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Israel Cabinet Discusses Readmission of Arabs Who Fled to Jordan from West Bank

JERUSALEM, August 13. (JTA) -- At an extraordinarily lengthy session of Israel's Cabinet today -- continuing into the evening -- the Government considered the issue on freely admitting Arab refugees who had fled into Jordan and now want to return to the Israeli-held west bank of the Jordan River area. The final decision was to continue with the free admission policy.

A minority of Cabinet members, including the Ministers representing Gahal -- the political fusion of Herut and the Liberal Party -- reportedly favored discontinuance of the policy of readmitting those refugees, due to the Jordanian Government's incitements toward resistance against Israeli authority. A majority of the Cabinet, however, was opposed to a change in the policy, insisting that the refugees must not be made pawns "in the Arab game." Those ministers favoring the policy of readmission insisted, however, that the returnees be screened for security before they were allowed to enter the West Bank area.

The Cabinet decided to approve United Nations Secretary-General U Thant's appointment of Ernesto Telemann, former Swiss observer at the United Nations, as the U.N.'s special representative in Jerusalem. Mr. Thant had not yet announced Mr. Telemann's appointment, but is expected to do so this week. The recent emergency special session of the General Assembly had directed Mr. Thant to name a special representative to report on the situation regarding Jerusalem. Israel does not oppose a Jerusalem fact-finding mission on behalf of the United Nations.

Meanwhile, the Government announced today that access to the holy places in Jerusalem will be open hereafter to Christians of any nationality, including Egyptians. The announcement was made by the Israel Ministry of Religious Affairs in a notice to the Coptic bishop of Jerusalem. However, it was not clear whether the rule admitting Egyptian or other non-Israelis to the holy places would apply to Moslems as well as to Christians.

Israeli Police to Take Over Duties from Military in Acquired Arab Territories

TEL AVIV, August 13. (JTA) -- Policing of the Arab areas occupied by Israel as a result of the June war will be made the responsibility of Israel police, beginning Tuesday, it was announced here today. The Israeli police will operate under the laws and regulations now in effect in the areas concerned, it was said.

Three special police subdistricts will be established. Two of these will be in the West Bank areas taken from Jordan, and one will be responsible for police work in the Gaza Strip and in northern Sinai, taken from Egypt. Lower Syrian areas in the Golan Heights overlooking northern Israel will be policed by the present subdistrict in Tiberias.

Due to the new duties assigned to Israeli police, many more policemen will be recruited. It is expected that 70 percent of the newly-appointed policemen will be from the localities embraced in the newly-established subdistricts.

International Economic Conference in Israel Establishes Machinery for Action

JERUSALEM, August 13. (JTA) -- A permanent secretariat for the International Economic Advisory Conference to the Israel Government, in which some 60 of the world's leading Jewish financiers and industrialists participated here last week, was established today. The immediate task of the secretariat is to start preliminary work toward a much larger world conference, to be held here next April, with several hundred Jews from all five continents in attendance.

In a resolution adopted at their concluding session, the 60 participants of the Conference pledged themselves to cooperate with the Government of Israel in actively stimulating and mobilizing direct investments in Israel and to organize assistance for Israel's industrial, financial and commercial management and marketing.

The 60 leaders emphasized what they called the Israel Government's "final commitment" to provide attractive incentives to Israeli and foreign investors. Many of the conferees, who had themselves invested heavily in Israel, told the session that their own investments in Israel had resulted in good returns. Some, however, voiced criticism against what they called Israel's "bureaucracy."

After hearing a report on Israel's security from Gen. Moshe Dayan, the Minister of Defense, and an address by David Horowitz, Governor of the Bank of Israel, the conferees were assured by Robert Nathan, an American economist now here as a consultant to the Government, that Israel's Government "must play a key role in the creation of a favorable economic atmosphere."

U.N. Security Council Gets Report on Cease-Fire Situation in the Suez Canal Area

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., August 13. (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant filed with the Security Council a report from Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, his representative for the implementation of the Arab-Israeli cease-fire agreements, requesting that the cease-fire observation teams in the Suez Canal area be increased from the present strength of 26 observers on both sides to 50 observers.

Of the total of 50, Gen. Bull stated, he is assigning 26 observers to the U.N. control center at Kantara, on the east bank of the canal now occupied by Israel, and 24 to the Ismailia control center, on the Egyptian-held west bank. In addition, Gen. Bull reported, there are four observation posts on the Israeli side, two of them manned on a 24-hour basis, and an observation post on the Egyptian side also manned 24 hours a day.

Gen. Bull also reported the agreement he made last week with both Israel and Egypt, under which both sides promised to keep all boats off the canal or from entering the canal for one month expiring August 27. However, the agreement provided that boats of the Suez Canal Authority, under Egyptian jurisdiction are to be permitted for the purpose of supplying food and other needed supplies to foreign shipping anchored in the Bitter Lakes, inside the canal, since Egypt closed the canal in June.

Mr. Thant reported to the Security Council this weekend that the United Nations and Israel have reached an agreement for Gen. Bull and his staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization to move back into Government House. The latter complex is in former no-man's land between the New City of Jerusalem and the Old City formerly held by Jordan. During the June war, Jordanian troops expelled UNTSO from Government House which was retaken by Israel the same day. Since then, Mr. Thant and Gen. Bull have been negotiating with Israel for UNTSO's return to Government House.

Under the agreement with Israel, Mr. Thant reported, Government House and a surrounding area of 44 dunams is being returned to UNTSO. The area returned, Mr. Thant said, is about one-third of the area previously occupied by UNTSO headquarters. One building containing UNTSO's radio facilities, including antennae, is outside the 44-dunam portion returned by Israel but, Mr. Thant added, Israel has assured him that UNTSO will have access to that building.

Tito's Peace Plan for Middle East Seen in Israel as Having No Chance for Success

JERUSALEM, August 13. (JTA) -- The "peace plan" for the Middle East which President Tito of Yugoslavia is now discussing in Cairo with President Nasser of Egypt has not much chance of succeeding, diplomatic sources asserted here today.

According to information received here from American sources, Marshal Tito has in mind some scheme of gradual withdrawal of Israel's military forces from occupied Egyptian areas, accompanied at each phase by some Egyptian concession. For example, if Israel withdraws to a point 20 miles from the Suez Canal, Egypt would reopen the canal to all shipping, including Israel's.

At a later stage, Israel would withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula and this would lead to Egyptian recognition of the State of Israel, according to information from the same sources. International guarantees are also part of the Tito scheme. But, Israelis point out, Egypt has insisted on unconditional withdrawal of Israel's forces and that only then would Egypt decide when and if to talk with Israel. This position, it was asserted here, is unacceptable to Israel.

Czech Communist Author Disagrees with Prague's Pro-Arab Policy; Goes to Israel

FRANKFURT, August 13. (JTA) -- Ladislav Mnacko, one of Czechoslovakia's leading writers and a member of the Communist Party, stopped here on his way to Israel. He said he is writing a book to counter the Government-controlled press in his country which he termed "completely one-sided" in its pro-Arab and anti-Israel stand.

Mr. Mnacko, who is not a Jew, has been twice declared in his home country as the nation's outstanding writer, and is a winner of the state's highest award, the Klement Gottwald Prize. When he arrived here, he distributed a letter to representatives of the Western press, clearly defying the foreign and domestic policies, including censorship, as practiced by the Czechoslovakian Government. In the letter, he asserted that he plans to return to Czechoslovakia after visiting Israel, to complete the writing of his book about Israeli-Arab issues.

Poland Refuses Visas to Israeli Delegates to International Conference of Deaf Mutes

TEL AVIV, August 13. (JTA) -- Five Israeli deaf mutes could not take part in the International Conference of the Deaf held in Warsaw because the Polish Government refused to grant them visas, although they had been officially invited to attend. The Association of Deaf Mutes in Israel today announced it had lodged a complaint with UNESCO.

Israeli Melody is Among Most Popular Tunes Played in Moscow Restaurants

NEW YORK, August 13. (JTA) -- One of the most popular tunes played by orchestras in Moscow in hotels and restaurants is the Hebrew melody "Hava Negilah," it was reported in The New York Times yesterday from the Soviet capital. The song is enthusiastically received by diners who frequently dance to it, the correspondent said in his cable.

U.S.-Sectarian Group Accuses Russia of Conducting a 'Cold War' Against Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, August 13. (JTA) -- The rulers of Soviet Russia were accused today of launching a "cold war" against the 3,000,000 Jews of the USSR following Israel's military victory over the Communist-backed Arab states. The charge was contained in a report published by the Conference on the Status of Soviet Jews, a non-sectarian group sponsored by Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Episcopal Bishop James A. Pike, Norman Thomas and other religious and intellectual leaders.

The report, entitled "Israel and the Jews in the Soviet Mirror," was edited by Moshe Decter, a Soviet affairs specialist. It contains reproductions of 36 recently-published cartoons from leading Soviet newspapers and magazines described as "calculated to revive, bolster and perpetuate anti-Semitic prejudice in a country where it is pervasive, endemic and persistent."

In an open letter accompanying the report, Bishop Pike and Mr. Thomas declare that "Soviet policy in the Middle East, culminating in its diplomatic break with Israel, has been accompanied by an enormous anti-Semitic propaganda effort at home and abroad whose virulence has rarely been equaled in recent Soviet history." The letter makes the further charge that the anti-Semitic campaign is "the product of a policy fixed at the highest levels, as reflected in the speeches of Premier Kosygin and Communist Party Secretary Brezhnev and in the output of the entire Soviet propaganda apparatus."

Soviet policy threatens the Jews of the USSR with "extinction by attrition," the two spokesmen for the Conference on the Status of Soviet Jews charge in their letter. "For many years the tenuous situation of Soviet Jewry has caused deep concern," Bishop Pike and Mr. Thomas declare, adding: "Now that concern has become alarm as a result of the impact of Soviet policy in the Middle East crisis."

"It now appears that the Soviet authorities have turned their policy of discrimination and deprivation into a cold war against the Jews," the statement says. The result, according to the statement, has been to jeopardize the position of the Soviet Jewish community, "long regarded with suspicion and hostility," and give their plight "a new and even more ominous dimension."

Cites Anti-Semitic Cartoons Carried in Soviet Newspapers

The "vicious anti-Israel theme" of the cartoons and their "overtly anti-Semitic motifs and stereotypes," Bishop Pike and Mr. Thomas charge, has heightened the tension under which Soviet Jews live and served "to inflame the deep-rooted anti-Jewish prejudices in the USSR." The cartoons, all published after Arab-Israel hostilities began on June 5, originally appeared in Izvestia, the Soviet Government organ; Pravda, the Communist Party daily; Trud, the trade union newspaper; Krasnaya Zvezda, published by the Soviet Defense Ministry; and other leading Soviet journals.

A foreword to the report by Mr. Decter describes the Soviet captions as characterized by: 1) Stereotyped anti-Semitic caricatures -- "even Uncle Sam is made out to look 'Jewish,' serving to reinforce the popular image of the USA as controlled by the Jews;" 2) the presentation of Israel and its Defense Minister, Moshe Dayan, as a "wanton murderer and bloody thug;" 3) the equation of Israel and the Jews with the Nazis; and 4) the identification of Israel as a tool of Western, chiefly American, "imperialism." "Within this context, and in the prevalent atmosphere of the Soviet Union, such cartoon images can only incite to hatred of Israel and the Jews," Mr. Decter declares.

According to the Soviet affairs specialist, "reliable reports have already emerged to indicate that this inflammatory propaganda is having its effect." Mr. Decter cites "reports of a near-pogrom atmosphere, of assaults upon Jews in the streets of Tashkent, of enormous pressure upon Jewish congregations in their synagogues to pass resolutions condemning Israel, of letters to the press from Jews 'volunteering' to condemn Israel, of Jewish mothers in Moscow and other cities being fearful to send their children to school for fear of their encountering anti-Semitic humiliation at the hands of their classmates."

"These cartoons bring Soviet propaganda almost to the end of the line," the report declares. "Virtually nothing has been left to the Soviet public's imagination -- nor of ours as we contemplate the fate of three million Soviet Jews, silent and isolated."

Anniversary of Execution of Jewish Intellectuals in U.S.S.R. Observed in New York

NEW YORK, August 13. (JTA) -- On the fifteenth anniversary of the execution of 24 Yiddish writers, actors and intellectuals by the Soviet Union on August 12, 1952, Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, today called upon the Soviet Union to "lift the death sentence the regime has imposed upon Jewish culture."

As a memorial to those executed, the Conference, which is composed of 25 major national Jewish organizations, issued a special publication tracing the strangulation of Jewish culture by successive Soviet regimes. The Conference called for an end to "forcible assimilation."

J.D.C. Reports Aiding 400,000 Jews in 30 Lands; Lack of Funds Reduces Number of Aided

NEW YORK, August 13. (JTA) -- Despite elimination of many programs aiding needy Jews overseas -- as a result of lack of funds -- the Joint Distribution Committee aided more than 400,000 needy Jews in 30 countries during 1966, it was reported by Charles H. Jordan, JDC executive vice-chairman in the agency's annual report published here this weekend.

The 401,000 aided included 87,135 assisted in Israel, 76,455 in Europe and 56,565 in the Moslem countries. The total number aided compares with 413,000 aided in 1965 and 430,000 assisted in 1964. The decline was not due to a decrease in the number of people needing help, but to insufficient funds to provide help for all those who needed help, Mr. Jordan said.

"In other years it was heartening to be able to report a decrease in the number of JDC's beneficiaries from the year before," he said. "The decrease meant that some of the sick had been healed; the refugee had found a home, the newcomer had become independent, the feeding program, the hospital bed, the pair of shoes, were no longer needed." JDC's straitened financial condition was due mainly to the termination at the end of 1964 of German reparations payments, which averaged \$7,000,000 yearly since 1954, Mr. Jordan said. Despite increased efforts by American Jewish communities through the United Jewish Appeal, only a fraction of that sum was made up, he added.

The decrease in the number of people aided in Israel -- from 97,000 in 1965 to 87,135 in 1966 was reflected mainly in the sharp decline in the number of people aided by Malben, the JDC program on behalf of aged, ill and handicapped newcomers to Israel. In 1965 Malben assisted 50,565 needy immigrants and in 1966 the number aided fell to 37,208, a drop of 13,357. JDC's health, welfare and rehabilitation programs cost the agency \$22,594,800 in 1966, an increase of more than \$500,000 over 1965. Mr. Jordan explained that this sum provided for roughly the same amount of services for 12,000 fewer people in 1966, primarily because of inflation and increased costs in many of the 30 countries in which JDC operates.

In an introductory message in the report, Louis Broido, JDC chairman, took note of the war in the Middle East and said that it would "set in motion processes which will continue, which will bear on the lives of men, women and children hundreds and thousands of miles from the scene of the events." Mr. Broido stated that JDC's response will be "as it always has been," humanitarian and non-political. "This is the mission given us in 1914," he said.

In another message in the annual report, which is sent to close to 10,000 members of the JDC National Council throughout the United States and Canada, Jack D. Weiler, chairman of the National Council, stressed the importance of the National Council in keeping the Jewish community apprised of the continuing needs overseas as well as the achievements. He stressed especially the importance of visits to JDC installations overseas by leaders of the Jewish community while on tour. "Nothing will give them a better view of how JDC works for them, bringing help to needy Jews wherever it is needed, whenever it is needed," he said.

Israeli Rabbinate Orders Observance of Tisha B'Av Despite Return of 'Old City' to Jews

JERUSALEM, August 13. (JTA) -- Tisha B'Av, which commemorates the destruction of the first and second Temples, will be observed on Tuesday as a traditional day of mourning and fasting despite the fact that the Old City has been returned to Jewish control, the Israeli Chief Rabbinate ruled today. The Old City is the site of the two Temples where the Western Wall remains as a remnant of the Second Temple.

The Rabbinate said that while the Temple grounds were back in Jewish hands, the Temple still has not been rebuilt and millions of Jews throughout the world live under conditions of oppression. The observance of the Ninth of Av was in earlier periods a day of pilgrimage to the Western Wall where Jews recited from the Book of Lamentations. This year, hundreds of thousands of Jews are expected to make the pilgrimage to Old Jerusalem.

Abba Gefen, Counsellor of Israeli Embassy in Argentina, Transferred to Canada

BUENOS AIRES, August 13. (JTA) -- Leaders of the Argentine Jewish communities tendered a farewell dinner here to Abba Gefen, for four years a counsellor at the Israeli Embassy here, who is leaving this week for Canada, where he will fill a post on the Israeli Consulate-General in Toronto.

Among the speakers, who lauded Mr. Gefen's achievements in the fields of diplomacy and in his contacts with the Jewish communities, were Israel's Ambassador to Argentina, Moshe Alon, and Nachman Radzichowski, secretary-general of the local Zionist organization.

Funeral Services Held in New York for Nowogorodsky, Jewish Labor Leader and Writer

NEW YORK, August 13. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Emanuel Nowogorodsky, general secretary of the International Jewish Labor Bund, a journalist and writer, who died here last week at the age of 75. The Bund is a Jewish Socialist organization which was especially active in Russia before World War I and in Poland in the years between the two world wars.

Born in Warsaw, Mr. Nowogorodsky was a member of the Warsaw City Council from 1924 to 1939. He came to the United States at the outbreak of World War II. His writings in the Yiddish press and the several books he published were under the pen name of Ruben Emus.