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Jews Prohibited From Leaving Egypt And Are Apparently Held As Hostages

PARIS, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The Egyptian Government, in a decision reportedly made by President Nasser personally, has decided to ban the departure from Egypt of all Jews still in Egypt, thus apparently holding them as hostages, the American Jewish Committee reported here. About a quarter of the remaining estimated 1,000 Jews are still in prison, having been detained since the June, 1967 war, though they have been neither charged nor found guilty of any offense, the report said.

The report said that the decision applied to Jews holding Egyptian citizenship, to Jews nominally stateless and even to Jews holding foreign nationality if that nationality was acquired after the Six-Day War. The report said this was the first such decision adopted by Egypt and that it constituted a gross violation of basic human rights. In the past Jews were allowed to leave Egypt after being "denationalized" by authorities.

Anti-Jewish actions also have been taken by the Governments of Syria and Iraq against their remaining Jewish nationals, the AJCommittee report said. It asserted that the Egyptian Government had not even bothered with the pretense that the detained Jews were guilty of any offense. "They are being held prisoners simply because they are Jews," the report declared. The Jewish prisoners, numbering an estimated 223 to 240, have been transferred to the Tourah prison near Cairo after initial detention at the Abu Zaabal jail, where they were the target of odious treatment, including torture, the report said.

In Iraq, 26 Jews out of a remaining community of 2,500 also are being held in prison without charges being placed against them. At one time, more than 100 heads of Jewish families were jailed after the Six-Day War, but most of them have since been freed, according to the AJCommittee report. Since the war, the Iraqi Government has staged a house-to-house search of all Jewish homes and has drawn up a register of all occupants. Jews have been forbidden to travel from their areas of residence and remain under constant surveillance. Iraqi Jews are forbidden to emigrate and cannot sell or otherwise dispose of immovable property.

In Syria, the report said, Jews are held virtual prisoners in their own homes, being forbidden to travel more than a mile and a half from their residences without special permits. They must carry special identity cards and may not sell or otherwise dispose of their property. Palestinian Arab refugees have been resettled in homes in the former Jewish quarters, posing a continual threat to Jews in Damascus and Aleppo, where incidents have already occurred, the AJCommittee reported.

Association Of Immigrants From Arab States Cables Appeal To Thant

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The Association of Immigrants from the Arab States has cabled an appeal to United Nations Secretary-General U Thant to investigate the fate of Jews in the Arab countries and to intervene with Arab governments so that the Jews will be permitted to emigrate. The message to Mr. Thant was drafted by the spokesmen for immigrants from Egypt, Syria and Iraq following a meeting held under the auspices of the World Jewish Congress. It charged that "Arab authorities persecute the Jewish remnants, confiscate their property and hold them as hostages against all international law and morality." The message noted that "the Arab states refuse to allow international bodies such as the Red Cross to investigate the condition of Jews but prevent Jews from leaving the countries and use them as scapegoats for the anger of the masses." The message appealed to Mr. Thant "not to repeat the conspiracy of silence that prevailed during the annihilation of our European brethren."

Israel Officially Tells Thant Of Position On 'Humanitarian' Emissary

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 6 (JTA)--Israel is willing to accept a United Nations 'humanitarian' emissary to investigate the conditions of Arabs living in the Israeli-held areas, in accordance with Security Council resolutions, provided the emissary's mandate also covers a similar investigation of the situation of the Jews in Arab countries, Secretary-General U Thant was informed this weekend. The Israeli view was contained in a letter from Ambassador Yosef Tekoah to Mr. Thant.

Britain Reportedly Preparing New Peace Proposals, Urging Israel To Accept Resolution

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 6 (JTA)--Diplomatic observers here reported today that Britain was preparing new proposals for a Middle East settlement and was urging Israel to declare before the United Nations General Assembly that it accepts the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 Middle East resolution "in whole and in detail" and is prepared to implement it. That resolution was drafted by Britain and presented by its chief delegate to the UN, Lord Caradon. Unconfirmed reports from various sources today said that Lord Caradon had recently prepared an "interpretation" which clarified the resolution's "ambiguities" but that Britain hesitated to publish it for fear of introducing a "new element" to the Middle East crisis. Before departing for the current Assembly session, British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart reportedly made it clear that he does not favor an imposed settlement but believes that a settlement agreed to by the parties to the dispute should be guaranteed by the Big Powers as the permanent members of the Security Council, or by the Council itself.

Strong support for the mission of UN peace envoy Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring was voiced by Foreign Minister Abba Eban of Israel here yesterday after conferring for 90 minutes with UN Secretary-General U Thant. Mr. Eban told reporters he believed Dr. Jarring's mission was the most hopeful road to peace, no matter how often it appeared to be stalemated. He said "the worst thing" that could happen would be abandoning of the Jarring mission. The mission was established by a Nov. 22, 1967 Council resolution; there have been rumors recently that the Swedish envoy was prepared to give it up because of lack of progress. Mr. Thant said, after his talk with Mr. Eban, that "As far as I can see there is not one single government that wishes to see his (Jarring's) mission terminated." He said that Dr. Jarring was continuing his contacts with the parties concerned in New York during the Assembly sessions.

Meanwhile, pressure continued to be brought to bear on Israel to persuade it to relax its demands for direct, face-to-face talks with the Arabs and a formal peace treaty. The British view is that talks should at least begin under the auspices of Dr. Jarring. U.S. Government officials, according to a report in the Washington Daily News, said that both Israel and the Arabs appear to be "flexible" on a new concept of peace without a formal treaty. The semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said the British Government has told Israel that the decisions of last year's Arab summit conference at Khartoum did not nullify the stated willingness of Egypt, Jordan and the other Arab states to reach a peaceful settlement on the basis of the Nov. 22 resolution. The Khartoum decision was for no recognition of Israel, no negotiations and no peace. Foreign Secretary Stewart reportedly recently told Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon that Israel should not insist on direct talks, at least to begin with.

Speaking during general debate in the General Assembly Friday, Jordan's Foreign Minister Abdul Monem Rifai accused Israel of obstructing the efforts of Dr. Jarring to secure implementation of the Nov. 22 resolution. He claimed that the Arab nations had adopted a very flexible and constructive approach toward this resolution and had taken a very moderate position. He charged that Israel's insistence on direct negotiations and secure boundaries was motivated by expansionist aims.

Israeli Sergeant Killed Near Sdom, 2 Others Die Of Wounds Suffered Earlier

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6 (JTA)--A 21-year-old Israel Army sergeant, Shmuel Rotblatt, was killed yesterday when his jeep hit a mine south of Sdom, a military spokesman reported today. The Army also announced the deaths of two other Israeli soldiers who succumbed to wounds suffered in earlier engagements. They were Sgt. Zvi Kestler, who was wounded while pursuing Arab saboteurs north of Jericho on Yom Kippur, and Pvt. Shimon Cohen, 18, who was hit in an Egyptian bazooka attack near Ismailla on Sept. 22. Both were buried Friday.

Sgt Rotblatt was killed while investigating the scene of a shooting after a band of saboteurs had fired on an Israeli patrol. Three mines and a bazooka shell were found in the vicinity. More bazooka shells with self-firing devices were found near the Negev settlement of Ein Yahav and were dismantled.

Two Arab saboteurs were killed and a third escaped in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Golan Heights near the Syrian border yesterday. The Arabs had opened fire when challenged by the Israeli soldiers. The dead men carried Russian-type Kalatchnikoff assault rifles. A Syrian communique said the men were members of a Syrian patrol who might have strayed across the border. An Israeli Army halftrack hit a mine near Ashdod Yaacov in the Beisan Valley today and its occupants were fired on from Jordanian territory. They returned the fire and suffered no casualties but the vehicle was damaged. Jordanian units fired bazooka shells yesterday at Israeli forces south of the Beisan Valley but inflicted no casualties.

Jordanian Army Officers Coordinating, Directing Terrorist Activities

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6 (JTA)--Jordanian regular Army officers are coordinating and occasionally directing activities of terrorists operating in the northern Jordan Valley, and each incursion into Israel must be approved by such officers first, it was reported here yesterday. Each group of saboteurs crossing the Jordan River must warn Jordanian Army units in the area and advise them of the probable return time in the event covering fire from Army units may be needed.

Israeli authorities reimposed a night curfew on the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai today because of an increasing incidence of subversive activities in the region. The curfew, imposed right after the June, 1967 war, had been lifted almost a year ago. But Maj. Gen Mordechai Gur, military governor of the strip and northern Sinai, said there have been frequent attacks in recent weeks on Israeli Army vehicles and personnel. Some Gaza residents have objected to the curfew and claim that the attacks were the work of outsiders.

A military tribunal in Gaza has imposed a prison term of eight years on Abdel Mohamed Surab, 38, a Gaza magistrate, after he pleaded guilty to three charges of espionage and subversive activity. Prior to the Israeli seizure of the Gaza Strip in the six-day war, the defendant had served for eight years as deputy commander of Egyptian intelligence in the Strip with the rank of major. He pleaded guilty to possessing information of military value, gathering security information and handing over such information to unknown persons.

Helicopter Airlifts 4 Succoths To Troops Stationed On Mount Hermon On Golan Heights

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6 (JTA)--An Israeli Army helicopter landed on the slopes of snow-capped Mt. Hermon in the Golan Heights today with four succoths ready for assembly by troops manning the demarcation line. The airlift was arranged by the Army chaplaincy corps which is providing succoths in all military camps and forward positions.

West Berlin Mayor Asks 3 Occupying Powers To Consider Banning Rightist NPD

WEST BERLIN, Oct. 6 (JTA)--Mayor Klaus Schutz has asked the commandants of the three Allied occupying powers to consider banning the extreme right-wing, reputedly neo-Nazi National Democratic Party from establishing a branch in this city. Herr Schutz took the action with the authorization of the Berlin Senate (city government), and has precipitated a potentially embarrassing situation for the post-war occupying powers — United States, Britain and France — and for the Federal Government in Bonn.

(Christian Science Monitor correspondent Harry B. Ellis reported from Bonn yesterday that Britain and France were inclined to ban the NPD in West Berlin at the Senate's request but U.S. officials have cited the difficulties such action might create for Bonn.)

The problem has far-reaching political ramifications. Although Bonn authorities share the Berlin Senate's concern over the NPD's rising political strength, they do not see eye-to-eye with the Berliners on how to deal with it. Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, president of the Bundestag (lower house), said last week that he thought it would be a mistake to treat the NPD one way in Berlin and another in the rest of West Germany. To ban the party in the Federal Republic, the Government of Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger would have to argue before the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe that the NPD seeks "to impair or destroy the free democratic order or to endanger the existence" of the state. But Interior Ministry officials doubt that they have sufficient evidence to guarantee an affirmative ruling by the court.

Observers point out here that if the court overturned the Government's move to ban the NPD while the Allied powers in West Berlin imposed a ban, the implication would be that the Allies acted without sufficient grounds. But if West Berlin banned the party and the Kiesinger Government failed to follow suit, the latter would be open to charges of shielding neo-Nazis, an accusation that some observers believe Soviet authorities would be bound to make. The situation is further complicated by sensitive West Berlin-Soviet relations. Herr Schutz and his city government are concerned lest the Soviets and East Germans be given provocation to attempt to intervene in West Berlin affairs. A possible provocation was avoided when the NPD cancelled a party congress scheduled to be held in West Berlin Oct. 20. The party cancelled all political rallies in West Germany for the time being after demonstrators broke up a public meeting in Bonn on Oct. 1.

West Germany's Chief War Crimes Prosecutor Reports Soviets Providing Evidence

BONN, Oct. 6 (JTA)--West Germany's chief war crimes prosecutor said today that Soviet authorities are cooperating fully in providing evidence against Germans who participated in the mass murder of Jews in Russia during World War II. But the prosecutor, Adalbert Rueckerl, who just returned from Moscow where he examined some of the evidence, warned that the central prosecution office at Ludwigsburg would be unable to pursue the many new cases brought to light if the statute of limitations on war crimes prosecution goes into effect at the end of 1969 as scheduled.

Mr. Rueckerl and Rudolph Schlier, Minister of Justice of the state of Wurtemberg-Baden, reported to the press on their visit to Moscow and the photographic and documentary evidence submitted by the Russians. Mr. Schlier said he was categorically opposed to the statute of limitations which would bar further prosecution of Nazi war criminals suspected of murder. Mr. Rueckerl said his office would be unable to complete examination of its files or investigate many new cases before the statute goes into effect. He said the Ludwigsburg office is currently investigating 15,000 suspected Nazi war criminals.

Mr. Rueckerl said that in Moscow he was shown photographs of German police units responsible for killing Jews. The back of each photograph was marked with the time, date and place and the names of the accused. The pictures were taken by amateur photographers, he said, and the Russians possess 100 albums and documents that detail raids and the round-up of Jews in Soviet villages. Mr. Rueckerl and Dietrich Zeug, who heads the Ludwigsburg archives, said they had no doubt that the photos and documents were genuine. They said the Russians were prepared to hand over the originals if German courts refused to accept the copies. The Russians also offered to hand over 50,000 volumes of testimony by witnesses. A West German delegation will return to Russia and will visit the Baltic states to examine further evidence.

'Freiheit' Reports Letter From Polish Jew Telling Of Suspension Of Yiddish Magazine

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The Morning Freiheit, the left-wing Yiddish publication, reported yesterday receiving a letter from a long-time Jewish Communist in Poland asserting that the literary monthly magazine, Yiddishe Schriften (Yiddish Letters), had been suspended by Polish authorities and its editor, the poet David Sfar, had been relieved of his post.

The writer of the letter, who was not identified by the Freiheit, said he was writing from Vienna on a stopover on his way to Israel. He asserted also that the poet, Moshe Sklare, former secretary of the Warsaw Yiddish publication, the Folkstimme, also was in Vienna, en route to Israel, as were Yosef Goldkorn, a former member of the Folkstimme staff, and the Polish Jewish poet, Arnold Sutzky. According to the Freiheit, the letter-writer said anti-Semitism was rising in Poland and that "what is happening now in Poland is not an exodus but an expulsion" of Jews.

Israelis To Fly In Uganda Independence Day Celebrations

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The newspaper Maariv reported today that Israeli pilots will participate in Uganda's seventh independence day celebrations by flying planes that the East African nation recently purchased from Israel. According to the report, the planes are the Dakota DC-3 and the Fouga Magistere, respectively American- and French-built military transports.

Tel Aviv University Plans Latin American Institute To Strengthen Cultural Ties

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 (JTA)--Tel Aviv University will establish a Latin American Institute to strengthen cultural ties between Israel and Latin America, Dr. George S. Wise, president of the University, announced here yesterday. Dr. Wise arrived here on completion of a visit to five countries in Latin America during which he explained the nature of the project to the ministers of education in each of the countries and to the heads of their universities, and secured their cooperation in the project. In each country, Dr. Wise said, the project was looked upon as an implementation of the cultural agreements between Israel and the countries — Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela — signed in 1958.

The new institute will begin functioning on the Tel Aviv campus in 1968, Dr. Wise said. It will provide instruction in the history, government, social and economic structure, culture and art of Latin America. The courses will be given by the Tel Aviv University staff and by exchange professors who will lecture in Spanish and Portuguese. Plans are now being worked out, Dr. Wise said, for a faculty exchange program between Tel Aviv and leading Latin American universities.

Tel Aviv University will provide 25 scholarships each year for students from Latin America. Five scholarships for each of the participating countries will be made available for the first year. Under arrangements made by Dr. Wise with the ministers of education and the university rectors in the five countries, committees have been established there to select the scholarship students. The ambassador of Israel is an honorary member of the committee in each country. Selections are now being made so that the first scholarship recipients can begin their studies at Tel Aviv University this term.

Organizations Ask Lindsay Action On Anti-Poverty Official For 'Jewish Mafia' Charge

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 (JTA)--Prompt action by Mayor John V. Lindsay was asked yesterday by two Jewish organizations against an anti-poverty official for his assertion that the "Jewish Mafia" had threatened that if the mayor hoped to become Governor of New York State he would have to "kill Ocean-Brownsville," the experimental school district in Brooklyn. Refusal by the district governing council to accept a number of teachers touched off an 11-day city-wide teachers strike last month.

The complaints to the mayor were made in separate statements by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee. Both sharply criticized Oliver Ramsey, educational director of the New York City Council Against Poverty, the city's policy-making agency for anti-poverty programs. Mr. Ramsey was quoted as asserting that the "Jewish Mafia" of the United Federation of Teachers had allegedly made that threat to the mayor.

The ADL said that the "connotations" of the charge were obvious and that that charge not only indicated anti-Semitism by Mr. Ramsey but also "a calculated attempt to foment Negro anti-Semitism with an allegation which is false." The ADL noted that the mayor had appealed for an end to "religious and racial epithets" in the school dispute and added that Mr. Ramsey's conduct "makes questionable his efficacy in the post to which you appointed him. We therefore strongly urge that you take immediate and appropriate action in this most serious matter."

The Jewish Labor Committee urged the mayor to make a clear statement of public policy on the "growing use of racial slurs by officials on the city payroll." Such statements, the JLC asserted, "add to the growing tensions between racial and religious groups in our community." The JLC demanded an unequivocal response by Mayor Lindsay to "curb such irresponsible and inflammatory actions" and added that "strong measures" must be taken to "halt the spreading hate" as essential to the prevention of "further polarization within our city."

Sharef Says Proposal To Build Ford Parts Assembly Plant In Israel Under Study

TEL AVIV, Oct. 6 (JTA)--Finance and Trade Minister Zeef Sharef said yesterday that his office has given close attention to a proposal made by Henry Ford II, chairman of the Ford Motor Co., to set up a Ford plant in Israel to make parts for Ford assembly plants in Europe. Mr. Ford made the proposal at a meeting with the Israeli official in Detroit after Mr. Sharef suggested that the Ford firm should buy parts in Israeli factories for such assembly. Mr. Ford told Mr. Sharef that the company was considering building a plant in Europe to make automatic gear shifts and that it might now consider building that plant in Israel instead. The minister added that Mr. Ford had promised to send to Israel a number of Ford experts to explore the possibility.

B'nai B'rith To Mark 125th Anniversary With Event In Madison Square Garden

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The 125th birthday party of B'nai B'rith will be held in Madison Square Garden on Dec. 2 and Dore Schary, chairman of the organization's Anti-Defamation League, will be chairman. Dr. William A. Wexler, B'nai B'rith president, announced yesterday. He said the Garden event would be the start of a year-long national observance by the 500,000-member organization. Mr. Schary described his plans for the presentation as "a showcase of B'nai B'rith in action." He said programs would be dramatized at the Garden in sketches by well-known playwrights with leading roles to be performed by prominent actors.

Northern California Board of Rabbis Back Unions' Efforts On Behalf Of Grape Workers

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 6 (JTA)--The Board of Rabbis of Northern California has endorsed the efforts of trade unions to bring workers in the table grape vineyards under the protection of the National Labor Relations Act. In a New Year message to congregants, it called for a boycott of California table grapes "until such time as the fair and decent wage scales and working conditions which most Americans enjoy be recognized by the growers of table grapes."