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State Department Condemns Israeli Settlement Plans in West Bank

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The United States Government regards Israeli moves to settle Jews on occupied Arab territory to be "inconsistent" with Israel's stated position and in conflict with American policies, State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey made known today.

Mr. McCloskey told a news conference that the Administration was "attempting through diplomatic channels to clarify the exact position of the Israeli Government on this question." He said that "if accurately reported, the plans for the establishment of permanent Israeli settlements would be inconsistent with Israel's position regarding occupied territories, that these should be matters for negotiation."

The State Department is aware of press reports pertaining to new Jewish settlements but has as yet had no official information "of any change" of the previously proclaimed policy, he said.

(The Israel Cabinet decided Sunday to establish a settlement on the Banias ridge not far from the Syrian village of Banias. Israeli sources have said that the site of the new settlement was on the Israeli side of the international boundary line, an area which had not been cultivated since 1948 because of the difficulty of defense from Syrian attack. The Cabinet also authorized the reestablishment of Kfar Etzion, a bloc of four settlements in the Hebron Hills, between Hebron and Bethlehem, which the Jordanians captured in 1948.)

(It was announced today in Tel Aviv that the four Etzion settlements will be reestablished before the Jewish New Year which begins on the eve of October 4. Young members of the National Religious Party, joined by survivors of the original settlements, will move into the area for that purpose. Three of the four settlements destroyed by the Jordanians were originally built by religious settlers. The land on which they stood is owned by the Jewish National Fund.)

The United States stand is that this Government would not recognize territorial gains through war. This was made clear by President Johnson and other Administration leaders, officials said. They cited President Johnson's "five great principles" of June 19 which include a demand for territorial integrity for all the states of the area.

British Call for Israeli Withdrawal and Arab Renunciation of Aggression

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 26. (JTA) — Foreign Secretary George Brown of Great Britain told the United Nations General Assembly today that Israel must withdraw from the territories it has occupied following the June war, "but equally, Israel's neighbors must recognize Israel's right to exist and Israel must enjoy security within its frontiers."

The British spokesman did not offer a formula to achieve these ends but advised the Assembly that "what we must work for in this area is a durable peace, the renunciation of all aggressive designs and an end to policies inconsistent with peace." He said that Britain had not changed its position on Jerusalem and asserted that the question of Jerusalem was not an issue between Israel and Jordan alone. "It might well be that a wider United Nations presence will have a part to play in all this," he declared.

Mr. Brown, who said that Britain supported Secretary General U Thant's proposal to name a special representative in the Middle East, added that a U.N. presence in that area "could be crucial to the first step in restoring calm. A settlement in the Middle East can only come through our United Nations Organization and we, the members, must without delay agree on the framework within which the organization is to operate."

The British spokesman stressed the need to reopen the Suez Canal, warning that "unless this route is quickly available again, there must inevitably be damaging changes in the pattern of world trade. The economies of the world would permanently reduce their dependence on routes of communication which were blocked or interrupted for a long time."

Departing from his prepared text, Mr. Brown referred to reports of Israeli plans to establish settlements in the occupied west bank sector and other occupied Arab sections. The implications of these reports, he said, were clear and disturbing.

Arabs Demonstrate in New York Against Expulsion of Sheikh by Israel

NEW YORK, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- A group of Arabs demonstrated here today against the Israeli expulsion of Sheikh Abdul Hamid Es-Sayeh to Jordan. He was exiled for leading resistance activities.

The demonstration took place not far from the Israeli Consulate in Manhattan. Police kept the demonstrators away from the Consulate. The marchers carried placards denouncing Israel.

Ben-Gurion's Opposition Produces New Snag in Labor Merger Plans

TEL AVIV, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- The much-discussed and much-negotiated plan for a merger into one powerful party of Israel's three labor parties collided today with the determined opposition of former Premier David Ben-Gurion to a union under existing Mapai leadership.

Negotiations to merge Premier Levi Eshkol's Mapai, Achdut Avodah and the National Workers Party (Rafi) have repeatedly reached the stage of final decision, only to run into new difficulties. Mr. Ben-Gurion, who formed Rafi as a challenge to Mr. Eshkol's national and party leadership, had indicated previously he would not support the merger but that he also would not oppose it. In the latest development, the old warrior said he could not accept merger as long as the present Mapai leadership was in power.

Rafi officials decided to postpone for a few days a meeting scheduled for tonight which was to have taken a "decisive" vote for the merger, which would create a single labor party with 59 seats in the 120-seat Parliament. Shimon Peres, Rafi secretary-general, and Yosef Almogi, another Rafi leader, made a special trip yesterday to Mr. Ben-Gurion's Negev retreat at Sde Boker to plead with him to go along on the merger but the pleas failed.

Another new barrier was a letter of "clarification" sent by Mapai to Rafi. Mapai officials said that the new Parliament, the seventh, which would follow the proposed merger, would have the same proportional seating of the three labor parties as within the proposed merger party. This would mean that the former parties would maintain the 36 to 10 to nine ratio of Mapai, Rafi and Achdut respectively, in the present Knesset, a proposal certain to jar some Rafi leaders. This new problem, as well as Mr. Ben-Gurion's stand, may lead Rafi to a reconsideration of the merger.

New Supplementary Budget Raises Total for 1967-68 to Over \$2 Billion

JERUSALEM, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- The Israeli Parliament gave the final reading yesterday to a supplementary budget bill calling for \$173 million expenditures of which \$16 million is for defense. With this additional appropriation, the total budget approved for the 1967-68 fiscal year now exceeds \$2 billion.

The Knesset also approved two laws providing for the floating of additional internal voluntary loans.

Building State is a Fulltime Job, Eshkol Tells Volunteers

JERUSALEM, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol told 250 delegates attending a convention today of the volunteers who came here to help Israel during the recent crisis that building a state was a fulltime job and could not be accomplished on a parttime basis. He urged the volunteers, who came here for limited periods of from three months to a year, to settle in the country.

"We ask you to settle here and to live here with the bureaucracy or to fight the bureaucracy once you're settled here," Mr. Eshkol said in reference to complaints of red-tape. He asserted that the international situation would have been different if, instead of two million Jews, there had been four million in Israel. He said that "the real challenge facing the Jewish people today is the upbuilding and the strengthening of Israel. Otherwise, what have we fought for and why have you come here?"

Earlier, Eliahu Dobkin of the Jewish Agency, said that 7,200 volunteers had come to help Israel in the postwar days, of whom 2,000 were British and 707 American. The convention delegates represented 5,500 volunteers here from 41 countries. Mr. Dobkin urged them to sign up for national service of at least a year or for one year of service in the settlements.

N.C.R.A.C. Delegation Vows Effort for Israel Among U.S. Jews

JERUSALEM, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- A fifteen-member delegation representing the National Communal Relations Advisory Council completed a 12-day visit to Israel today, after having interviewed the council leadership and studied the security situation at first hand.

"We saw at first hand the conditions that imperiled the very existence of the State of Israel prior June 5 and we are determined to convey to our fellow-Americans the absolute necessity of preventing a return to such a dangerous situation," Jordan Band, of Cleveland, NCRAC chairman and delegation head said today.

Stolen Golden Tiara is Returned to Church of Holy Sepulchre

JERUSALEM, Sept. 26, (JTA) -- Israeli police here have recovered the golden tiara stolen several weeks ago from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Old Jerusalem.

In a ceremony today, Jerusalem Police Commissioner D. Bareli returned the ornament to Father Jean Joseph Ilio of the Franciscan Order which is the custodian of the church. Father Ilio immediately replaced the tiara on the head of the statue of the Virgin Mary, from which it had been taken in the theft. A silversmith in Ramat Gan received a reward of \$170 from the police for providing the information which led to the recovery of the tiara.

B'nai B'rith Council Bids West Supply Israel With Arms and Aircraft

CARACAS, Venezuela, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The International Council of B'nai B'rith, in resolutions adopted today, urged the free nations of the world to make arms, particularly aircraft, available to Israel as a deterrent to further outbreaks of hostilities in the Middle East. Representatives of B'nai B'rith constituencies in 48 countries warned that the failure of the Western nations to offset the rearming of the "still intransigent Arabs," could only give encouragement to Arab leaders seeking a fourth round against Israel.

The Council also called on the B'nai B'rith units to appeal to their governments to support the principle of direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states, and urged the B'nai B'rith membership to encourage emigration to Israel, along with "integrated investment programs in Israel providing both capital and technicians." Council members were not overly optimistic that the Western countries would produce the 100,000 immigrants annually Israeli leaders seek from them, but foresaw a "marked increase" over the rate of past years.

Rabbi Jay Kaufman, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith, recommended a change in emphasis from past efforts of seeking resettlement of adults and their families to the creation of "special conditions" which would persuade Jewish youth in Western countries to spend a year or longer in Israel, either as students or working visitors. Given an intimate experience of Israeli life and an economy there that can absorb them, Rabbi Kaufman declared, a "worthwhile proportion" would resettle in Israel permanently. The larger number returning to their original homes, he said, "will be a strengthening influence on Jewish life" there.

Argentine Jews Are Warned of Need to Develop Maximum Unity

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The leader of the Argentine Jewish representative organization warned a national conference of Jewish organizations in Cordoba today that the Jewish community must develop maximum unity in order to meet effectively developments in the country. Dr. Isaac Goldenberg, president of DAIA, Argentine Jewish representative body, said the present government was seeking a solution to Argentina's political difficulties and he reminded the delegates that Fascist tendencies still prevailed in some Argentine parties. He denounced the Communists as being openly and strongly anti-Semitic.

Dr. Leon Perez told the assembly that, in the June war in the Middle East and the aftermath, it was the Peronist elements in Argentina that favored the Arabs, and high military and church circles which supported Israel. He warned that measures must be taken to counteract a rightist campaign to convict the Jews of dual loyalty. Speakers in the debate that followed stressed the need to improve relations between the Jewish and Arab communities in Argentina.

Exodus of North African Jews to France Poses New Aid Problems

GENEVA, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The greatest exodus of Jews from Arab countries to France since the evacuation of the majority of the Jews there from Algeria in 1962 was reported today by the Fonds Social Juif Unifie, central French Jewish welfare agency, to the European headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee.

From the middle of June, following the Arab-Israeli war, to the middle of September, a total of 9,200 Jewish newcomers applied to the FSJU affiliated welfare agencies for some form of assistance. About 700 of them applied for relief between Sept. 11 and Sept. 15. These services are financed jointly by the FSJU and the JDC.

The FSJU report stressed that the total number of arrivals was far greater than those who registered for assistance. It pointed out that, on the basis of past experience, many arrivals who have not sought assistance will have to do so in coming months. Funds to cover the additional demands will be woefully inadequate, the report noted, since neither the French agency nor the JDC had made provisions for these extra demands in 1967.

A breakdown of the registrations showed that 2,800 families registered for help. There are 850 children sent to France by families which remained behind in North Africa. Most of the new arrivals paid for their own transportation and applied for help in France only when their own funds ran out.

Australian Exhibitor Bars Soviet Films Because of Anti-Semitism in Russia

MELBOURNE, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The Academy Theaters firm, which operates two motion picture houses here, announced today a ban on all Soviet films because of "anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and its East European satellite allies." The company also announced cancellation of arrangements for a Soviet film festival to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution because it would have served as "a cover and smokescreen for the unspeakable injustice and defamation being perpetrated against Jews throughout the world by the Soviets and their auxiliaries."

West German Ministry Says Neo-Nazi Organization Has Lost 5,000 Members

BONN, Sept. 26. (JTA) — The West German Ministry of the Interior reported today that the German National Democratic Party, a neo-Nazi grouping, had lost at least 5,000 members since its organization two years ago. The Ministry estimated the party's present membership as from 23,000 to 25,000 paying members.

A change in the composition of the party was noted, with the intellectual and civil service elements dropping out. The central membership of the party now lies in the middle class, the ministry said. Most of those who quit the party in the leadership dispute that erupted earlier this year had no rightist radical past, and few of them joined the newly-formed National Peoples Party, set up by the dissident National Democrats.

Milwaukee Jewish Council Calls on City for Open Housing Ordinance

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 26. (JTA) -- The Milwaukee Jewish Council announced today its "strong support" for enactment of an ordinance by the Milwaukee Common Council guaranteeing the right of all to buy, rent or lease property in the city without racial discrimination. It urged the City Council to show "the moral leadership so desperately needed at this grave moment in our city's history" and called on the State Legislature to enact enabling legislation if such were required.

In a statement today, the Milwaukee Jewish Council said that public officials "have a responsibility to enact open housing legislation in fulfillment of the rights of the Negro citizen and other minority groups of this greater Milwaukee community." Their failure to act, the statement charged, "has served only as an encouragement to the breakdown of law and order."

The statement viewed "with deep concern the events of recent days in Milwaukee which have witnessed intolerable bigotry and violence; the brandishing of swastikas and other racist symbols on public streets; the appearance of self-styled Nazis and their ilk in our community who are attempting to exploit the emotionally charged atmosphere for their evil purposes."

Abram Tells Bankers to Show Minorities There Are No Barriers Against Them

NEW YORK, Sept. 26. (JTA) -- An American Bankers Association workshop was told here today by a Jewish leader that the remedies required to encourage Jews and other minority group members to enter the banking field "go beyond compliance with laws against discrimination and beyond general policies of equal opportunity."

Morris B. Abram, president of the American Jewish Committee, commended the 1,500 of the nation's leading bankers "for squarely facing the ugly fact of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination that has been all too common in American industry," but he also urged them to present to members of minority groups "convincing evidence that barriers to promotion do not exist." George Champion, board chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank, was moderator of the workshop on equal employment opportunity, held during the ABA annual convention which will end tomorrow.

"If banks wish to change the pattern of their management recruiting to include minority persons they will have to modify their passive attitudes," Mr. Abrams told the bankers. "They will have to take active steps not only to bring their companies to the attention of these groups but also to present to them convincing evidence that barriers to promotion do not exist."

Youth Center in Israel to Bear Name of Pennsylvania Governor

HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 26. (JTA) -- A Youth Cultural Center, named in honor of Pennsylvania Governor Raymond P. Shafer, will soon be built in Ramle, Israel, it was announced today by the National Committee for Labor Israel and the Pennsylvania Histadrut Council.

Gov. Shafer, who visited Israel last year, said he was "pleased" that a center bearing his name would be erected to provide for the recreational and vocational needs of "Israel's young citizens, Jew and Arab alike." Fund-raising efforts for the center will culminate with a testimonial dinner for the governor on Nov. 12 in Philadelphia.

Gottlieb Hammer to Retire as Head of American-Israeli Shipping Company

NEW YORK, Sept. 26. (JTA) -- Gottlieb Hammer will retire on Oct. 1 as president of the American Israeli Shipping Company, Inc., a post he has held since 1955. The company is the North American representative of the Zim Israel Navigation Company, Ltd., Israel's major shipping enterprise.

Mr. Hammer had been largely instrumental in establishing the American concern in 1948 when it was needed to charter ships to transport food and other supplies to Israel. He became its treasurer in 1952 when the company became a Zim subsidiary and its agent here. He became president in 1955 at a time when Zim Lines was beginning a major fleet expansion program. Zim now has 64 ships and operations of a million tons of shipping.

Mr. Hammer told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his retirement was undertaken with "deep regrets" and was necessitated by pressure of his duties as executive vice-chairman of the United Israel Appeal, major beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal, and which is responsible for programming the expenditure of UJA funds in Israel.

Israel Goldstein to Head Conciliation Board for 38th Term

NEW YORK, Sept. 26. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel Goldstein was reelected president of the Jewish Conciliation Board of America today for his 38th term of office. Elected to serve with him were Dr. Julius M. Dr. Leo Jung, Judge Jacob Panken and Charles Frost as vice-presidents; William Sachs, treasurer; Jacob Goodman, associate treasurer; and Ruth Richman, executive director.

In his presidential report, Dr. Goldstein stated that during his 38-year tenure more than 25,000 problems had been adjudicated by this 48-year-old tribunal. The court offers a binding arbitration free of charge, and maintains a social service department. Dr. Goldstein, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, serves in Israel as world chairman of the United Israel Appeal.