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### France Lifts Embargo For Arab States, Reportedly Selling Jet Fighters to Iraq

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—France lifted today its arms embargo on the Arab nations and may ship to the Arabs some of the arms manufactured for Israel, it was learned here today. It was announced in Paris that France was negotiating a large sale of military equipment to Iraq. The embargo imposed on the Arab states and Israel after the outbreak of the Six-Day War has been lifted for the Arabs.

(The Paris daily, *L'Aurore*, reported today that France would sell 50 Mirage-V jet fighters to Iraq, 15 Mirage-E3 jets and eight Nord Atlas jet bombers. The newspaper, *Combat*, denounced reports of French sale of aircraft to Iraq, asserting that "France is about to commit an injustice of a criminal nature. It will, by so doing, increase the danger to Israel."

(Official French sources declined to comment on the reported sales to Iraq and on reports that the planes being sold to that Arab state were the aircraft Israel had ordered but had not received because of the de Gaulle embargo.)

Reports from Paris made it clear that the embargo would remain in force for Israel because that country offended President de Gaulle by failing to heed his wishes, French sources said that France now deemed it desirable to sell arms to Iraq, which recently signed an agreement with a French oil company to develop large areas confiscated from the British-owned Iraq Petroleum Company. An official statement issued in Paris said "France has no reason not to sell arms to the Arab nations."

### West German Neo-Nazi Leader Backs de Gaulle, Says Israel Menaces World Peace

BONN, Dec. 7 (JTA)—The first expression of support for Gen. de Gaulle's views on Israel and the Middle East to emerge from any Western political source was voiced here by the leader of the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party, Adolf von Thadden. He told a press conference today that Israel was endangering world peace by trying to "impose its will" on occupied Arab territories.

Von Thadden asserted at the press conference that the NPD has 27,000 members, including 1,500 soldiers presently in West Germany's armed forces, that it intended to enter candidates in every district in the country in the 1969 elections and would spend six to seven times as much in the next campaign as in the previous one. This would indicate an expenditure of nine to 10 million marks (between \$2.25 million and \$2.5 million.) The expected result, according to von Thadden, would be at least 10 percent of the vote which would send 50 or more NPD deputies to the Bundestag, West Germany's lower house.

Von Thadden, who put his party on record in support of Gen. de Gaulle's Middle East position, also declared that he favored the 1939 Munich pact which he contended was still legal. The Munich agreement gave Hitler the Sudeten region of Czechoslovakia, leading to the dismemberment of that country by the Nazis and the outbreak of World War II.

### French Jewish Scholars Send Letter of Concern and Protest to de Gaulle

PARIS, Dec. 7 (JTA)—Fourteen prominent French-Jewish academicians, including a Nobel Prize winner, angrily protested Gen. de Gaulle's press conference attack on Israel and the Jewish people, in a letter sent to the French Chief of State today as criticism of his remarks continued to mount here and abroad. The letter declared in part, "we are deeply hurt by your words which may well revive the prejudices from which we have suffered." The signatories included Professors Raymond Aron, Henri Baruk, Rene Cassin and Francois Jacob. Prof. Cassin was formerly president of the French Conseil d'Etat.

The Grand Rabbi of France, Dr. Jacob Kaplan, disclosed today that he had received scores of letters from "prominent and ordinary Frenchmen, Jews and non-Jews" supporting his reply to Gen. de Gaulle. The Grand Rabbi's statement, issued on Nov. 30, charged the French President with giving "the highest possible sanction" to anti-Semitic discrimination and having defamed the Jewish people in order to shore up his denunciation of Israel as an aggressor. Dr. Kaplan told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he replied to de Gaulle's attack in greater detail before 1,000 people at a conference at Meudon, Dec. 5, on which occasion he quoted the words of Napoleon Bonaparte, who regarded the Jews as the "heirs de jure" — the legitimate heirs — to the land of Israel.

(Baron Alain de Rothschild, president of the Consistoire Central Israelite de France et d'Algerie, said in New York today that he did not consider Gen. de Gaulle an anti-Semite and declared it was "unthinkable" that the French Government would ever adopt an anti-Semitic attitude. The French banker, visiting the United States on invitation from the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, called the General's Nov. 27 press conference critical remarks on Jews and Israel "naughty but not dramatic." He added that the French leader's remarks did not surprise anyone aware of his penchant for such public

statements. The Baron asserted that Frenchmen have always been well disposed toward Israel.)

De Gaulle was also condemned at a meeting here last night of the International League Against Anti-Semitism addressed by Senator Andre Monteil, who declared that the majority of the French people supported Israel. Referring to the embargo on the shipment of spare parts for Israel's airforce which is made up mainly of the French Mirage and Mystere jets, Senator Monteil said "it is a scandal."

### Garment Industry Leaders Divided on Boycott Over de Gaulle Charges

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA)—Sources in Manhattan's garment district confirmed today that a number of ready-to-wear manufacturers planned to organize a committee to determine whether a boycott should be established against French fabrics in protest against President de Gaulle's recent anti-Israel, anti-Jewish and anti-American attacks.

Eight heads of such firms held a secret meeting late yesterday which was also attended by representatives of other garment district firms. According to the sources, there was a sharp division of opinion over whether such a boycott should be launched by the garment industry and, if such a decision was approved, how the boycott should be organized. Many of the Jewish businessmen expressed concern over the known State Department opposition to such boycotts as well as over the possibility that such an action might cut both ways.

Among the industry's top designers and manufacturers attending the secret meeting yesterday were Jerry Silverman, Adolph Klein, president of the New York Couture Business Council, Shannon Rodgers, Chester Weinberg, Nat Rubin, Pauline Trigere and others. Mr. Klein said today that "nothing definite has been decided. The gathering was just a meeting between friends." Mr. Weinberg said that the meeting constituted "a useful exchange of ideas which provided us with what the other man was thinking." He added that "definite steps will emerge once the committee has been formed." None of the participants would say when a meeting would be held to form the committee.

Mr. Silverman insisted that "there was no talk at all concerning any boycott of the French fabric mills because the French couture is still the lifeblood of this business to a lot of people."

New York importers in the accessories business were reported to be thinking about stopping imports of such items as handbags but avoided talk about a boycott. While many retailers said that women customers were avoiding such imports with "Made in France" labels, some of the major New York specialty stores indicated a cautious attitude toward the boycott idea. William Hanson, president of Julius Garfinckel, said that his stores, which include Brooks Brothers, would not join in any boycott although "we are hearing more and more customers saying they won't buy anything French."

### President Johnson Leaves Resignation Question Up To Ambassador Goldberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—President Lyndon B. Johnson has informed Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, U.S. envoy to the United Nations, that he would not stand in Mr. Goldberg's way if the latter desires to resign, official sources disclosed today. All the White House would say for the official record, however, was that Mr. Goldberg had not yet tendered his resignation.

### Jordan, Tells Christian Arabs To Boycott Holy Places Under Israeli Control

LONDON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—Christian religious leaders in Jordan are urging their followers to boycott holy places under Israeli occupation this Christmas, it was reported here in dispatches from Amman today. Israel had announced that Jordanian Christians would be permitted entry to the West Bank to celebrate Christmas at Bethlehem.

### West Bank Arab Is Imprisoned For Harboring Brother, A Terrorist

TEL AVIV, Dec. 7 (JTA)—A military court imposed a four-year prison sentence today on a West Bank Arab who was found guilty of harboring an El Fatah terrorist, who was his brother, and of having fire arms on his premises. The brother had taken part in attacks on Israeli security forces and was killed in one of the encounters. The court refused to accept the defendant's claim that he was unaware of his brother's terrorist activities because of the fire arms found.

### Amnesty Organization Claims 'Only' 400 Egyptian Jews Still in Jail

LONDON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—The Amnesty Review, quarterly publication of Amnesty International, reported today that there were only between 200 and 400 Jews still being held in Egyptian jails and that they were "treated well, or at least not any worse than the other inmates." The periodical also asserted that there were about 3,000 members of the outlawed Moslem Brotherhood imprisoned in Egypt but called the Israeli Government's claim that at least 70,000 persons are incarcerated a "highly exaggerated figure."

### Ministry Distributes 130 Torah Scrolls From Rumania To Israeli Synagogues

JERUSALEM, Dec. 7 (JTA)—The Ministry of Religious Affairs announced today that it had completed distribution of 130 Scrolls of the Law received here during the past year from Rumania. The Scrolls had belonged to Rumanian synagogues which no longer exist.

After being checked for errors and given necessary repairs, the Scrolls were distributed to synagogues throughout Israel, including those set up in the Nahal strong points in the occupied areas. Two scrolls were sent to Paraguay to replace those lost in a synagogue fire.

## Fisher Warns UJA Leaders Delay in Achieving Peace Is Adding to Israel's Burdens

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA)—More than 800 key leaders of local community campaigns affiliated with the nationwide United Jewish Appeal met here tonight at the annual inaugural dinner preceding the official opening of the UJA's three-day annual national conference here tomorrow. Some 2,500 Jewish communal representatives will chart the UJA's 1968 fund-raising drive, during the conference, to aid immigrants in Israel and needy Jews throughout the world.

Baron Elie de Rothschild, general chairman of the Fonds Social Juif Unifié, the central welfare agency of the French Jewish Community, told the dinner guests that American Jewish aid, through the UJA, re-kindled Jewish life in Europe, "a light that almost went out in the wake of the Hitler era." Max M. Fisher, UJA general chairman, another speaker, called the outcome of the Israel-Arab six-day June war a miracle, the sequel to which would be the establishment of peace in the Middle East. Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller lauded the life-saving work of the UJA.

Baron Rothschild told the UJA leaders that "you have not only been our saviors, you have been our teachers," explaining that the French Jewish community, in particular, was now using the philanthropic fund-raising techniques pioneered by the UJA. He emphasized that the French Jewish community faced much greater internal problems than those of the United States or any other European Jewish community. At the end of World War II, a shrunken remnant of 175,000 Jews remained in France. Then came a series of newcomers from French North Africa, which swelled French Jewry to its present 500,000.

The flood of immigrants overwhelmed the social welfare organization of the French Jewish community, he reported, adding that even this year, in the aftermath of the June war, 15,000 Jews from Moslem countries fled to France. French Jewry, like that of other free countries, made an unprecedented response to aid Israel during the May-June crisis. With that momentum, Baron Rothschild said, the French Jewish community organized its own UJA to conduct annual campaigns.

### Rockefeller Says Israel Must Survive As Proof of Democracy's Vitality

Gov. Rockefeller also said that the UJA was needed more today "than at any time since you first helped to establish the State of Israel 20 years ago." He declared Israel "must" and "will" survive as "fresh proof of the vitality and superiority of democratic life."

Mr. Fisher stressed that "the second part of the miracle" of the June victory, the establishment of Middle East peace "may be very long" in coming. A half year after that victory, he pointed out, Israel still was standing guard in a forced mobilization which is very costly and which has disrupted Israel's economy and forced curtailment of progressive programs. He said these programs had helped raise the standard of living of Israel's 250,000 Arab citizens to the highest of any Arab population. Under these circumstances, he said, Israel could not continue its aid program for 500,000 still unabsorbed Jewish immigrants and for 1,250,000 Arabs now within the occupied territories. To guarantee advancement of such humanitarian purposes, the 1968 UJA campaign must achieve even greater results than the 1967 drive, he said.

When the national conference opens tomorrow, the 2,500 delegates will hear leaders of the UJA beneficiary agencies — the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Joint Distribution Committee — report on the needs they must meet in Israel and in 30 other countries. At the banquet session Saturday evening, the principal speakers will be Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's chief of staff, and Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency.

## Remnants of Jewries in Arab Nation Reported to Lead 'Shackled' Lives

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—"The remnants of the Jewish communities in the Arab world lead a shackled existence, uncertain of tomorrow and fearful for their lives and property," Andrew Borowiec, foreign correspondent of the Washington Evening Star, reported from Beirut today. He added that "lack of prospects for an early settlement of the Arab-Israeli deadlock makes their position even more precarious." They are the easiest targets of Arab wrath and vengeance, the permanent hostages in the endless ethnic and religious feuds."

Borowiec maintained that 20 years ago Jews in the Arab world numbered one million persons who "formed their own tightly knit communities and, to a great extent, dominated commerce and trade." Those staying in Arab lands, he said, were merchants or professionals whose "material existence is frequently much better than that of the Arabs but the fear of being at the constant mercy of Arab governments and crowds makes their life a nerve-wracking nightmare." The Star concluded that "there is no doubt that the Jewish presence in the Arab world is witnessing its last years."

## Former Justice Meier Steinbrink, Long-Time ADL Chairman, Dies at 87

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA)—Former New York Supreme Court Justice Meier Steinbrink, who served as chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith from 1946 to 1952, died today at his home in Brooklyn, after a long illness. He was 87.

In 1932, after a distinguished career as an attorney, he was elected to the State Supreme Court bench and was reelected in 1945. He served until 1957 when he was designated a special referee by the Appellate Division, the state's highest court. He held a lifelong interest in interreligious relations and as early as 1910, he served as counsel for Catholic and Protestant church interests in litigation in the city and Long Island. He was active in a variety of local Jewish and general causes as well.

## B'nai B'rith Executive Calls For Overhaul of Palestine Arab Refugee Aid Agency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (JTA)—Rabbi Jay Kaufman, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith, charged today that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) had permitted its facilities to be used to "subvert minds and poison hearts" against Israel in its "desire to remain acceptable to the host Arab countries."

(The special political committee of the UN General Assembly will begin debate on the Palestine Arab refugee problem next Monday and will continue for four days. The debate usually stretches out over several weeks.)

Rabbi Kaufman called for an overhaul of the agency's policies and action by the United States which has borne about 75% of the agency's budget, to end the "perpetuating practice in which idleness and indolence have been forced upon the refugees." Among these measures, he said, should be replacement of most of the 11,500 UNRWA employees who are Palestinian Arabs and "find it in their self-interest to keep the refugee problem alive and the refugees from becoming self-sufficient, self-respecting bread-winners for themselves and their families." He suggested ending UNRWA jurisdiction over the problem in favor of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

## Histadrut Leader Says Israel Cannot Return to Pre-June Conditions

BAL HARBOUR, Fla., Dec. 7 (JTA)—The secretary-general of Histadrut, the Israel Federation of Labor, said in a speech prepared for delivery to the convention of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations here that neither Israel nor the Arab states could afford to return to the conditions "which kept the area in terror and turmoil for 20 years and made it a danger to the nations that live there and to the peace of the world as a whole."

Aharon Becker told the leadership of the American labor movement that the only answer to the Middle East problem was for Israelis and Arabs to negotiate directly, seeking a peace based on mutual respect and recognition. He praised the aid the American labor movement had given to Israel and described the role of Histadrut and its one million members in the development of the state. He described the work of Histadrut in the international area, providing assistance to underdeveloped countries and stressed that "we in the international free labor movement, must find the way to the hearts and minds of the workers in the countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America."

While in this country on a three-week mission, Mr. Becker helped launch the 1968 campaign of the National Committee for Labor Israel seeking \$6 million to help finance Histadrut programs.

## Brandeis Award for 1967 is Presented to Hoffberger Family of Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Dec. 7 (JTA)—The Louis D. Brandeis Award for 1967 was presented last night to the Hoffberger Family of Baltimore "in recognition of their historic service to the cause of an independent Israel, for their leadership in promoting the economic stability of Israel, for devoted service to the humanitarian cause of the victims of the Nazi holocaust and for their constant devotion and dedication to the preservation and strengthening of Judaism throughout the United States."

The presentation was made at a dinner here attended by more than 1,100 persons by Jacques Torczyner, president of the Zionist Organization of America. It was accepted by LeRoy Hoffberger, president of the Hoffberger Foundation, who is campaign chairman of the Associated Jewish Charities and Welfare Fund drive.

## ADL Spokesman Urges Philadelphia Negro Community to Repudiate Racist Leader

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7 (JTA)—A spokesman for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith called on the Philadelphia Negro community today to repudiate Cecil B. Moore, suspended president of the North Philadelphia branch of the NAACP, asserting that people like Moore "offer incitement and nothing else" and, in fact, "are betraying the Negro community."

I. Budd Rockower, a national commissioner of ADL and honorary chairman of its advisory board here, deplored an attack on the Jews by Moore in the course of a court hearing in a suit by the local Board of Education to prevent Black Power demonstrations in the public schools. During the hearing, Moore assailed David Berger, special counsel for the board, who is chairman of the Philadelphia ADL advisory board and demanded that "you and the rest of you Jews get out of my business." Mr. Rockower said that the remarks were "in keeping with this man's record for making racist and anti-Jewish statements." Previously, the Philadelphia Fellowship Commission had called for "public repudiation" of Moore's appeals for violence. The NAACP chapter voted his suspension last July.

## Yeshiva University Reports Record Enrollment of 7,580 Students

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (JTA)—A record 7,580 students from 34 states and more than 11 foreign countries, including Israel, are enrolled in the five undergraduate and nine graduate and professional students of Yeshiva University of New York, according to figures released today by Registrar Morris Silverman.

He reported that the overall gain of seven percent over last year was centered mainly on the undergraduate level. He also reported that the undergraduate school of liberal arts and sciences for men, with 1,100 students, topped the 1,000 mark for the first time in its nine years of existence.