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U.S. SENATE BODY GETS REPORT ON INCREASED EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON, April 4. (JTA) -- Egypt has achieved "major qualitative improvements" in her armed forces, especially the Egyptian air force, Sen. Stuart Symington, Missouri Democrat, revealed today in a report to the Senate Committees on Armed Services and Foreign Relations. The report was based on the Senator's recent visit to Egypt on his return from Viet Nam. He visited Israel in the course of the same trip.

Sen. Symington, who formerly served as U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, noted extensive Soviet assistance to the Nasser regime. He reported that "the most important military improvements made by the Egyptian military have been noted in their air force, one of the best equipped in the world today." He made known that "recently the Soviets delivered SU-7 fighter ground-support aircraft" to Egypt. The Senator stressed that "this is the first time this aircraft has been delivered outside the Iron Curtain. Their air force now has MIG-21C day fighters and MIG-21D all-weather fighters."

The Senator said Egypt now had developed "an overall capability of both an offensive and defensive all-weather fighter force. The air force has improved its jet bomber force by introducing the TU-16B, observed carrying the "Kennel" (Soviet) air-to-ground missile. In addition to the numerous other fighter, helicopter and cargo aircraft, Egypt has established operational surface-to-air missile sites for the protection of Cairo, Alexandria, the Suez Canal and the Aswan Dam. They have SA-2 (Soviet) missiles," Sen. Symington reported.

Sen. Symington, in his report on the Egyptian build-up, said that Egypt's "regular military establishment has more than doubled in size in the last 10 years." He was impressed that Egyptian forces "have also made major qualitative improvements, both in materiel and lower-echelon leadership. For the most part these improvements can be credited to the influx of modern Soviet equipment, plus improvement in unit training and organization brought about by Soviet military advisers."

A considerable portion of the details on Egyptian military preparations and other findings were deleted by the U.S. Government from the report for security reasons.

U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL REPORTS ON DESALINATION PROJECTS IN ISRAEL

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 4. (JTA) -- Israel completed in 1966 a desalination plant with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons of fresh water a day, United Nations Secretary-General U Thant reported today. In addition, he stated, Israel had another plant with a capacity of 132,000 gallons of water per day, and had completed its feasibility study for the 100,000,000-gallon plant, jointly with the United States, which is to use nuclear power.

Mr. Thant's figures on Israel's expansion in the field of desalination were part of a general report on water desalination compiled by the U.N. chief at the request of the Economic and Social Council. The report showed that 17 water desalination plants had been completed around the world in 1966. Among the largest, Mr. Thant stated, are Israel's million-gallon facility, a 5,000,000-gallon plant in Kuwait, and one of a capacity of 1,200,000 gallons in Malta.

Israel's million-gallon plant, according to Mr. Thant, is run by fuel oil on a "flash" system, while its smaller facility, with a daily capacity of 132,000 gallons, uses electric power on an electro-dialysis system. The Secretary-General noted that the International Atomic Energy Agency, a U.N. body, participated through an observer in the joint United States-Israel study of the feasibility of the projected hundred-million-gallon nuclear powered desalination plant.

(In Washington, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall reported today that Israel is one of eight foreign governments that have reserved exhibition space at the International Conference on Water for Peace to be held here next month. More than 70 nations and up to 5,000 individuals are expected to participate in the greatest international meeting yet held on development of the world's water resources.)

ISRAEL TO HOLD INDEPENDENCE DAY MILITARY PARADE IN JERUSALEM

TEL AVIV, April 4. (JTA) -- A senior military official said at headquarters here today that the annual Independence Day parade will be held in Jerusalem on May 15 without tanks or air force display and that it would be the smallest parade in the history of these events.

The official said that the parade would be staged within the limits of the Israeli-Jordanian armistice agreement which bans heavy armor in Jerusalem. The infantry column will instead be strengthened by the participation of several contingents of paratroopers, girl soldiers and police.

He said the parade would include 1,600 soldiers, 12 mortars, eight anti-tank guns and eight field pieces. Spectators will be compensated for the modesty of the military display with a night drummer exhibition in the Jerusalem University stadium on the eve of the parade.

THOUSANDS OF ISRAELI BANKNOTES MYSTERIOUSLY WASHED ASHORE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, April 4. (JTA) -- Police reported today that thousands of Israeli banknotes, in denominations of one, 10 and 50 pounds, were washed ashore near Rishon LeZion. Israelis braved wintry weather and waded into the sea to pick up the bills.

Police learned about the find when one conscientious citizen notified them of a find of several banknotes he had picked up on the seashore. When a second man reported a similar finding, the skeptical police went to the seashore and began digging. The notes were genuine.

They appeared either to have been hidden by thieves in some kind of container which ruptured, freeing the banknotes to wash ashore, or to have been thrown from an Israeli ship passing from Haifa to Ashdod. The police continued their investigation, issuing a warning to finders to turn over the notes to the police department.

AFL-CIO TO INVEST \$10,000,000 IN HISTADRUT ENTERPRISES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, April 4. (JTA) -- Abaron Becker, secretary-general of the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, will complete arrangements during his visit to the United States next month for \$10,000,000 investments by the AFL-CIO in Israel, it was announced here today.

The announcement was made by Dr. Sol Stein, director general of the annual Histadrut Campaign in the United States. Mr. Becker, who is coming to the United States to attend the Washington banquet at which the Histadrut Humanitarian Award will be presented to Vice-President Hubert Humphrey on May 8, also will address the AFL-CIO meeting. Some 1,000 guests are expected at the \$50-a-plate May 8 dinner.

RELIGIOUS AND ART OBJECTS ON 'SHALOM' NOT SOLD TO GERMAN FIRM

TEL AVIV, April 4. (JTA) -- The \$15,205,000 which the German Atlantic Line paid for the SS Shalom, the Israeli luxury liner, did not give possession to the buyer of religious objects or art pieces in the liner, Meir Giron, director-general of Zim Lines, the seller, declared today.

He made the report on his return from West Germany where he concluded arrangements for the sale of the Israeli flagship, which is expected to be delivered to West Germany at the end of November. He called the price a "good" one. The German firm will re-name the liner the Hanseatic.

The issue of art decorations on the liner arose earlier this week when Dan Karavan, an artist who designed the murals for the Shalom, said he would demand return of his murals. He said he did not want them to decorate a ship which might carry former Nazis as passengers, adding he would be willing to return the fees he was paid for the murals.

Authorities then said that Israel would continue to own the various art works, indicating Israeli authorities would remove the art works and exhibits before the ship was delivered to its new owners. Mr. Giron's statement today extended that policy to religious work on the Shalom.

Israel Government Seeks Control of the Zim Shipping Line

JERUSALEM, April 4. (JTA) -- Israel's Government has asked the Jewish Agency and Histadrut, the Israel federation of labor, to reduce their holdings in the Zim Israel Navigation Company, thus permitting the Government to increase its Zim holdings, the Cabinet spokesman revealed here today.

The Government, the Agency and Histadrut now own one-third each of the Zim shares. Under the Government proposal, the two other partners would reduce their holdings to 10 percent each, permitting the Government to own 80 percent. The Government has been meeting Zim's operational deficit. The new ownership plan was recommended by a Ministerial Committee headed by Minister of Justice Yacov S. Shapiro.

The committee also recommended that Zim reduce its passenger department's operations. These, the committee reported, had been the main reason for the company's losses. However, the committee held that the passenger department should not be completely liquidated.

SOVIET JEWS REPORTED FACING DIFFICULTIES IN SEEKING EMIGRATION

LONDON, April 4. (JTA) -- Jews in Czernowitz, Kishinev and Zhitomir, seeking permission to emigrate to join families in Israel and elsewhere, are being treated by local bureaucrats in a most offensive manner, reliable observers returning from recent visits to those Russian cities have reported here.

The observers said that in many cases the Soviet officials were refusing to accept both the application forms and documents testifying that the applicants were members of families broken up during the war period. In other cases, applications and documents are accepted but the applicants are given to understand that there is no reason for them to hope that the applications will be considered and the requests for permission to emigrate granted.

NEO-NAZIS IN GERMANY ATTACK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS TO NAZI VICTIMS

BONN, April 4. (JTA) -- Distribution of 2,000,000 copies of a publication of the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party was barred today until removal by the party, under pressure, of an article containing a virulent attack on West German indemnity payments to Jews and other victims of the Nazi regime. The article was refuted by the Interior Ministry.

The article appeared in a special issue of the Deutsche Nachrichten which was prepared as a propaganda device for the forthcoming elections in the district of Rhineland-Pfalz. The article asserted that the province had paid reparations amounting to 115 marks (\$28) per capita in comparison with a national per capita average of 26 marks (\$6.50). The Interior Ministry replied that the Rhineland-Pfalz per capita figure in reparation payments was about 20 marks (\$5) and the page carrying the article was removed from all copies before distribution.

POLISH OFFICIAL INSISTS ON BRAZIL'S EXTRADITION OF STANGL TO POLAND

WARSAW, April 4. (JTA) -- A Polish official who investigates Nazis insisted today that Franz Stangl, wartime commandant of the Nazi death camps at Treblinka and Sobibor, should be extradited to Poland from Brazil, where he is now under arrest, to stand trial in the country where his "horrible crimes" were committed.

Stangl was arrested March 2 in Sao Paulo and has since been held under maximum security detention awaiting a pending ruling on an Austrian request for his extradition. West Germany also has asked his extradition on war crimes charges.

Dr. Czeslaw Pilichowski, director of the Polish State Commission to Investigate Nazi Crimes in Poland, said Stangl was active in Belzec as well as Treblinka and Sobibor -- all in Poland -- and that at least 1,500,000 persons were murdered in the three camps. The Polish official said Stangl was responsible for the murder of at least 700,000 persons, mostly Jews but also Poles and other nationals. He pointed out that Stangl was listed as a war criminal by Poland as far back as 1945.

Extradition of Stangl Asked by Jewish Congress in Canada

TORONTO, April 4. (JTA) -- A deputation of the Polish Political Ex-Prisoners Association of Canada and the Canadian Jewish Congress Central Region met with Senora Ibis Bengston, Brazilian Consul in Toronto, and expressed the concern of their organizations on the status of Franz Stangl. They urged that Brazil extradite the former Nazi death camp commandant to be tried for war crimes.

Those in the delegation which met Mrs. Bengston were Jan Kaszuba and Sigmund Sherwood for the Polish group and Meyer Gaster and Kalman Berger for the CJC. Included in the CJC group were members of the Bergen-Belsen Association, the Association of Concentration Camp Survivors and N-3 Fighters Against Racial Hatred.

About 50 persons made up the delegation about a dozen of whom paraded outside the Consulate with placards demanding that Stangl be brought to justice. Mrs. Bengston assured the delegation representatives she would convey the petition to her government.

(Brazil's Supreme Court refused this week to grant a writ of habeas corpus which would have resulted in the release of Stangl. Stangl's attorney said he would still pursue his efforts to keep the Nazi war criminal from being extradited. Applications for his extradition have been filed by West Germany, Austria and Poland, and endorsed by Israel.)

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MOVES AHEAD WITH ITS EXPANSION PROGRAM

NEW YORK, April 4. (JTA) -- With pledges of more than \$17,000,000 on hand toward a five-year goal of \$35,000,000 announced in September, 1965. The Jewish Theological Seminary of America was reported today as "entering a new phase of its capital and endowment expansion program." The announcement was made at a press conference by Dr. Bernard Mandelbaum, Seminary president. He explained that the institution had deferred making any definite commitments of capital funds until it had some assurance that the \$35,000,000 goal, believed to be the largest ever sought in a single campaign by a theological institution, could be obtained.

TEACHERS IN CATHOLIC COLLEGES TO EXPLORE IDENTITY OF AMERICAN JEW

NEW YORK, April 4. (JTA) -- Faculty members of nine Catholic colleges and seminaries will explore "The Making and Identity of the American Jew" at the first study institute on the subject undertaken by a regional group of Catholic institutions of higher learning, it was announced here today.

For three days this month -- April 16, 17 and 18 -- representative faculty of the nine schools, all in Westchester, will meet under the auspices of the institutions and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith to hear Jewish and Catholic historians and clergymen probe the American Jew and the explicit backgrounds which have molded him. Members of the literature, philosophy, economics, history, political science, sociology, religion and Bible faculties are expected to attend.

ORTHODOX GROUPS PROTEST ANTI-CHECHITA ADS IN NEW YORK NEWSPAPERS

NEW YORK, April 4. (JTA) -- The Joint Committee for the Protection of Shechita, an organization composed of all Orthodox rabbinical and lay groups in New York, protested to the three English-language dailies in New York today against anti-kosher-slaughter advertisements carried by those newspapers. According to the committee, some of the advertisements carried statements and illustrations that were "outright fabrications," contending falsely, among other things, that animals slaughtered in accordance with Jewish ritual are "skinned alive."

The protests were made, by mail and in person, to the publishers of The New York Times, The World Journal Tribune and The New York Post. The disputed advertisements had been placed in the New York dailies by the "Committee for Humane Legislation" which the Orthodox groups called "an extremist group" which seeks to destroy Jewish ritual slaughter. The Orthodox joint committee demanded that the newspapers apologize for running those advertisements, pledge to print no more notices of that type, and give Orthodox Jewry the opportunity to explain the truth about kosher slaughter.

MISSOURI RABBIS TESTIFY AGAINST SLAUGHTER BILL AFFECTING SHECHITA

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 4. (JTA) -- Efforts to pass a so-called "humane slaughter" bill in the Missouri State Senate affecting Shechita -- similar to a draft killed in committee last year by the State House of Representatives -- are being fought here by the Orthodox Jewish leaders, including rabbis from Missouri's two largest cities, St. Louis and Kansas City, who came here to oppose the bill.

After testifying against the draft bill before the Senate Agricultural Committee, all participated in a kosher luncheon served to the senators and other state officials, at which Governor Warren E. Hearnes was the guest of honor.

NEWLY-FORMED FEDERATED ZIONISTS OF CANADA ELECT OFFICERS

TORONTO, April 4. (JTA) -- Sam Chait, 62-year-old Montreal lawyer was elected president of the newly-formed Federated Zionist Organization of Canada comprising the ZOC, the labor Zionist movement, the Revisionists, the Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, Achdut Ha'avodah, Friends of Pioneering Israel (Mapam) and Hadassah-WIZO.

Philip A. Givens, former Mayor of Toronto, was elected vice-president after withdrawing from a presidential nomination from the floor. John R. Devor of Toronto and Leon Kronitz of Montreal were elected deputy presidents. Mrs. Charles Eisenstat was also elected vice-president. Other officers elected included Sam Sokoloff of Montreal, treasurer; Joel Sternthal of Montreal, assistant treasurer; J. Shocter of Edmonton, secretary; and Kalman Berger of Toronto, assistant secretary. Honorary president is Lawrence Freiman.

Jon Kimche, former editor of the Jewish Observer and Middle East Review, told the founding convention of the FZOC that those who fought in the War of Independence in 1948 took part more in a revolt against British ruling power than against the Arabs. "We find today a most serious discussion of the nature and intent of Zionism among the younger generation of Arab intellectuals," he reported. "Articles in a periodical of a Beirut university would be an eye opener to most Jews. We must be ready to debate with these people not on a point and counterpoint basis but to face the problems that the Arab intellectuals face."

MARYLAND GOVERNOR NAMED HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF ISRAEL BOND DRIVE

BALTIMORE, April 4. (JTA) -- Governor Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland has accepted the position of Honorary Chairman of the Maryland Committee for State of Israel Bonds, it was announced today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization. Gov. Agnew was installed in his new post at a formal dinner held at the Government House in Annapolis tonight. Admission to the event was based on the purchase of a minimum of \$5,000 in Israel bonds for 1967.