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Eshkol May See British Prime Minister After Talks With President Johnson

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol will visit Prime Minister Harold Wilson in London following his two days of meetings with President Johnson in Texas on January 7-8, it was reported here today. Mr. Eshkol, it was said, would interrupt his return home to stop over in London. There was no official confirmation of the report.

Meanwhile, the Soviet newspaper, Pravda, charged today that Israel was seeking to involve the United States in the Middle East dispute and said that was the reason for Mr. Eshkol's forthcoming visit to the United States. The Communist Party organ said that "the fact that Eshkol strives to discuss the Middle East situation first with the United States shows that he plans to create an impression that the United States is the decisive force in the Middle East and that an appeal to Washington is a key to liquidation of the Middle East crisis." The paper went on to accuse the United States of supporting "Israeli aggression from the very first day" and said that Washington wants to preserve tensions in the area. Pravda reiterated the Soviet demand for immediate Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands.

The London Financial Times said today that the outcome of the Johnson-Eshkol talks "could have an important effect on any Arab decisions to be taken by the Rabat summit conference on Jan. 17. The London newspaper stressed that only the United States could fill the role of arbiter between the Arabs and Israel today.

In a review of the current situation, the usually well-informed London journal said that "it is now clear even to the Arab nations that the Israelis are not going to allow the diplomats to push them out of territory that their soldiers have won." It asserted that the American Administration was known "to feel some irritation now at Israel's continuing hard line. In particular, it is worried about Israeli policy on some of the occupied territories, which it does not see as suggesting that the Israelis are prepared to withdraw, even on favorable terms to themselves."

According to the Financial Times, the United States Administration is also worried about the way in which the Soviet Union has so rapidly re-equipped the Egyptians. It suggested that Prime Minister Eshkol, in his talks with President Johnson, might play upon this fear to ask for a substantial supply of arms from the United States.

French Defense Journal Says USSR Gave Arabs 40 Missile-Firing Vessels

PARIS, Dec. 28 (JTA)--The French National Press Review said today that the Soviet Union had delivered about 40 naval vessels equipped with missile-launching ramps to countries bordering on the Mediterranean. The vessels are of the Komar and Osa types. The missiles which sank the Israeli destroyer Elath were fired from craft of the Osa class, given to the Egyptian Navy. The French journal noted that no Western nation had developed operational missile craft of this type and it warned that they "create a threat to our maritime forces which is far from negligible."

(In Moscow, the USSR Defense Ministry newspaper, Red Star, hinted today that more Soviet naval ships will be added to the Russian Mediterranean Fleet. The newspaper said "the situation in the Mediterranean has changed and will continue to change, not in favor of the aggressors.")

Extra Security Measures Set For Eshkol as SNCC Reaffirms Anti-Zionist Stand

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol will be assigned much heavier police and Secret Service protection than he was given in the course of his 1964 visit because of indications of possible violence by Black Power extremists, it was learned today.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has opened an investigation of new expressions by the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) advocating attacks on President Johnson "to make him afraid to leave the White House." The first foreign official guest of the President, following the emergence of the more extreme SNCC line, is Mr. Eshkol. In the same issue of the SNCC publication advocating violence against President Johnson, the Black Power group said it "reaffirms its political opposition to Zionism."

Last August, SNCC published a rabble-rousing attack on Israel and Jews that drew severe criticism from Jewish groups. It was then charged that SNCC had moved from militancy to anti-Semitism.

The FBI has quietly cautioned the New York City Police Department and other security agencies to guard against possible SNCC attempts to embarrass President Johnson by extremist demonstrations or actions against Mr. Eshkol, the President's personal guest. Mr. Eshkol makes a convenient target because he represents a nation currently under heavy fire from the leftist supporters of Arab extremism in the United States. It was learned from reliable sources that additional security measures have been instituted both in New York and at the LBJ Ranch in Texas.

The FBI probe of SNCC followed appearance in the latest SNCC publication of an article urging protesters to spit at President Johnson and "attack his limousine to make him afraid to leave the White House." The attacks are advocated as part of a new strategy to make the President fearful of moving about in public. The article was written by Julius Lester, an associate of Stokely Carmichael and SNCC chairman H. Rap Brown. Lester is a field secretary of SNCC who recently returned from a trip to Cuba and North Vietnam.

Lester urged that the President "be spat upon wherever he goes to tell his lies. His limousine will find the street filled with tacks and thousands of people who will surge around it, smashing the windows and rocking the car until it is turned on its side."

SNCC did not publicly urge such actions against Premier Eshkol, but the coincidence of the official visit with the announcement of the new line and the simultaneous reaffirmation of a militant anti-Israel stand were deemed adequate by security authorities to take precautionary measures.

Israeli Soldier Killed, Three Wounded in Continuing Terrorist Incidents

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA)--A curfew was imposed on the Gaza Strip village of Dir Balah tonight after one Israeli soldier was killed and three were injured when their command car struck an anti-vehicle mine nearby. Security forces are searching for the terrorists who planted the mine.

A military spokesman announced that two terrorists were captured today with a large cache of explosives and bazooka shells. The terrorists had been sought by Israeli security forces in connection with an explosion last night which damaged a field shack near Ein Dor on the slopes of Mt. Tabor in central Galilee.

In another incident last night, an explosion slightly damaged a pumping station near Neveh Or in the Beisan Valley. Six pairs of footprints were found leading from the scene to the Jordan River.

Captured El Fatah Terrorists Demand Prisoner-of-War Status

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Four captured El Fatah terrorists who face possible death sentences in the slaying of two Israeli border patrol sergeants, demanded today that they be given prisoner-of-war status and treated accordingly. A spokesman for the gang, which will be tried before a military tribunal, demanded that he be given a lawyer appointed by the "high command" of El Fatah, the Syrian based terrorist and sabotage organization. A fifth El Fatah member, an Israeli Arab, has already been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

The El Fatah prisoners based their claim for POW status on a broadcast by Labor Minister Yigal Allon who said that Israel would deal with the El Fatah as it would with any organized military unit. The gang was rounded up after a two-day pursuit in the hilly Tulkarm-Nablus region. They were captured in a cave with a large cache of arms and explosives following a sharp exchange of fire with Israeli security forces.

Kollek Says Most of East Jerusalem Population Is Cooperating With Israelis

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem said today that while Arab notables in the East Jerusalem areas that have been reunified with the city have been cooler and more reserved lately in their attitude towards the Israeli authorities, most of the Arab civilian population is cooperating with the authorities to an increasing degree.

Since the city was reunified following the war last June, Mayor Kollek said, 22 kilometers (nearly 14 miles) of road had been paved in the eastern section of the city, 500 street-lights installed in the walled Old City and 700 in the newer Arab areas outside the walls. He said that 12 walls erected as barriers against snipers had been torn down and 180 old structures in the former no-man's land between the Israeli and Jordanian sectors had been razed.

As part of the program to modernize the newly unified areas, Mr. Kollek said, 14 kilometers of water pipes (nearly 9 miles) had been laid to bring fresh water to the area. To beautify the new areas, he added, 3,000 trees had been planted.

Repairs have been completed on 28 Arab school buildings in the new area, he reported, and the program of health examinations for every pupil has been completed in 20 of the schools.

West Bank Farmers Dispose of Their Crops; Have No Unsold Surplus

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Arab farmers in the occupied West Bank are not having any trouble marketing their produce it was indicated by the Director General of the Israel Ministry of Agriculture. He announced at a press conference that the fall harvest in occupied territories had ended with no unsold surplus.

Thousands of tons of farm products have been marketed in Jordan which enjoys a brisk, if unofficial trade with the West Bank, the Ministry official said. West Bank fruits and vegetables which used to be exported to other Arab countries were absorbed by Israel's canning industry this year or shipped overseas from Gaza.

Maccabee Runners Mark Chanukah By Carrying Torch From Modi'in To Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar kindled his Chanukah lamp this evening with a torch carried to his home here by relay runners from Modi'in, gravesite of the Maccabees. In all, more than 5,000 youths and sportsmen participated in the traditional Chanukah relays today, or-

ganized by the Maccabee sports organization. The racers carried torches from Modi'in to the principal cities and towns of the country.

Chanukah lights were kindled at the West Wall Tuesday night, site of the Temple in Old Jerusalem, for the first time since the second century when the Holy City was last under Jewish control. A huge menorah, set up on the site, was kindled by Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Minister of Religious Affairs. Other torches, kindled at Modi'in, gravesite of the Maccabees, were flown from Lydda Airport to 33 countries around the world where they were received by youth organizations and representatives of Zionist groups and Jewish communities.

The kindling of the lights at the West Wall, an act believed last carried out when Bar-Kochba and his warriors were defending Jerusalem against the legions of Rome, coincided with announcement of the discovery of a stone slab said to be part of the southern wall of the Second Temple which was destroyed by Titus in 70 A.D. The existence of a southern wall was long suspected but digging began only recently. Some rabbinical authorities say the southern wall is as holy as the Western Wall.

Seven U.S. Governors To Tour Israel on Goodwill Mission

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Gov. John Volpe, of Massachusetts will lead a delegation of governors of various states on a goodwill trip to Israel in January. Gov. Volpe and six other governors will represent the National Governors' Conference of which Gov. Volpe is chairman. The others are Governors Warren P. Knowles, Republican of Wisconsin; Calvin Rampton, Democrat of Utah; Tim. M. Babcock, Republican of Montana; Ralph M. Paiewonsky, Democrat of the Virgin Islands; James A. Rhodes, Republican of Ohio, and Hulett C. Smith, Democrat of West Virginia.

They will tour Israel from January 25 to 31. They will observe developments in nation-building, education, health, agriculture, housing, industry, irrigation, and other areas. It is expected that they will also familiarize themselves with Israeli defense problems.

Goldmann Urges Militant Movement Within WZO to Press Zionist Aims

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, told members of the Jewish Agency Executive here today that the concept of a broadened Zionist movement has not worked over the years and that Zionist efforts must now concentrate on the creation of a militant movement within the WZO in order to strengthen Zionism and achieve its aims. Dr. Goldmann spoke at a plenary session of the Executive, attended by members from New York and Jerusalem, who are mapping an agenda for the next World Zionist Congress that opens here in June.

Dr. Goldmann said he did not think there was much divergence between the views of the American and Israel members of the Executive. He warned, however, that the Zionist movement is a public and political vehicle and cannot impose personal obligations on its members or dictate to them how they should behave. This was a reference to the proposal made yesterday by Rabbi Mordechai Kirschblum, of New York, who advocated the establishment of a special movement within the WZO, limited to those Jews who would pledge to settle in Israel within three years and meanwhile study Hebrew and give their children a Jewish education. The proposal was opposed by Israeli members who advocate a broadened WZO.

British Chief Rabbi Proclaims Day of Prayer for Jews of Soviet Union

LONDON, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits of the British Commonwealth called on rabbis and ministers today to observe Saturday, Jan. 6 as a day of prayer and intercession on behalf of Soviet Jewry, which is denied religious and cultural freedom. The special prayers will be recited following the regular prayers for the royal family and the State of Israel.

Rabbi Jakobovits noted that although the Chief Rabbinate in Jerusalem had proclaimed Dec. 25, the 23rd of Kislev, as a day of prayer for Soviet Jews, he considered it more appropriate for British Jews to make the Sabbath of "Vayigash," Jan. 6, the occasion for expressing their solidarity with Soviet Jews through prayer.

(Special prayers for the Jews of the Soviet Union, were chanted in synagogues all over Israel Monday by decree of the Chief Rabbinate, which established the day as one of prayer and lamentation for Russian Jewry. The Rabbinate also asked every Jew to observe a one-hour work stoppage at noon in a demonstration of concern for the plight of Soviet Jews.)

West German Government Not To Seek Ban on Neo-Nazi Party

BONN, Dec. 28 (JTA)--The Bonn Government will not ask the Constitutional High Court at Karlsruhe to ban the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party even though its aims are anti-democratic, Minister of Interior Paul Luecke said today. He added, however, that the Federal Government will keep NPD activities under close scrutiny.

There had been considerable speculation here in the past few weeks that the Government would seek the constitutional court's ruling on the legality of NPD activities which have become disturbingly reminiscent of the early days of the Nazi movement. NPD chairman Adolf Von Thadden has stated in speeches that he advocates anschluss with Austria and considers the 1939 Munich pact, which led to the Nazi dismemberment of Czechoslovakia and World War II, still legal and valid. NPD rallies have been increasingly attended by violence and the party has established security guards to silence protestors.

Von Thadden recently endorsed the anti-Israel position taken by President de Gaulle, and his followers have, increasingly, taken an openly anti-Semitic position although denying that they accept Nazi racialism.

Canadian New Year's Honors For Samuel Bronfman, Mrs. Nina Cohen

TORONTO, Dec. 28 (JTA)--Governor-General Roland Michener has named two Canadian Jewish personalities to receive New Year's honors.

Samuel Bronfman, vice-president of the World Jewish Congress and chairman of the board of governors of the Canadian Jewish Congress, was one of 15 Canadians named as Companion of the Order of Canada, the Commonwealth's highest distinction. The citation was "in recognition of long and distinguished public service." Mr. Bronfman, a leading industrialist and philanthropist, was for more than 25 years president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

The Governor-General also named Mrs. Nina Cohen, of Sydney, Nova Scotia, former president of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, the women's Zionist organization, to receive the Medal of Service.

Both awards were introduced last year by Prime Minister Lester Pearson's government to reward and recognize Canadians who have served their country with distinction.

Chicago Rabbinical Council Gives Lawyers Manual on Jewish Divorce Procedures

CHICAGO, Dec. 28 (JTA)--A manual on Jewish divorce laws has been prepared by a Chicago rabbi for distribution to the 1,700 members of the Decalogue Society of Lawyers here to instruct them on the procedures involved in drawing up a religious divorce.

The manual, entitled "A Religious Procedure In Obtaining a Jewish Divorce" was written by Rabbi Moses Mescheloff of West Rogers Park congregation and presented to the lawyers by the Chicago Rabbinical Council. The manual states that Jewish law requires a religious divorce whenever a Jewish man and woman have lived together as husband and wife and then wish to sever their marital status, whether the couple is religiously observant or not.

In connection with the distribution of the manual, it was pointed out that the State of Israel has refused to accept as valid any Jewish divorce not written by the rabbinic authorities.

87 Professional Center and Y Workers in Graduate Schools Under Grants

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA)--A total of 87 future professional Jewish community center and YM & YWHA workers are now students in graduate schools of social work under 110 scholarship and fellowship grants valued at \$195,300, Louis Stern, president of the National Jewish Welfare Board, said today. These are 18 more students than received similar grants last year. Fifty-eight of the grants are sponsored by local Jewish Community Centers and YM & YWHAs affiliated with JWB; 38 are made through the JWB Regions and 22 are national grants. Five of the scholarships were especially earmarked for women students of graduate social work schools, to help overcome the shortage of fellowships for women preparing themselves for careers in Jewish community centers and YM & YWHAs.

With nearly 1,400 full-time professional persons employed in centers and Ys, the immediate need is for an additional 200 staff members. In addition, at least 60 new Jewish community center and YM & YWHA buildings are projected, which will increase considerably the demand for professional personnel.

American Professors of Religion Plan Permanent Section on Judaic Studies

HANOVER, N.H., Dec. 28 (JTA)--A permanent Judaic Studies section to focus on the study of Judaism as a religious tradition will be established at the next convention of the American Academy of Religion to be held in Dallas, Texas, next October, Prof. Jacob Neusner, vice-president and program chairman of the Academy, disclosed today. The Academy was founded in 1963 as a successor to the National Association of Biblical Instructors, dating back to 1909. Its members are professors of religion and related studies in American colleges and universities, divinity schools and seminaries.

NYU Announces Graduate Fellowships, Stipends for Students of Hebrew

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA)--New York University announced today that graduate fellowships and stipends for students of Hebrew are available for the fall of 1968 at the school's Institute of Hebrew Studies. The fellowships, offering free tuition plus living expenses, will range from \$2,000 to \$2,700 annually plus \$500 to \$720 for each dependent.

50th Anniversary of Mendele Mocher Sforim's Death Observed in Odessa

LONDON, Dec. 28 (JTA)--A sprinkling of non-Jewish Soviet writers and intellectuals joined a gathering of several hundred Jews at the Jewish cemetery in Odessa to observe the 50th anniversary of the death of Mendele Mocher Sforim, the 19th century Russian-Jewish writer who is regarded as the father of modern Yiddish and Hebrew literature. Among those gathered at the graveside, according to reports here from Moscow, were Mendele's two surviving grandchildren, one of them a professor at the Agricultural Institute of Odessa, and the other the choir-mistress of the local opera company. A valedictory address was given by the Jewish writer and critic, Jeremy Drucker.

Mendele was born Shalom Jacob Abramowitsch in White Russia in 1836. He adopted the pen name, Mendele Mocher Sforim, which is Hebrew for Mendele the book seller. He studied in yeshivot and published his first articles in Hebrew periodicals in 1858 and his first Hebrew short story in 1863. Later he turned to Yiddish in which language his classic stories, "Fishke the Lame," "The Travels of Benjamin III" and many others won him fame in Jewish communities all over the world. He collaborated with Bialik and Ravnitzky in translating the Pentateuch into Yiddish. Mendele died in 1917.