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Curfew Lifted Fully in Jerusalem's Old City; Military Patrols No Longer Seen

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- Curfew was lifted fully in the Eastern part of Jerusalem -- in which the Old City is located -- as from last night and for the first time since the Six-Day War ended in the unification of Jerusalem, the city returned to normal life.

Jews and Arabs crowded the principal streets in the Old City, patronizing shops and cafes, many of which remained open until midnight last night. Today, as last night, no army patrols were visible along the streets. East Jerusalem was no different than the former "New" Jerusalem. The city's unification, as far as the civilian population was concerned, was one busy, normal metropolis.

The Cabinet decided yesterday to hold its annual Independence Day Parade, in 1968, in unified Jerusalem. The 1968 parade will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Israel's rebirth. Until the Israel-Arab armistice agreements became defunct in June, due to the war, Israel was not allowed to bring heavy armaments into Jerusalem. However, in 1968, the plans are to make the parade the occasion for the largest display of ground and air force material Israel had ever shown publicly. Among other things, Israel will display large accumulations of weaponry captured from Egypt during the Six-Day War. Many of those arms were Russian-built.

A group of foreign Jewish social workers, most of them Americans, was told by Israeli military authorities at El Arish today that it will take at least three more months to sort out and rehabilitate the mass of weapons captured from the Egyptians in the Sinai Peninsula during the June war. The social workers toured the Sinai areas after having been in Jerusalem to attend the International Conference of Jewish Communal Services.

It was announced today that the war fought against the Arabs last June will be called officially, hereafter, "The Six-Day War." A special decoration will be awarded to all regular and reserve units that fought in the war. The decoration will consist of a red-white-blue ribbon, with a sky-blue ribbon on each side. It was also announced that the decorations will be awarded at ceremonies to be held October 29, the anniversary of the opening of the Sinai campaign in 1956.

Four Arab civilians were injured near Gaza today, in the village of Jabaliya, when an automobile in which they were riding struck a mine. Israeli military authorities immediately imposed a curfew on the town, organizing a house-to-house search for saboteurs. Aside from that action outside Gaza, the city itself was quiet today.

Czech Authorities Deny Making Any Arrests in Jordan Case; U.S. Embassy Has No Information

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- Czech authorities today denied a report published in a London newspaper yesterday that seven persons had been arrested in Prague in connection with the mysterious death of Charles H. Jordan, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee. The report appeared in London's Sunday Observer and was written by Edward Crankshaw, political correspondent of that newspaper.

American Embassy officials in Prague have not been informed of any arrests or detention by the Czech authorities, it was learned here. It is understood that the U.S. Embassy in Prague has ruled out the possibility that Mr. Jordan had taken his own life. It was noted here that Czech newspapers, which earlier claimed that the death of Mr. Jordan was a suicide case, have now seemingly backed away from that conclusion.

New Autopsy on Jordan's Remains Performed in New York

NEW YORK, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- A second autopsy was performed here today on the remains of Charles H. Jordan, the late executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, whose body was brought from Prague to New York last night. Announcing the new autopsy, the JDC stated that laboratory tests will be made, some of them taking perhaps two weeks, before results are announced. Today's autopsy was performed by two American pathologists, one from this city, the other from Maryland. Czech pathologists in Prague had hastily performed an autopsy there, announcing that the cause of death was drowning and saying that the body bore no evidence of violence prior to death.

Observing the work of the two pathologists here today was Dr. Alexander Gonik, head of the JDC's medical staff at the organization's headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland. Dr. Gonik had gone to Prague, after Mr. Jordan's body was removed from the river there, along with Prof. Bernard Hardmeyer, director of the Legal Medical Institute at Zurich. However, these two experts had not had the opportunity of a full autopsy, being given only some tissues from the Jordan remains taken by the Czech pathologists.

Egypt and Israel Agree to Prolong Indefinitely Their Agreement on Suez Traffic

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 28. (JTA) — Both Egypt and Israel have agreed to continue indefinitely the month-long agreement for both governments to keep small-boat traffic, except certain launches, off the Suez Canal, the United Nations announced here today. The exception concerns Egyptian launches providing food and other supplies to foreign ships marooned in the canal since Egypt blocked that waterway at the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli war, last June 5.

The two governments had agreed on July 27 to bar small-boat traffic, for one month, after Israel had insisted that either both governments or neither should be permitted to use the canal. Israel holds the east bank of the canal, while Egypt remains on the west bank. As that agreement expired yesterday, Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, the U.N. supervisor over cease-fire arrangements between Israel and the Arab states, proposed that the pact be extended without limitation as to date. Today, Gen. Bull notified Secretary-General U Thant that the two governments agreed last night, at his suggestion, that the agreement "will continue in effect until otherwise agreed by the two parties."

In a separate report, concerning the cease-fire in both the Suez and Syrian areas, Gen. Bull notified Mr. Thant "the situations remain quiet" in both those sectors. However, he reported that, on August 23, Israelis demolished some buildings in the Syrian village of Kafir el-Mas, "despite protests lodged with senior liaison officers of the Israel defense forces." He said he considered the action "a breach of the cease-fire."

Eshkol Confers with U.N. Envoy on Jerusalem Issue; Old City Arabs Present Complaints

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28. (JTA) — Ambassador Ernest Thalmann, the Swiss diplomat who is here as the personal envoy of United Nations Secretary-General U Thant for a fact-finding survey of the situation regarding Jerusalem, conferred today with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol. Present at the meeting were also Dr. Yaacov Herzog, director-general of the Premier's office; and Yosef Tekoah, deputy director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry. Mr. Thalmann will return to the U.N. headquarters at the end of this week.

A group of Arab leaders, including the former Mayor of Jordanian-controlled Jerusalem and the president of the Arab Chamber of Commerce in the former "old city," presented complaints against Israel to Dr. Ernest Thalmann, the special emissary on fact-finding regarding Jerusalem.

The complaints objected to Israel's "physical annexation" of the capital, insisting that it was in contradiction to General Assembly resolutions; protested against customs duties allegedly imposed on Arab merchants for goods already on the shelves when the Jordanian-Israeli war erupted in June; and charged that Israel had not respected the sanctity of Moslem and Christian religious shrines.

U.N. Flag Raised Again Over Headquarters in Jerusalem; Israeli Conditions Accepted

JERUSALEM, Aug. 28. (JTA) — Government House, the compound in Jerusalem's prewar no-man's-land occupied by the defunct United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, flew the United Nations flag again today for the first time since June.

In June, after attacking Jordanian troops had taken that compound, Israeli troops had recaptured the U.N. headquarters and had given refuge in secure areas of Jerusalem to Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, commander of the U.N. force, and his entire staff. Last week, under an agreement between Israel and U.N. Secretary-General U Thant, reluctantly accepted by the latter, Israel allowed Gen. Bull and his staff to move back into the main building in the area, but kept two-thirds of the area for itself for security reasons. Gen. Bull raised the U.N. flag over the main building again this weekend, and has also been permitted, under the agreement with Mr. Thant, to use the U.N. radio transmitter which is located in the area retained by Israel.

It was believed here today that the U.N.'s acceptance of the arrangement was only de facto, and that Gen. Bull would raise the issue further with the Israeli authorities. While Mr. Thant continues to refer to Gen. Bull as chief of staff of UNTSO, Israel calls him only the chief U.N. observer of the cease-fire arrangements with the hostile Arab states. Israel maintains that UNTSO has ceased to exist, since it was based on the 1949 Israeli-Arab armistice agreements which were shattered by the June war.

Israel Denies to U.N. the Syrian Accusations of Looting Archeological Sites

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 28. (JTA) — Israel today denied recent Syrian accusations of looting at archeological sites at Banias in the Israeli-occupied territory of Syria. In a letter to Secretary-General U Thant, Ambassador Gideon Rafael of Israel said: "Contrary to the irresponsible statements of Syria, this site is well preserved, no excavations whatsoever are taking place there and the suggestion that archeological sites are being looted is patently ridiculous."

"It is obvious that this Syrian campaign of vilification, with regard to the historic site at Banias, has no other purpose than to divert attention from their own acts of vandalism in that area," Mr. Rafael continued. He accused the Syrians in his letter of digging a bunker at El Hamma exactly on the hill on which an ancient synagogue was built. "By digging this bunker, they destroyed the northeastern corner of the synagogue enclosure," he stressed.

Mapai, Rafi, Achdut Avodah Vote to Merge into United Party; Conventions to Approve Move

TEL AVIV, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- The long-sought creation of a strong, unified labor party in Israel seemed today very close to materializing as the 300-member central committee of the Mapai Party approved a plan for merging Mapai with two of the other major labor parties in Israel, Achdut Avodah and Rafi. Since the executive bodies of the latter two parties had already decided to accept the merger plans, only national conventions by each of the three parties, scheduled to be held within a month, remain before final ratification of the move. In view of the fact that the respective leaderships had endorsed the plans, it was believed certain that the conventions would do likewise.

The leadership of Achdut Avodah, which has a parliamentary alignment now with Mapai, and the leaders of Rafi voted over the weekend in favor of the merger plans submitted by Mapai's secretariat. When the merger goes through, the unified party will control a majority of the Knesset (Parliament) membership, with a total of 55 of the body's 120 seats.

A three-man committee, including one representative each from Mapai, Achdut Avodah and Rafi, is already at work on concrete measures for unification that would go into effect after the three separate, national conventions. The new united party will include two members of the present Cabinet -- Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Labor Minister Yigal Alon -- who have been boosted as possible successors to the Premiership now held by Levi Eshkol.

At the meeting of the Rafi leadership, former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, who formed the group in opposition to Mr. Eshkol's rule, abstained in the voting on the merger plans. He maintained that too much attention was being paid to internal political affairs, insisting that the country's two major problems of immediate concern were increased Jewish immigration and the situation in unified Jerusalem.

U.N. Secretary-General Considers Intervention for Jews Mistreated in Arab Countries

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Aug. 28, (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant is considering "the use of his good offices" in the matter of persecution of Jews in some Arab countries, as requested by the permanent representative of Israel, Ambassador Gideon Rafael, who met with him on this subject, it was learned here today.

(In London, the World Jewish Congress received today a letter from I.D.M. Reid, director of the British Red Cross department of international affairs, stating that Jewish civilians in Egypt, Iraq and Syria, who are victims of Moslem oppressions as a result of the June war, are being aided by the International Red Cross.)

Interparliamentary Union Cancels Meeting in Moscow After Refusal of Visas to Israelis

PARIS, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- The Interparliamentary Union, which had been scheduled to meet in Moscow this year, has canceled the planned Moscow session "in solidarity with countries which are not welcomed to Moscow," officials of the Union announced here today.

The Union is comprised of the representatives of 23 national parliaments, including Israel's. The cancellation of the Moscow meet was announced after the Union's office in Switzerland received word from Moscow today that "the Soviet Union cannot deliver visas to all participants in the annual meeting." The Kremlin broke diplomatic relations with Israel in June, after the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli war. Union officials said the meeting will be held elsewhere.

German Court to Hear Testimony in U.S. on Nazi Charged with Mass-Murder of Jews

STUTTGART, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- The court here which, for more than 13 weeks had been conducting a trial of war criminals accused of mass murders in German-occupied Poland during the war, announced today that the proceedings will be adjourned to the United States for a week, to hear testimony from witnesses who could not come here to testify. The hearings in the United States, probably in New York, will be held from September 18 to September 25.

Today, on the 93rd day of the trial, an Israeli woman, Mrs. Peppi Burnstein, of Nathanya, testified that one of the defendants, Ernst Apple, had participated in the slaughter of 20 Jews, during the war, at Katowice, Poland. She said her father and a brother were among those slain in that massacre.

Meanwhile, four members of the Hitler SS went on trial at Hagen today on charges of having committed crimes during the war in the concentration camp of Gusen, near the infamous Nazi death factory at Mauthausen, Austria. They are accused of torturing Jewish martyrs to death. The prosecution told the court it expected the trial to last several months.

Two Municipalities in Germany Refuse to Rent City Halls for Neo-Nazi Party Meetings

BONN, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- Two West German cities are refusing to rent their municipal halls for meetings of the extremist National Democratic Party (NPD), it was reported today.

At Ulm, where the NPD had already rented the town hall for its congress, scheduled for November, the mayor announced he will do all in his power to prevent the parley from taking place in the city. At Wolfsburg, the City Council passed a resolution forbidding the lease of its City Hall for an NPD rally.

Board of Rabbis Hails Declaration of World Council of Churches on Israel Recognition

NEW YORK, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- The recent declaration of the World Council of Churches in Candia, Crete, which called for the political independence and territorial integrity of all nations in the Middle East, was hailed yesterday by the New York Board of Rabbis. The board comprises 900 Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis.

Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, board president, said the declaration was a "sign of courage on the part of the Christian clergy," since it advocated recognition of Israel by the Arab states "in spite of the fact that in many Arab states Christians are a minority and their religious leaders are subject to heavy pressure by the governments which are hostile to Israel."

During the recently-concluded conference of world church leaders of Protestant and Orthodox faiths, Arab Christian delegates had pressed for a strong anti-Israel statement. The statement that was finally approved criticized Israel's takeover of territories during the Six-Day War, but firmly advocated Israel's right to exist -- along with that of all other Middle Eastern nations. The Council also called for an international agreement on access to the holy places in Jerusalem, without mentioning the plan advanced two months ago by Pope Paul VI for placing those shrines under international control.

Catholic Bishop in Brazil Endorses Unification of Jerusalem; Opposes Internationalization

RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- One of Brazil's foremost Roman Catholic leaders, Bishop Jose Concalves da Costa, today endorsed Israel's unification of the city of Jerusalem, and rejected firmly proposals that Jerusalem be internationalized because of the protection needed to the holy places in the city.

He emphasized that Israel has guaranteed to all Christian pilgrims free access to the holy places, not only in Jerusalem but also in Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jericho, Hebron and anywhere else in Israeli jurisdiction where religious pilgrims might want to go. Don Jose, who is secretary-general of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops, just returned from a visit to Israel and made his views clear in an interview appearing in *Jornal do Brasil*, one of this country's leading newspapers.

Referring to Jerusalem as "the age-old capital of the Jewish nations," the bishop lauded the Israeli Government's strict observance of the principle of free access to all Christian religious shrines. He also spoke very warmly about the behavior of the Israeli authorities in the areas it had taken from the Arabs during the Six-Day War, and praised Israel's humanitarian work regarding the Arabs.

Council for Judaism Explains Its Attack on U.S. Jewish Groups in Black Power Organ

NEW YORK, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism today issued a statement explaining that its attack on American Jewish groups which appeared in the *Liberator*, organ of the Negro black power extremist movement, was a general press release "which the *Liberator* had seen fit to reprint." The attack was written by Dr. Norton Mezvinsky, executive director of the anti-Zionist Council for Judaism.

The Council statement "deplored" the fact that the *Liberator* published atrocity photographs in conjunction with Dr. Mezvinsky's attack. These photographs purported to depict alleged Arab victims of Israel's napalm bombing and Arab refugees fleeing Israeli-held territory. The Council emphasized in its statement that the *Liberator* accompanied Dr. Mezvinsky's attack with photographs of its own. "It did so without any manner of consultation with us whatsoever," the Council's statement said.

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Completes Concerts in U.S. and Canada; 150,000 Attended

NEW YORK, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- More than 150,000 listeners attended the 21 concerts given by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra throughout the United States and Canada during the past month, it was reported today. The final concert was performed at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., under the baton of Eugene Ormandy, with pianist Rudolph Serkin as soloist.

The concerts, under the patronage of Israel's Prime Minister Abba Eban, were played for the benefit of the Israel Emergency Fund of the United Jewish Appeal. To undertake the tour, the orchestra gave up its summer vacation, and all the conductors and soloists who participated donated their services.

Ancient Israelite Sanctuary Excavated in Israel; Dates Back to King Solomon's Time

TEL AVIV, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- An ancient Israelite sanctuary and a fortress, both dating back to the days of King Solomon, were almost completely uncovered at Tel Arad, it was reported today. An archeological team under the direction of Prof. Yohanan Aharoni, now in its fifth and final season of digging at the site, also discovered a potter's workshop near the entrance to the sanctuary courtyard.

Paul Drefus de Gunzberg, Active Jewish Leader in Switzerland, Dead; Was 72

BASLE, Switzerland, Aug. 28, (JTA) -- Paul Drefus de Gunzberg, one of the most active Jewish leaders in this country, died here at the age of 72. He was also one of the country's leading financiers, being head of one of the largest banks in Switzerland, *Le Fils Drefus*.

Mr. Gunzberg was vice-president of the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities, a vice-president of ORT of Switzerland, and a member of the board of governors of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was also active in many other Jewish organizations and causes.