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UN General Assembly Approves Plan To Study Israeli Occupation Practices

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 19 (JTA)--The United Nations General Assembly adopted today a resolution to set up a special committee of three states to "investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population" in the occupied areas. The resolution was carried by a vote of 60 to 22 with 37 abstentions. Australia and the United States were among the countries voting against the resolution while Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, New Zealand and Britain abstained.

The resolution, which had been pushed through the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee by a coalition of the Afro-Asian states and the Communist bloc, had been expected to lose support before coming to an Assembly vote because of its openly political motives. Instead, however, it received 60 votes in the Assembly as compared to 55 in the Third Committee.

The resolution incorporated an anti-Israeli resolution adopted at the Teheran human rights conference last May and enjoined Israel "to receive the special committee, to cooperate with it and to facilitate its work." Israel has made it clear that it will refuse to accept the committee if the President of the General Assembly does find three states prepared to accept the mission.

During the Third Committee debate on the draft resolution, Mrs. Tamar Eshel of Israel characterized it as part of "the continuing political warfare" carried out against Israel by the Arab states and noted that nine of its 13 sponsors did not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

Israeli United Nations Envoy Meets With Soviet Diplomat At UN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Israel Foreign Ministry confirmed today reports that a meeting had taken place between Israeli and Soviet representatives at the United Nations. A spokesman said Yosef Tekoah, Israel's representative to the UN, met with Vladimir Semionin, the Soviet Second Deputy Foreign Minister. There was no confirmation here that the Israeli and Soviet official met twice.

Diplomatic quarters here said that the fact that a meeting between an Israeli diplomat and one of the Soviet Union, a super-power which had severed relations with Israel, had taken place was to be considered an event of importance. It was reported here that the meeting took place after efforts were made by other diplomats, mainly Canadian and French, to arrange for a direct exchange of views between Israel and the Soviet Union. The meeting was arranged well before it actually took place, it was understood.

Gen. Dayan Says Some Restrictions Will Be Eased On Traffic Across Jordan River

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said here today after a helicopter visit to the main bridges of the Jordan River, that basic restrictions imposed by Israel for security reasons on bridge traffic would remain in effect but that some relaxations may be worked out to restore West Bank-Jordanian trade relations.

The restrictions were imposed after a blast Nov. 22 in the Mechane Yehuda market in Jerusalem which killed 12 persons. Gen. Dayan told reporters that three new steps had been adopted to prevent westward smuggling of arms and explosives across the Allenby and Damiya bridges. One requires owners or drivers of vehicles to post substantial bonds to guarantee that their vehicles will not be misused. The second requires a new permit for each bridge crossing and removal of reserve tanks and tool boxes. The third involves a thorough inspection by Israeli experts of every returning truck.

Gen. Dayan was asked whether the bridge traffic was a "vital factor." He replied it was a positive factor but he added, "we will survive" if bridge traffic ceased completely. The drivers complained to Gen. Dayan against the removal of their reserve tanks and over the fact that they have to return with empty trucks to the West Bank. Gen. Dayan said resumption of imports from Jordan may be considered later.

Previously, Israeli officials said that while several scores of trucks had been specially licensed to carry perishable products from the West Bank to Jordan, only 10 trucks crossed the two bridges Tuesday after the ban on such traffic was partially lifted. The trucks returned empty. The ban was relaxed to allow movement of fresh fruits and vegetables to Jordan to ease the economic hardship suffered by West Bank farmers in the loss of their Jordanian markets. The small number of trucks crossing with such perishables was attributed to incomplete marketing arrangements in Jordan. All other trucks must still unload their cargoes for inspection and the cargo is then carried across the river to Jordan by porters.

4 Arab Youths Get Life Terms For Bombings In Jerusalem And Tel Aviv Last Summer

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Four Arab youths of East Jerusalem received life prison terms yesterday from a military tribunal which found them guilty of throwing hand grenades in Jerusalem on Aug. 18, during what later became known as "The Night of Grenades" and with placing explosives in the Tel Aviv Bus depot on Sept. 4. The judgments were unanimous.

The tribunal rejected a plea of defense counsel that the defendants should be regarded as prisoners of war in accordance with the Geneva Convention and thus not subject to criminal prosecution for their actions. The Israeli judges cited each Geneva Convention clause, declaring that none

applied to the defendants, who they ruled, acted with intent to hurt civilians. The judges noted that the defendants were not members of an army, had no commanding officers and wore no uniforms.

The four Arabs — Chassam Abdul Latif Kamel, 18; Sawim Kaled Houseiba, 20; Ahmed Mouhamed Muneimar, 19; and Mrwab Abu Hard, 19 — were sentenced to an additional 10 years imprisonment for participation in a "hostile organization." Latif Kamel was given an additional 20 years for possession of hand grenades when he was captured. Terms are to run concurrently, and the defendants have two weeks to appeal.

The youths were not present when the sentences were handed down. They had been given permission to speak in connection with the sentencing but they used the occasion to make an effort to start a political statement. The court ordered them to stop. When the defendants ignored the order, they were removed from the courtroom.

East Jerusalem Arab Women Released Following Intervention By Notables

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Two East Jerusalem Arab women civic leaders, who were detained two weeks ago on suspicion of participation in subversive activities, were released yesterday. Under the administrative order on which they were arrested, they could have been held for three months.

Officials said the women had given written promises to refrain from political activity, a pledge backed by several Arab notables, including the Mufti of Jerusalem; the former Jordanian Defense Minister, Anwar Nusseibeh; and the mayors of Nablus and Hebron. Their release was recommended by Israeli Police Minister Eliahu Sasson after appeals by the Arab notables. Officials also reported that the house arrest of a third Arab woman has been lifted. A number of prisoners in Judea and Samaria will receive amnesty on Id El Fitr, the feast ending the Moslem holy month of Ramadan, it was learned.

The detention of the two Arab women — one the wife of former Jordanian Jerusalem mayor Rouhi el-Katib — was protested by the Jordanian Ambassador to the United Nations, in a letter to UN Secretary-General U Thant. Ambassador Mohammed H. el-Farra charged, in the letter, that a third Jordanian citizen, Nazeeh Kurah, a teacher, "was sentenced arbitrarily to three years imprisonment under the pretext that he opposed Israeli changes in the school's curriculum."

Yitzhak Sullam, Israel's First Transplant Patient, Dies Of Kidney Malfunction

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Yitzhak Sullam, Israel's first heart transplant, died this morning, the Beilinson Hospital reported, adding that death was due to kidney malfunction and not to rejection of the new heart by bodily rejection mechanisms. The 41-year-old bank clerk, father of four, never came out of the coma into which he lapsed after the operation last Dec. 5.

The surgery was performed by a team headed by Prof. Morris Levi. Use of an artificial kidney failed to halt the malfunction. The patient had been treated with special medicine ordered from Britain yesterday morning which arrived last night. Doctors remained at his bedside through the night. The hospital has never indicated the donor of the heart, partially because of fear of protests from Israel's Orthodox Jews. Some, though not all, Israeli Orthodox leaders declared, during the controversy which followed disclosure of the operation, that they opposed all organ transplants. However, neither Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Yehuda Untermann nor Sephardic Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim expressed opposition to the Sullam transplant.

Chanukah Prayer Service Held At Edge Of Temple Mount By 'Ariel' Group

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--A 20-minute Chanukah prayer service was held last night on the edge of the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem by seven members of the "Ariel" group which has rejected a Chief Rabbinate ruling that all of the present enclosure of the Moslem Holy Place on the Mount should be considered part of the original Temple grounds. The latter are considered too holy for present day Jews to enter. The chief rabbi of the armed forces, Maj. Gen. Shlomo Goren, is one of the religious authorities who holds that the southwestern part of the compound was not part of the Temple Mount proper. That was the site of the Chanukah service.

Israel Briefs

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund has announced that 20,000 dunams of land (5,000 acres) have been reclaimed in the Golan Heights and have been made arable for use by 10 Nahal para-military settlements which have been established in the former Syrian territory since the June, 1967 Six-Day War. According to the JNF announcement, some of the land already under cultivation has yielded vegetable crops that have been exported to Europe. The JNF has built 40 miles of roads between the new settlements and connecting them with the main highway.

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Jerusalem municipality has granted Moslem authorities permission to erect three monuments to the Jordanian "unknown soldier" in East Jerusalem. The monuments, designed by an Arab architect, will be erected by the Waqf, the Moslem Religious Council. An application for a fourth monument was deferred because its site on "Ammunition Hill" is slated to become a new housing project.

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Fourth International Bible Quiz will be held in Jerusalem's Convention Hall on March 12, officials announced today. They added that to date, 15 countries had accepted invitations to participate.

Reports: Jewish Engineering Student Writes Supreme Soviet Assailing Anti-Semitism

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (JTA)--A young Jewish engineering student at the University of Moscow has written an unusual letter to the Supreme Soviet assailing anti-Semitic policies, renouncing his citizenship and proclaiming himself an Israeli.

The Washington Post reported here today that Yakov Y. Kazakov wrote to the highest Soviet Government organ, "I do not want to participate with you in an extermination of the Jewish nation in the USSR." He also said, "I do not wish to be a citizen of a country that conducts a policy of genocide toward the Jewish people." Stating that as a Jew he considers Israel his homeland, Mr. Kazakov declared, "I demand to be freed from the humiliation of being considered a citizen of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

The Post reporter, Robert H. Estabrook, who covers the United Nations, cited un-named Jewish sources as having provided his information. He said that an American tourist spoke with the student last month and that apparently no official action had been taken against him. He has not however been allowed to emigrate to Israel. Mr. Estabrook wrote: "Jewish sources regard Kazakov's letter as highly unusual because of its forthright espousal of a right of self-determination respecting citizenship. They can recall no previous case of the exact type." The letter referred to an earlier one in which he had announced his renunciation of citizenship as dating from June 13, 1967.

Paris Rightist Given Jail Term, Fine For Issuing Nazi Recording

PARIS, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Jean Marie Le Pen, a former rightist deputy, was sentenced yesterday to three months in jail and fined 10,000 francs (\$2,000) for making a public "apology for war crimes and criminals."

A Paris Criminal Court found the former Paris deputy guilty of having issued a record of Nazi war songs and marches, with a favorable commentary. The court also ordered Le Pen to destroy copies of the recording still in his possession and confiscation of those in stores. The defendant is well known in France for his support of extreme right-wing causes.

Jordan Takes British Firm Off Boycott List, Apparently Overlooks Its Jewish Basis

LONDON, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The Times reported today that the Alliance Assurance Co., one of the largest British insurance firms, had been removed by the Jordanian Government from its lists of enterprises boycotted for trading with Israel and cleared for doing business in Jordan. The report said that Alliance officials apparently had convinced the Jordanian Government that the company has no dealings with Israel.

The Times commented that the Jordanians apparently had overlooked the fact that the firm was founded in 1824 by Sir Moses Montefiore with the participation of Nathaniel Meyer Rothschild, the first Rothschild to establish a bank in Palestine, and Benjamin Gompertz, a Sephardic Jew who was the leading actuary of his time. Sir Moses was the company's first president. The company remains in Jewish hands. Lord Bearsted, a member of an established Anglo-Jewish family, is its present chairman.

Buenos Aires Jewish Sports Club Accused Of Concealing Anti-Semitic Attack

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Jewish journalists here have accused the Jewish sports club, Hakoah, of concealing information about an allegedly anti-Semitic incident that took place during a recent basketball match with the Fenix Club. The journalists claimed that spectators at the game assaulted and injured several Jewish players when the score became favorable to Hakoah. They said they had gotten the story on their own while Hakoah withheld the information from them.

Report Founding Of New Nazi Party In Australia, Called National Socialists

MELBOURNE, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The chairman of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies disclosed the formation of a new Nazi Party formed in Sydney which calls itself the "Australian National Socialist Party." According to L. Enfeld, the group is headed by a Sydney high school teacher and its members wear uniforms with Nazi insignia. He said it was not connected with any other Nazi group, past or present.

Will Release Film On David Ben-Gurion In Autumn Of 1969, Producer Says

GENEVA, Dec. 19 (JTA)--A film on the life of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister, will be released in the fall of 1969, Producer Melville Mark reported here today. He said that more than half of the 110-minute film had been completed in Israel and that David Perlov, the Israeli director, would continue shooting the film in London.

South African Board Of Deputies To Build New Center For Johannesburg Jews

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 19 (JTA)--The South African Jewish Board of Deputies has announced plans today for the construction of a community center for Johannesburg Jewry on a newly acquired site near Witwatersrand University. The building, to be completed within three years, will contain a museum, library, communal archives, lecture rooms, a small synagogue and facilities for students and youths. It will also provide new headquarters for the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

Second Group Of United Jewish Appeal Leaders Arrives For Week-Long Tour

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19 (JTA)--A group of 120 American Jewish leaders arrived here yesterday for the second of a six intensive week-long Israel tours sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal in connection with the 1969 Israel Emergency Fund campaign. Rabbi Isadore Breslau of Washington, D.C. heads the group.

Hillel Directors Report Experimental Worship For 'Disenchanted' Students

GROSSINGER, N.Y., Dec. 19 (JTA)--B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation directors, exploring the use of experimental forms of religious services that would involve Jewish students "disenchanted" with conventional worship, were divided today in their views on the validity and effectiveness of the idea.

Opinions expressed by many of the 89 Hillel rabbis attending their annual conference here ranged from support to ambivalence to outright rejection of "underground services" that depart radically from established forms of traditional or liberal worship. The experimental services are free-wheeling innovations that change from week to week, often incorporating discussions, poetry readings, folk music and other means of student expression, with adaptations of such Jewish rituals as the kindling of Sabbath lights, commentary on the Torah portion and chanting of the kiddush, it was reported.

Pilot efforts are being sponsored by Hillel directors at several schools with large Jewish enrollments, among them Yale, Brandeis, University of Chicago and University of California at Los Angeles. The Hillel directors reported varying degrees of acceptance by small groups of students whom Rabbi Albert Axelrad, Hillel director at Brandeis, described as "the disenchanted who want to remain Jews and give some kind of ritual expression to it." The innovations notwithstanding, underground services -- also identified on some campuses as the "no hyphen service" -- seek to maintain "elements appropriate to the Sabbath." Rabbi Richard J. Israel at Yale reported a "significant group of non-Halachic students for whom the Sabbath is a viable symbol and who enjoy a low-pressure recognition of its presence."

At Chicago University, where the experiment is now in the fourth year, Rabbi Daniel Leifer, associate Hillel director, supported the idea because "worship ought to be a small group experience in which each person can fully participate." The 30 or so students who attend the service on Rabbi Leifer's campus "also gain from a continuing process of self-evaluation of what they are doing."

Many Hillel rabbis, however, challenged this approach on the ground that "there is no authentic alternative to real worship;" and for students who are unfamiliar with conventional forms of worship, the need is not to find a substitute but to teach them the customary forms.

Rabbi Norman Frimer of Brooklyn College questioned whether experimental services could not "lead Jewish students out of Judaism." He and others contended that an undisciplined religious service could estrange students further from an understanding of authentic forms of worship. Others questioned whether a loosely-structured service could be maintained on a weekly basis. Another objection was to the possibility of creation of "an exclusive element in the Jewish campus community" and a further fragmentation of an already splintered Jewish religious life. The rabbis emphasized that the experimental services were supplementary to regular services held under Hillel Foundation auspices.

Rivlin Says Increase In Immigration Causing Israelis To See 'Aliyah Movement'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Moshe Rivlin, director-general of the Jewish Agency, has reported a significant increase in immigration among young persons and skilled professionals from Western countries. Addressing a luncheon meeting of B'nai B'rith executives and Washington Jewish communal leaders held at the B'nai B'rith headquarters, Mr. Rivlin said this increase was causing Israeli immigration officials to think in terms "not just of individual olim (immigrants) but of a definite aliyah (immigration) movement," from the nations of the free world.

Mr. Rivlin said that about 30,000 immigrants have arrived in Israel this year compared to 18,000 last year and that many of them were from countries where the Jews are under no pressure to emigrate. With regard to the United States, he noted that the number of immigrants had risen from 1,800 to about 4,500 of whom "about 60-65 percent are under the age of 40 and most of whom are skilled." He said the same proportionate increase is occurring in Britain, France, South Africa and other countries.

(The Jewish Agency is negotiating with the Israel Lands Authority to set aside a plot of land to house 400 Orthodox scientists who plan to immigrate to Israel from the United States, Rabbi Mordecai Kirschblum, deputy director of the Jewish Agency's immigration department reported in Jerusalem yesterday. Rabbi Kirschblum spoke at a meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee presidium which convened under the chairmanship of Ehud Avriel. He said 50 families were expected to arrive soon.)

Rabbi-Author Contrasts Jewish-Christian Views On Sex, Marriage, Abortion

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19 (JTA)--Judaism takes a far more liberal attitude than Christianity toward sex, marriage, procreation, contraception and abortion, an authority on Jewish law and tradition declared here today. According to Dr. David M. Feldman, who is rabbi of the Bay Ridge Jewish Center in Brooklyn and author of "Birth Control in Jewish Law," the 2,000-year-old Judaic-Christian ethic diverges on these matters. Dr. Feldman, here for a lecture at Temple Beth Am, Los Angeles' largest Conservative synagogue, made these points at a press conference:

"In the Jewish scheme of things, abstinence is a greater evil than proper contraception; over the centuries rabbis have, with virtual unanimity, prescribed therapeutic contraception; procreation is a mitzvah (religious commandment or good deed) but it is just as recklessly self-indulgent to overbreed as to refrain from any reproduction."

Dr. Feldman said, "Whether the Pope's encyclical on birth control is applauded for its courage or condemned as reactionary...all sides agree that it flows consistently from the classic Christian teaching on sex and marriage. Less obvious is the fact that Christianity has, in these matters, parted company with its Jewish forebears, and that the two religious traditions have developed opposing sexual moralities." Regarding birth control pills, Dr. Feldman said, "Contraceptive devices which interfere would be deemed less acceptable than an oral contraceptive which leaves the marital act unimpeded."