Eshkol Outlines Four-Year Economic Growth Plan to Economic Conference

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol outlined a program of major economic growth for Israel during the next four years to an international gathering of leading Jewish businessmen and economists from all over the world that opened here today. Mr. Eshkol, who called the conference after the June Six Day War, predicted that Israel's gross national product would increase at the rate of 8 percent a year between now and 1972 and that while imports may still exceed exports by $400 million in that year, Israel's exports will have grown by 80 percent.

The Prime Minister said that Israel's economy would be able to absorb an additional 200,000 workers over the next four years. He estimated that the nation's population will exceed three million by 1972, not including occupied territories. He said that 70 percent of the population rise would be through natural increase and 30 percent will come through aliyah (immigration). Mr. Eshkol called on the Jews of the world to "invest their Jewish spirit and Jewish intelligence" to help achieve Israel's economic goals.

A program offering new incentives to investors from abroad was submitted to the conference participants. Among the measures, which were approved only last night by a committee of Israel's economic ministers, was one permitting investors to withdraw the sum of their investment plus profits in foreign currency at the official rate of exchange. A total of 400 businessmen from abroad were expected to attend the conference along with 100 Israeli business leaders. As of this morning, however, many who had confirmed their attendance had not yet arrived. It was learned that 80 businessmen cancelled their trips to Israel because of recent terrorist activities.

Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir disclosed that Israel was considering new patterns of transportation in keeping with its geographical position between Africa, Asia and Europe. One idea, he said, was large scale trucking of goods from Elath on the Gulf of Akaba to the Mediterranean where the cargo would be loaded aboard ships. Another was to convert the Tel Aviv Airport at Lod into a giant center for air freight traffic, he said. Zeev Sharef, Minister of Commerce and Industry, said that Israel had ventured into the chemical and petro-chemical fields as well as electronics and other new industries requiring specialized know-how and intended to stress these in the future. He said plans were being speeded up for aircraft production.

Baron Edmund de Rothschild, of France, said the conference could set an example for the economic growth of underdeveloped nations and that Israel's Arab neighbors could also benefit from Israel's experience if they want peace. Sir Isaac Wolfson, of Great Britain, proposed establishment of an international foundation for industrial research in Israel to which each participant would contribute 10,000 pounds sterling ($240,000). Sir Sigmund Warburg, of Britain, proposed the establishment by the conference of a permanent secretariat. Samuel Rothberg, of New York, declared that Israel had given Jews abroad much more than she had received from them in terms of pride in being Jewish.

A series of new projects to aid Israel's economy, stimulate tourism and promote the sale of Israeli products abroad emerged from a three-day conference of young business leaders from various countries that ended in Rehovot last night. The 100 participants moved to Jerusalem this morning to join the world conference of Jewish businessmen and economic leaders.

The preliminary conference, held at the Weizmann Institute of Science, was billed as the first international young leadership conference. The gathering agreed to establish special bodies to promote housing; a profit-making company to devise projects to attract more tourists; building and loan associations; an insurance corporation to invest in rental housing and a body to promote a closer relationship between scientific research in Israel and private industry. It was also decided to create a "volunteers for Israel products" group in as many countries as possible. Canadian businessmen at the conference announced the establishment of a summer camp in Israel for 1,000 teen-agers from abroad. The conference was chaired by Stephen Stulman of New York.

Israel Stunned by Johnson Withdrawal But No U.S. Policy Change Seen

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--The news of President Johnson's announcement last night that he would not be a candidate for re-election stunned Israel today. Although officials maintained a strict silence to avoid any position of appearing to intervene in the internal affairs of another country, the general feeling here was that there would not be any major changes in United States policy toward Israel as a result of Mr. Johnson's decision.

The view was expressed that support of Israel has become a tenet of American foreign policy regardless of the person holding the Presidency. It was also asserted that the United States interest in maintaining pro-Western influence in the Middle East depended on the existence of a strong Israel and that therefore United States efforts to bring about an agreed Israeli-Arab peace not at Israel's expense did not involve considerations of vote-getting in American presidential races.
UN Council Hears Israeli Charge of Arab Four-Nation Aid to Terrorists

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 1 (JTA) -- Israel charged at the Security Council today that Jordan and Syria -- with active aid from Egypt and Iraq -- were collaborating intensively in recruiting and training terrorists for raids against Israel, adding that the King Hussein regime had opened an office in Amman for mass enrollment of El Fatah raiders.

The charge, spelled out in detail, was made by Joseph Tekoah, Israel's permanent representative here, as the Council resumed its second session in two weeks on the Middle East crisis. Both Jordan and Israel asked for the new session after a day-long battle last Friday on an 85-mile front between the two countries. The Council met Friday and Saturday and then recessed, reportedly for behind-the-scenes talks on a United States proposal to station UN observers on the Jordan-Israel demarcation line, but no resolution was presented during the afternoon meeting today. After hearing the Israeli representative, and those of Algeria, Jordan, Canada, France, Pakistan, Brazil and Denmark, the session was recessed again until 3 p.m. tomorrow.

Asserting there has been constant guerrilla attacks and Jordanian shooting across the Jordan River, Mr. Tekoah said "The operations of the terrorist organization are coordinated between the governments of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Iraq." He asserted that El Fatah members were being exempted from regular army service, that the Jordanian Arab Legion encouraged terrorists to open fire against Israel from army bases and provided El Fatah with military information about Israel, that hundreds of Syrian army regulars had been transferred to terrorist units in Jordan, that Iraq was taking an active role in terrorist acts and that a regular Egyptian army unit had been transferred to join guerrilla units in Jordan. He said this information had been obtained from former army officers captured by Israel in recent clashes and he listed the officers by name and with their army unit numbers.

Israeli Soldier Killed, Two Wounded in Golan Heights Terrorist Clash

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA) -- An Israeli soldier was killed and two were wounded in a clash with Arab saboteurs in the Golan Heights region, south of the occupied Syrian town of Kuneitra last night, a military spokesman announced today. One of the saboteurs was killed. He was found to be carrying a Russian-type assault gun and two Russian-made hand grenades.

Jarring To Resume Tours of Mideast Capitals With Amman Visit Today

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 1 (JTA) -- The United Nations reported here today that Ambassador Gunnar Jarring, the special UN representative to the Middle East, would make another visit tomorrow to Amman to renew his talks with Jordanian authorities. The envoy had suspended his round of visits to Jerusalem and to the Arab capitals during recent Jordan-Israeli clashes.

State Department Again Defends Decision to Send Weapons to Jordan

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 1 (JTA) -- The State Department defended today the decision to supply United States arms to Jordan and said that the U.S. Government had "every reason to believe" that King Hussein "is sincere in his determination to control terrorism" against Israel. The State Department's assertion was contained in a letter from Assistant Secretary of State William B. MacComb, Jr., to Representative Richard S. Schweiker, Pennsylvania Republican, who is a member of the House Armed Services Committee. But Mr. MacComb refused to fulfill Rep. Schweiker's request for a detailed list of the weapons approved for Jordan.

The State Department's faith in Hassein is based, according to MacComb's letter, on the fact that the Jordanian king "spoke out publicly against terrorism on Feb. 16." According to MacComb, terrorism against Israel "unfortunately is sustained by subversive forces both within and outside of Jordan" and "are not desired by either Jordan or Israel."

GOP Coordinating Committee Urges U.S. Sale of Supersonic Jets to Israel

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 1 (JTA) -- The Republican Coordinating Committee has urged the immediate supply of supersonic military jets to Israel to counterbalance the latest model Soviet jets being supplied to the Arabs and declared that it was "deeply disturbed" by the deteriorating situation in the Middle East. The statement by the Committee and its recommendations was released today by Republican National Chairman Ray C. Bliss. The Committee includes among its members, former Vice President Richard M. Nixon, candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, of New York, Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen and House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford.

The Committee reported that "despite Israeli concern that only American F-4 Phantoms might match the new Soviet supersonic SU-7 now in Egyptian hands," the Administration supplied Israel only with the subsonic A-4 Skyhawks. The Committee charged that "even supplying the older plane has created difficulties, particularly since the Democratic Administration slowed the process down by attempting to make a profit on the sale of the Skyhawks to Israel."

The Republican leaders said that in view of aggressive Soviet efforts to penetrate the Middle East and in the absence of any big power agreement to limit arms shipments to the region, Israel should receive American arms "to maintain the balance of power and to serve as a deterrent to renewed open warfare." They called for U.S. leadership in the U.N. and elsewhere to secure a political settlement providing for an end to the state of belligerence.
Polish Officials, Press Demand Jews in Poland Condemn ‘Zionist’ Critic:

LONDON, April 1 (JTA)--Polish Communist officials, abetted by the state-controlled press, is demanding that Polish Jews condemn "ignominious accusations against the Polish nation" allegedly being made by "Zionists" abroad. This was the latest development in Poland's official anti-Jewish campaign, which, according to information reaching here today, has switched from attacks on so-called "Zionist" elements within Poland to include denunciations of Zionism and Jewish leadership abroad with an implied threat to Polish Jewry to renounce them for their own good.

The change in emphasis, according to observers here, stemmed from the angry protests being lodged by Jews and non-Jews throughout the free world and even in some areas of the Communist bloc against Poland's anti-Jewish campaign camouflaged as anti-Zionist. These protests and expressions of revulsion have apparently stung the Warsaw regime. Some Polish embassies abroad are refusing to accept letters and resolutions of protest for transmission to their capital, it was learned here today.

The campaign in the Polish press seems to have the two-fold purpose of convincing Poland's surviving Jews that they were abandoned to their fate by Jewish and Zionist leaders during the German occupation in World War II and to further inflame anti-Jewish feelings among the general population.

The Polish newspaper Kurier Polski alleged yesterday that Jews collaborated with the Gestapo during the war and vied among each other for Nazi favor. The Trybuna Mazowiecka claimed that no more than 1,000 Jews fought in the Warsaw ghetto uprising in 1943 and that they were supplied, trained and supported by Polish resistance fighters.

According to reports from Warsaw today, a leading Communist Party official, Piotr Jaroszewicz, speaking with apparent approval of the Politburo of which he is a deputy member, declared that "...a violent anti-Polish campaign, world Zionism is not even hesitating to mobilize for the struggle against the people's authorities certain Polish citizens of Jewish origin. We are convinced that an overwhelming majority of them will declare themselves against and separate themselves from, these hostile machinations." The official's remarks were regarded as the strongest anti-Zionist stand taken by an important party official since the Communist Party chief, Wladislaw Gomulka, tried to tone down the anti-Zionist campaign. The Polish press, ignoring Gomulka's statement that "it would be a misunderstanding for anybody to see Zionism as a danger to Socialism in Poland or to any existing social-political system," called on Polish Jews to declare themselves against Zionism and loyal to Poland.

Jewish Labor Committee Urges UN Rights Commission Session on Polish Jews.

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--The Jewish Labor Committee urged President Johnson yesterday to instruct the American delegation on the United Nations Human Rights Commission to call for an emergency session of that body to deal with the Polish Government's campaign against the Jewish minority. A telegram to the President described the anti-Jewish campaign conducted by the Communist Party and the Polish Government and accused the regime of attempting to "coerce" the Jews "to bear false witness against what the world knows are the true conditions in present-day Poland and to " falsify history."

The appeal also was signed by the Farband Labor Zionist Organization, the Federation of Jewish Underground Fighters Against Nazism, the Katzeller Farband Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, the Association of New Americans Organization in Philadelphia and the United Jewish Survivors.

A resolution demanding that the United States revoke the tariff privileges now enjoyed by Poland under the "favored nations" clauses in its trade treaties with the United States was unanimously adopted by 400 delegates at an emergency conference called by the Jewish Labor Committee.

Polish Press Charge of Jewish Collaboration With Nazis Called 'Ultimate Lie'

TORONTO, April 1 (JTA)--Allegations by the state-controlled Polish press that Jews collaborated with the Nazis during World War II were denounced as "a piece of political obscenity" here last night. The speaker was former Toronto Mayor Phillip Givens, who addressed 899 persons attending a rally at the Holy Blossom Temple to protest Poland's current anti-Jewish campaign. The rally was called by the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Mayor Givens, who visited Poland two years ago, said the official accusations against Jews by Polish political leaders represented "the ultimate lie." Stefan Crajek, president of the Ghetto Fighters and Partisans of Israel, said that all Jewish veterans of the Polish underground resistance movement have handed back the medals awarded to them by Poland, He said that the anti-Semitic campaign by the Warsaw regime has reached a point where the head of the Polish historical research society was dismissed for allegedly "overstressing" the losses suffered by Jews in the Nazi holocaust.

Yugoslav Communist Party Weekly Denounces Polish Anti-Jewish Drive

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--The Yugoslavian Communist Party weekly, "Yugoslav Kumn paused," published an article criticizing "certain Polish circles" for demonstrating anti-Semitism and blaming student unrest in Warsaw on the children of Jews.

The Belgrade periodical, received here, carried an article by Oskar Davico, a Jew, who said he was "revolled by the blindness in certain Polish circles" in "proclaiming a few Jews as culprits for everything unpleasant that has happened" rather than trying to grasp the meaning of the student demonstrations.
Label Katz Denounces ‘Quota Membership Policy’ of New Orleans Jewish Center

NEW ORLEANS, April 1 (JTA) -- Label A. Katz, honorary international president of B’nai B’rith, announced today that he had resigned from membership in the New Orleans Jewish Community Center in protest against the adoption of a quota membership policy fixing at 20 percent the number of non-Jewish members to be admitted. He described the decision to establish a quota as “un-Jewish, un-American and un-democratic.”

Mr. Katz said in a statement that he had supported a policy requiring a person to be a Jew to be eligible for membership in the Center. However, he said, if two-thirds of the general membership had favored an open membership policy, he could have supported it. “Provided all non-Jewish applicants would be accepted, irrespective of race, color or religion.” He pointed out that in 1966, approximately 20 percent of the members were non-Jewish, only one family being Negro. The Center froze its membership list in 1967 and conducted a study of membership policy, concluding that non-Jewish members could not be accepted in excess of 20 percent in each category.

Mr. Katz protested that the decision had not been submitted to the membership. He declared that the National Jewish Welfare Board had actively participated in the discussions leading to the quota policy and “cannot dis-associate itself from this action.” Mr. Katz asserted that “other Jewish community centers covertly engage in the same practice, but no Jewish Community Center has been so bold as to state it so baldly.”

Reform Rabbi Quits Louisville Pulpit to Engage in Civil Rights Work

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 1 (JTA) — A Reform rabbi has resigned the pulpit he held here for 22 years to serve as a civil rights official. Rabbi Martin M. Perley told the members of Congregation B’ rith Sholom, in his final sermon, that he had accepted the appointment of executive director of the Louisville and Jefferson County Human Relations Commission because “religion cannot be lived in a vacuum.”

Dr. Perley said he often had been chided for speaking out on civil rights, though his congregation generally had acquiesced in his civil rights activities and adopted a strong statement on human rights in 1964. But his stand against the Vietnam war “angered some of the most influential members of the congregation.” That led him to conclude that he had failed to convey “the true meaning of Judaism” as he understands it, the Rabbi said. Dr. Perley was elected head of the Kentucky Board of Rabbis two months ago and was previously the director of the Hillel Foundation at Indiana University. He came to Louisville in 1946 after three and a half years as an Army Chaplain during World War II.

First Half of Concordance on Talmud Published by Seminary and Israel

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA) — The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the Israel Government’s Department of Education and culture have jointly published the first half of a concordance to the Talmud, the central text of Hebrew literature and the authority for Jewish law and religion, it was announced today by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, Chancellor of the Seminary. The concordance, which has never existed before, is at the letter Kaf, the 11th letter in the 22-letter Hebrew alphabet.

The concordances are alphabetical indexes of the principal words of the Talmud in their immediate contexts. They enable the user to find a specific passage, name or idea easily and quickly, Dr. Finkelstein said. He said that the long-needed reference works were being produced in Jerusalem under grants from the Maxwell and Fannie Abbell Research Fund of the Seminary. The work was begun by Rabbi Chaim J. Kosovsky, a leading Israeli philologist and Talmud authority who devised his own word location system based on graphs and mathematical principals. After his death in 1962, the task was taken up by the rabbi’s two sons, Benjamin and Moshe.

Reform Rabbis Prepare Handbook on How To Overcome College Youths’ Generation Gap

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA) — A “handbook” for Reform rabbis containing ideas on how to bridge the generation gap that alienates Jewish college youth from home and synagogue has been published by the youth committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The 44-page booklet, titled “Working With College Students — A Handbook for Rabbis” noted that three out of every four Jewish youths of college age are college students but many of them regard the religious establishment and Jewish values to be “irrelevant” to the problems of everyday life.

According to Rabbi Jack Stern, CCAR youth chairman, many Jewish youngsters are disturbed by the Vietnam war, the draft and civil rights problems. They must be made to understand “the relationship between the teachings of Judaism and the ideals they carry out into action,” he said. “They reject identification with the organized Jewish community since they see the establishment as phonies and hypocritical, too frequently indifferent to and fearful of social change.”

Hasidic Followers March in Funeral for Grand Rabbi Twersky, Skirva Rebbe

NEW SQUARE, N.Y., April 1 (JTA) — More than 10,000 Hasidic Jews marched yesterday in a funeral procession here for Grand Rabbi Jacob Twersky, known as the Skiva Rebbe for the Ukrainian town where he was born, who died earlier in the day at the age of 68.

He founded the New Square Hasidic Village in Rockland County after leading his followers from Brooklyn’s Williamsburgh section where the sect felt a more pious life could be led away from urban temptations. The village was incorporated in 1961 after a lengthy struggle with Ramapo town officials. The population of the village is about 700. The Grand Rabbi’s son, David, will become the new rebbi.