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### SYRIA OPENS FIRE ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENT; ONE SETTLER WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, April 12. (JTA) -- Syrian gunners at Urfiya opened light machinegun fire today on members of Kibbutz Gonen who were making a routine check of the settlement's fences near the Syrian border. One of the settlers was wounded. The Syrian shooting ended after Israeli forces were alerted and returned the fire. Earlier an army patrol found an anti-vehicle mine planted on a dirt road near the Lahish area.

Meanwhile Israeli tractor operators completed ploughing work today on a field near Tel Katzir which was the target of Syrian shelling, Friday and yesterday. Israeli forces took special precautionary measures after yesterday's shooting, the nature of which were not disclosed.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban rejected today in Parliament the Syrian claims of shooting down five Israeli jets in the border clash last Friday. "Israel," he said, "has the habit of openly admitting and detailing her losses in defensive actions." He reiterated earlier official Israeli statements that no Israeli planes were lost in the artillery, tank and air clash in which Israeli jets shot down six Soviet-made Syrian MIG-21 jet fighters.

Mr. Eban made the statement in a summary of foreign policy debate last week covering his Asian tour. He also told Parliament that the events Friday had shown that Israel would not acquiesce in having its border pushed westward. The clash followed Syrian shooting at tractors plowing fields in the demilitarized zone at the Tel Katzir settlement.

Mr. Eban declared that the United Nations charter was not intended to prevent citizens of a nation from ploughing their land, even near a border but rather to halt armed clashes between nations. He asserted that Syria had been acting in "flagrant violation" of this principle, making a mockery of the charter and the Israeli-Arab armistice agreements. He said this situation should be made clear by international bodies.

### Comay Says Israel-Arab War 'Not Probable' in Foreseeable Future

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., April 12. (JTA) -- Another Israeli-Arab war "in the foreseeable future is possible, but not probable," Israel's Ambassador Michael S. Comay declared today. And, because of that possibility, he added, Israel must divert vast sums of money and effort, straining its economy, to maintain deterrent power against Arab attack.

Mr. Comay, Israel's permanent representative here for the last seven years, who is returning to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem at his own request, made that statement, among others, in summarizing his U.N. activities before about 60 members of the United Nations Correspondents Association who tendered a farewell luncheon in his honor.

One of his frustrations at the United Nations, Mr. Comay told the newsmen, lay in the fact that, in the 20 years, off and on, that he has been at the U.N. for Israel, he has not once found it possible to meet with an Arab diplomat even on an informal basis. "One day, I hope," he said, "it may be possible for my successors to meet with an Arab here, and such a meeting would be beneficial. Ultimately, accommodation between us and the Arab states is possible."

Asked whether Israel sees any possibility of improving its position vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, Mr. Comay replied: "We would very much like to do so. We have every possible reason for wanting to improve our relations with the USSR." He added that there are two reasons for the present situation as between the Soviet Union and Israel.

"One reason," he said, "is the fact that the USSR has now made very large investments, economic, military and diplomatic, in the Arab world, to the extent that no solution of the Middle East problem would be possible now without the participation of the Soviet Union. The other reason is that Israel, along with the rest of Jewry throughout the world, is deeply concerned about the Jews in the USSR. That issue has come up from time to time right here at the United Nations."

In regard to the matter of United States arms for Israel, Mr. Comay said that "today the only limitation on our acquisition of more arms is financial." He noted that the U.S. policy is that Washington is prepared to avoid an imbalance of arms in the Middle East, thus furnishing arms to some of the Arab states but also not neglecting Israel in that regard.

ISRAEL PARLIAMENT RECESSES; WILL REOPEN AFTER PASSOVER HOLIDAY

JERUSALEM, April 12. (JTA) -- Israel's Parliament recessed today for the Passover holiday until May 22. The lengthy session today before adjournment was devoted to "spring cleaning" of fiscal and procedural bills which had accumulated during the winter and which were read into law.

EUROMART COMMISSION ISSUES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON TALKS WITH ISRAEL

BRUSSELS, April 12. (JTA) -- The Commission of the European Economic Community issued today a preliminary report on its exploratory talks with Israel on Israel's bid for an associate status with the six-nation European Common Market.

The report reviewed the history of Israel's initial and current relationship with Euromart, which expires next June 30, and Israel's bid for associate membership, similar to that given to Greece. It was understood that a full report, containing proposals on future relations between Israel and Euromart, is in preparation and is expected to be finished by the beginning of next month.

In a related development the EEC Council of Ministers was reported today to have made a number of decisions, at a meeting here, on its scheduled negotiations with Spain for an associate status agreement. It was understood that the Council has not as yet made a decision on inclusion in the proposed agreement on Spain's citrus fruits.

These developments were closely watched by Israeli observers here because any tariff concessions or other trade preferences accorded to Spain would amount to direct discrimination against citrus fruit exports from Israel. Such changes would in turn immediately influence citrus sales in the markets of the EEC member states, particularly West Germany and the Benelux countries.

ISRAEL HOSPITAL RETURNS HEART TO ANGRY ZEALOTS AFTER AUTOPSY

B'NAI BRAK, April 12. (JTA) -- Two thousand angry zealots sought yesterday to break into the Government Tel Hashomer Hospital to protest a post mortem operation carried out on the body of the wife of the head of one of B'nai Brak's leading religious academies.

The hassidim discovered, during preparations for the funeral of 42-year-old Mrs. Rahel Madel, that her heart had been removed in the hospital. Tempers mounted and the zealots began grouping for a march on the hospital. They were dissuaded from doing so by B'nai Brak Mayor S. Winberg.

(A special prayer session against the performance of autopsies in Israel was held last night in the Agudath Israel Beth Hamidrash in London. Appeals from leading Orthodox Jews against such autopsies were read during the service. Sermons on the issue were given in a number of London synagogues and some rabbis observed a half-day of fasting in protest.)

Mourners and members of Mrs. Madel's family were particularly incensed because Tel Hashomer doctors had specifically promised not to perform a postmortem on a woman from a very religious family. When Mayor Winberg and his deputy took the issue up with Tel Hashomer hospital officials, they were given Mrs. Madel's heart in a nylon container.

ISRAEL EXPERTS HELP LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS TO PERFECT BIRTH CONTROL

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- Israel is among the nations that have sent medical experts to help Latin American nations perfect birth control techniques at a conference now in progress at Santiago, Chile, it was disclosed today in a Senate speech by Sen. Ernest Gruening, Alaska Democrat, who emphasized the importance of the Santiago meeting. The Santiago birth control meeting is sponsored by the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Israeli participants include Prof. M.C. Shelesnyak, expert on Biodynamics, of Weizmann Institute of Science. Another Israeli participant is Dr. Bruno Lunenfeld, of the Tel Hashomer Government Hospital. Dr. Lunenfeld took part in the session on recent developments in the biological control of fertility.

ISRAEL TO TAKE DELIVERY OF NEW SUBMARINE AT BRITISH NAVAL BASE

TEL AVIV, April 12. (JTA) -- The commander of Israel's Navy, Rear Admiral Shlomo Erel, left for England today to raise Israel's naval flag over the new submarine, Leviathan, now being prepared for launching at the Portsmouth Naval Base. An Israeli crew is already in operational training aboard the new ship.

A 45-thousand ton oil tanker formerly owned by the debt-racked Somerfin Company left port at Eilat tonight after a four-month tie-up stemming from settlement of demands against the firm. The tanker, which has been re-named Siris, an abbreviation of the name of its new owner, the British philanthropist, Sir Isaac Wolfson, sailed to pick up a cargo of crude oil for return to Eilat.

MOSCOW CHIEF RABBI SENDS PASSOVER GREETINGS TO ISRAEL LEADERS

JERUSALEM, April 12. (JTA) -- Passover greetings from Moscow Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin were received today by Sephardic Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim and by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the World Hebrew Union in Israel. Similar greetings had been received from Chief Rabbi Levin in previous years.

COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN CONVENTION APPEALS TO MOSCOW ON JEWS

ATLANTA, Ga., April 12. (JTA) -- The National Council of Jewish Women urged the Soviet Union today to "permit its Jewish citizens the same freedom accorded other nationalities to practice, enhance and perpetuate their culture and religion."

The 1,000 delegates of the Jewish women's educational and service organization, meeting in biennial convention, stated that "since last year, token advances have been made in the Soviet Union." They called on the Soviet Government to "make available the institutions, schools, textbooks and materials necessary to teach Jewish children the languages, history and cultural practices of their people -- a right affirmed in the Soviet Constitution."

The Jewish women's group also issued a report on its work in Women In Community Service (WICS), the interracial and interreligious group which recruits and screens girls for the Federal Women's Job Corps. The survey found that the 5,000 Women's Job Corps graduates have greatly increased their earning power and that "the average wage of the Women's Job Corps graduate is now \$1.71 an hour." WICS is comprised of members of Church Women United, the National Council of Catholic Women, the National Council of Negro Women and the NCJW.

SENATE ACTS TO PROVIDE SUPREME COURT RULE ON AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- The Senate approved yesterday a bill to permit judicial review of the constitutionality of Federal aid to church-supported schools and colleges. The measure, identical to one passed last year by the Senate and killed by a House committee, would set up procedures for contesting the constitutionality of loans and grants in various Federal aid programs for education.

Efforts to obtain such tests have failed because of a Supreme Court ruling, in 1923, that taxpayers did not have court standing to challenge how Federal monies were spent. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr., North Carolina Democrat, would authorize suits by taxpayers and non-profit agencies against specific grants or loans. Sen. Ervin is a leading opponent of such Federal aid on grounds of violation of the church-state separation principle.

The measure was sent to the House where prospects of passage were rated as doubtful. Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat and chairman of the Judiciary committee opposes such measures. He said public agencies could get court tests on the constitutionality of such Federal aid under existing law.

CANADIAN RABBI RECOGNIZED BY GOVERNMENT AS SPOKESMAN OF COMMUNITY

MONTREAL, April 12. (JTA) -- For the first time in Canadian history, the Jewish faith, as represented by the rabbinic chairman of the national religious affairs committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress, has been recognized officially as "the spokesman of the Jewish community in the ecclesiastical sense," it was announced here today by Canadian Secretary of State Judy LaMarsh.

In informing the CJC of this policy, Miss LaMarsh noted that the precedent for such recognition was set some time ago by the late Governor-General Georges P. Vanier. Mr. Vanier had invited Rabbi S. M. Zambrowsky, chairman of the CJC religious affairs committee to represent the Jewish faith in "Category 12" of the Government's "Table of Precedence." Now, Miss LaMarsh told the CJC "steps will be taken to list Rabbi S. M. Zambrowsky in the Guide to Relative Precedence."

CALIFORNIA GETS BILL AUTHORIZING RABBIS TO PERFORM WEDDINGS

LOS ANGELES, April 12. (JTA) -- State Sen. Anthony Beilenson, Los Angeles Democrat, has introduced a bill in the California Legislature authorizing rabbis to perform weddings in the state.

The language of the present state law on religious weddings makes legal, technically, only weddings performed by "priests or ministers of the gospel." Sen. Beilenson said that the language makes weddings performed by rabbis questionable as to their legality because "priests and gospels" refer only to Christianity.

The Senator's measure would add the word "rabbi" to the list of religious officials qualified to perform marriages in California. He said that the term was meant to cover Jewish clergymen regardless of the branch of Judaism they represent.

MEMORIAL FOR NAZI VICTIMS TO BE UNVEILED IN AUSCHWITZ ON SUNDAY

JERUSALEM, April 12. (JTA) -- Welfare Minister Joseph Burg left today for Poland where he will represent the Israel Government at the unveiling Sunday of a memorial to the victims of the Auschwitz death camp at the camp site.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Israel Government appreciated the invitation to participate in the commemoration at the unveiling for "the millions of our brethren who perished in Auschwitz and other extermination camps" of the Nazis during World War II. Dr. Burg will go to Warsaw and from there to Cracow, which is in the vicinity of the Auschwitz camp site.

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LONDON, April 12. (JTA) -- Two officials of the World Jewish Congress have been invited to Auschwitz to attend the inauguration there of the Auschwitz Memorial on Sunday. The officials are A. L. Easterman, director of the WJC international affairs department, and Anselm Reiss, member of the WJC Israel executive.

Mr. Easterman also will represent the WJC at ceremonies on April 19 commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto revolt against the Nazis. He will meet with Polish officials on matters of common interest, particularly in connection with plans for a permanent memorial pavilion at the site of the Auschwitz death camp to house the relics and documents illustrating the wartime murder of more than 2,000,000 Jews in the camp.

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BONN, April 12. (JTA) -- Formation of an international committee to raise funds for a monument to the martyrs annihilated by the Nazi regime at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp was announced here today.

Members of the committee include Max Born, a Jewish West German atomic scientist; the famous cellist, Pablo Cassals; Francois Mauriac, the French writer; and Arnold Zweig, a German-Jewish writer, who lives in East Germany.

B'nai B'rith to Erect Memorial in Belgium for Deported Jews

ANTWERP, April 12. (JTA) -- A contract was signed at B'nai B'rith headquarters here today for the erection at Brussels, capital of Belgium, of a memorial to the 25,000 Jewish martyrs who were deported from this country to the Nazi death camps during World War II.

The memorial will take the form of a hexagonal structure surrounded by six walls symbolizing the 6,000,000 Jews slaughtered during the Hitler holocaust. The designer of the memorial is a Belgian architect, Andre Godart, who was awarded the task after winning a Europe-wide competition. Representing the Belgian Jewish Memorial Committee, the signers of the contract were Joseph Komkommer and Jean Bloch, co-chairmen of the committee.

KASHRUTH SUPERVISORY BODY FOR MED FOR THREE NEW JERSEY COMMUNITIES

CAMDEN, N.J., April 12. (JTA) -- An organization to supervise observance of the Jewish slaughtering and dietary laws, entitled the Tri-County Vaad Hakashruth, has been formed here, with the cooperation of rabbinical and lay Jewish leaders from Camden, Burlington and Gloucester Counties. Alexander E. Segal, of Congregation Sons of Israel, has been elected president of the new body, and Rabbi Bernard E. Rothman has been appointed director.

Under the supervision of the Vaad Hakashruth, all Jewish catering services as well as Jewish butchers in the entire area will be inspected, and strict fulltime kashruth supervision will be provided to kosher summer camps. Caterers will be required to have fulltime kashruth supervisors on their premises.

LUBAVITCHER PUBLICATIONS IN 10 LANGUAGES EXHIBITED IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, April 12. (JTA) -- President Zalman Shazar and Nobel Prize-winner Shmuel Yosef Agnon were among the first dignitaries to visit the Lubavitcher book exhibit at the Jerusalem Book Fair currently taking place here. The Lubavitcher exhibit is being sponsored by Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch, the educational arm of the Lubavitcher movement, and by the Lubavitch Youth Organization. Hundreds of Merkos books and publications in ten languages and published in eight countries are being shown at the exposition.

B'NAI B'RITH STARTS HILLEL FOUNDATION PROGRAMS IN LATIN AMERICA

WASHINGTON, April 12. (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith today announced initiation of Hillel Foundation programs in Latin America. A Hillel counselorship has been established at the Central University of Venezuela at Caracas to minister to the religious, cultural and counseling needs of some 300 Jewish students. The university is the 21st institution outside the United States and Canada to have Hillel facilities.