Hospital, Tacoma, Wash., military authorities revealed today.

The soldier, Pvt. Robert Levy, 22, of Kansas City, Mo., started a hunger strike two weeks ago at Fort Lewis, Wash. For 14 days he ate only milk and honey. Yesterday, he stopped eating altogether, stating that "as an expression of my religious conviction as an Orthodox Jew, I break the law of the United States and refuse to remain a soldier."

Defense Department officials disclosed that the Army is trying to get rabbis to convince Levy that the war is righteous and his fast unjustified. A Jewish chaplain, Martin Feinsod, met today with Levy at the request of his parents. Chaplain Feinsod saw Levy at the mental ward where he is confined and sought "to establish the facts." The Army public information officer for Fort Lewis stated that the chaplain agreed with him that Levy was "unfair to bring religion into it."

An Army spokesman for Madigan General Hospital said that no court martial charges have yet been filed against Levy because he is being held under mental observation. The spokesman said that the Army regarded adherence to Judaism as consistent with military duty and considered use of the Jewish religion as justification for refusing service to be a symptom of derangement. Levy will be confined indefinitely in the mental ward on these grounds, the spokesman said.

Army authorities said that Levy, as a mental patient committed by order of the commanding officer, would be forcibly fed. Army officials in Washington pointed out that Levy voluntarily joined the Army 18 months ago and served in the medical corps. He had just completed training as a clinical specialist and was subject to assignment to Viet Nam. In a statement released by a Quaker attorney, Levy said that "as long as I remain a soldier, I am supporting an institution whose sole reason for existence is to kill and destroy. I am prepared to die now, but it will be for what I think right. I choose to starve myself to death rather than serve the gods of war."

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR PHYSICS OPENS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- More than 200 of the world's leading physicists were in attendance today at the Second International Conference on Physics and Nuclear Structure which opened yesterday for five days at the Weizmann Institute at Rehovot.

Countries represented include the Soviet Union, the United States, West Germany, East Germany, Iceland, South Africa, France, Sweden, India, Britain, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Italy.

The conclave was opened with tributes to the late Prof. Robert Oppenheimer, the American atomics expert. Among those paying tribute were Prof. Leon Van Hove of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Prof. Amos de Shalit of the Weizmann Institute and Prof. B. P. Gregory of CERN.

TRIAL OF 300 EX-GESTAPO OFFICIALS TO START IN WEST BERLIN

TURIN, Italy, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A war crimes trial which is expected to be the biggest judicial proceeding of its kind since the Nuremberg War Crimes trials that followed World War II, will be held in West Berlin soon, it was announced here today.

The announcement was made by Prof. Ernest Heinitz, president of the West Berlin Court of Justice, who is here to attend a conference. According to the jurist, the trial will bring before the court more than 300 former Nazis who worked in the Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler, chief of Hitler's secret police.

GERMANY DELETES REFERENCES TO NEO-NAZIS AS TERRORISTS FROM MOVIE

MUNICH, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A West German movie industry spokesman said today that "The Quiller Memorandum," a motion picture involving European espionage, had been changed for West German audiences to delete all references to villains as being members of a neo-Nazi terror group.

Ernest Kruger, director of the German movie industry's self-regulating body, said the group had requested the changes because "we considered that the presentation of a radical right secret terrorist group in present-day Berlin was unrealistic." He added that such a presentation also was "inopportune" because of West Germany's "image toward East Germany and the Communists, who are raising charges of neo-Nazism against us at the moment."

Observers of the revised version said the cuts seemed to leave most viewers with the impression that the terrorist group is Communist.

JEWISH GROUPS STRESS INTEREST IN AMERICAN-SOVIET CONSULAR TREATY

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry and the American Jewish Congress today announced that each of these organizations appealed to Senator J. W. Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, urging Senate approval of the ratification of the pending consular treaty with the Soviet Union.

The American Jewish Congress endorsed the proposed U.S.-Soviet consular treaty as a matter of "national self-interest" and as a test of Russian pledges to permit Jews to emigrate. Dr. Joachim Frinz, chairman of the Commission on International Affairs of the AJCongress, said in his letter to Sen. Fulbright:

"Soviet Chairman Kosygin recently indicated that his Government would allow the emigration of Soviet Jews who seek to be united with their families abroad and would place no obstacles in the way of their departure. Until now, potential applicants who live in distant parts of the Soviet Union and who seek reunification with families in the United States have been deterred by the administrative difficulty of filing with the single American diplomatic installation in Moscow. The creation of new consular offices in various parts of the USSR would considerably facilitate the processing of applications and allow a meaningful test of the Soviet pledge to grant exit visas."

Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference, wrote that the treaty would help ameliorate Soviet-U.S. tensions. The Conference, he told Sen. Fulbright, is continually conscious of its commitment to further international amity, in the context of its efforts to awaken the conscience of the world to the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union.

A. F. L. - C. I. O. TO CONTRIBUTE \$300,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS IN ISRAEL

BAL HARBOR, Fla., Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The executive council of the AFL-CIO has voted to contribute \$300,000 in three years towards scholarships to the Afro-Asian Institute for Labor Studies in Tel Aviv, according to an announcement made jointly today by President George Meany and Z'ev Barash, American representative of the Histadrut executive committee.

At the Council meeting, more than \$100,000 of the scholarship money was pledged by a number of the international trade unions, composing the AFL-CIO following the seconding of the motion by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

The Institute was founded by Histadrut for the purpose of training leaders in the trade union and cooperative movements of emerging nations. The Afro-Asian Institute has graduated 1,007 students during the seven years of its existence. It offers two courses per year, alternating in English and French languages. Students have come from 62 countries.

The AFL-CIO and its affiliates have contributed varying amounts annually to the Afro-Asian Institute.

B'NAI B'RITH DEMONSTRATES LONG-DISTANCE TEACHING OF HEBREW CLASSES

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The ability of a Hebrew teacher, physically present in a classroom, to instruct simultaneously other classrooms anywhere in the nation, was demonstrated today by the B'nai B'rith Commission on Adult Jewish Education.

An instructor in Chicago and four "pupils" in a Waldorf-Astoria salon where the commission was holding its annual meeting, simulated a B'nai B'rith experimental teaching course that is now in progress under a \$7, 500 grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Dr. David Weinstein, president of the Chicago College of Jewish Studies, lecturing from a classroom in the school, gave 20 minutes of instruction in elementary Hebrew to the sample class in New York, using modern electronics to bridge, easily and comfortably, the 900 miles separating them.

Instructor and students spoke with each other through "Tele-Lecture," an inter-city system of communications that, for teaching purposes, all but put them in the same room. Dr. Weinstein used an "electronic blackboard," jotting Hebrew words and letters on a translucent scroll that were instantaneously projected on a screen in the make-shift classroom in New York, to illustrate his teaching points.

These are the pioneering techniques B'nai B'rith is using for its ten-week experiment of Hebrew instruction to three widely-separated classrooms -- one of 60 adult students who meet in the Chicago school with Dr. Weinstein present, and two others in Grand Rapids and East Lansing, Mich., each of 40 students. The three-unit class meets each Thursday evening.

Members of the B'nai B'rith commission, in a discussion of the project, regarded approvingly its potential for providing expert instruction in organized adult Jewish study, particularly in small communities where teachers are not easily available. B'nai B'rith has already linked as many as 14 cities for long-distance lectures and discussions.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare awarded B'nai B'rith the grant because of its interest in determining the effectiveness of long-distance teaching in mathematics, languages and other subjects in which written instruction is essential.

CHAIM GRADE WINS \$6, 000 AWARD FROM ACADEMY OF JEWISH RESEARCH

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The American Academy for Jewish Research announced today that its first award for a creative work of scholarly Jewish interest had been given to Chaim Grade, noted Yiddish poet and novelist. The award, which includes a gift of \$6, 000 is to be presented "from time to time," the Academy indicated.

Prof. Saul Lieberman, Academy president, said the award would be presented to Mr. Grade on March 6 on the occasion of the Morris Adler Memorial Lecture, in memory of the Detroit rabbi who was shot and killed by a deranged congregant in his synagogue last year. The lecture is sponsored by the Academy.

The 1967 Academy prize was awarded to Mr. Grade for the first volume, "Zemach Atlas," of his two-volume Yiddish novel, "The Veshivah." "Zemach Atlas," which has just been published, is an account of life within the yeshivot of Eastern Europe.

NEW YORK ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUE VANDALIZED FOR THIRD TIME IN A MONTH

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Congregation Emunat Israel, an Orthodox synagogue in mid-Manhattan has been vandalized for the third time in a month, its rabbi, Meyer H. Leifer, reported today.

He said papers and books were found scattered in the synagogue and that \$500 was taken from a safe which had been smashed open. In two previous attempts, burglars had failed to open the safe, the rabbi said.

NORMAN TISEMAN, NEW YORK PHILANTHROPIST, DEAD; ACTIVE IN JEWISH GROUPS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Norman Tishman, a leading New York realtor and philanthropist, died yesterday at his home here at the age of 65. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Temple Emanu-El.

He was a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and honorary chairman of the board of governors of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. He was also active in the American Jewish Committee and in the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

JOHN DIGHT, LEADER OF BRITISH JEWRY, DIES IN LONDON; WAS 74

LONDON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- John Dight, chairman of the Jewish Defense Committee and a leader of British Jewry, died here today at the age of 74. Born in London, Mr. Dight served as chairman of the Association of Jewish Friendly Societies and was named to the Jewish Defense Committee in 1948.