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Israel Government Silent On De Gaulle Resignation, But Man In Street Is Happy

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- There was no official reaction here today over the resignation of President Charles de Gaulle following his defeat in yesterday's national referendum in France. But the Israeli man-in-the-street, to whom Gen. de Gaulle was an arch villain because of his pro-Arab policies and embargo on military materiel to Israel made no effort to conceal his delight over the French leader's downfall. The state-owned Kol Israel radio also abandoned some diplomatic inhibitions to broadcast songs and other material that clearly ridiculed the 78-year-old former President.

Commentators expressed the hope that Israel's 50 Mirage jets, frozen for two years by the de Gaulle embargo, would soon be delivered. But some cautioned that no drastic changes could be expected in French policy toward Israel at least until a new President is elected and possibly for a long time afterwards.

A few commentators tempered their elation over Gen. de Gaulle's departure with recollections of his valiant fight for French survival against the Nazis in World War II. They said that despite the "inglorious end" of his political leadership, the General's merits far outweighed his shortcomings when viewed over the perspective of his entire career.

A New Page In History Will Be Turned. What Will It Say?

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- When French Premier Maurice Couve de Murville, announcing President de Gaulle's defeat in yesterday's referendum, said, "beginning tomorrow a new page will be turned in our history," Israel and Jews the world over began wondering what that new page would say.

Now that Gen. de Gaulle has left office after more than 10 years of maintaining France in his iron political grip, the main contenders for the high post are former Gaullist Premier Georges Pompidou and Alain Poher, the Senate President who today became interim President. If either should accede to the Presidency, what are the prospects for a warming up of the now distant relations between France and Israel? The prospects are good, writes JTA's Paris correspondent Edwin Eytan. President de Gaulle's departure following the country's rejection of his constitutional reform referendum "could mean a new page in Franco-Israel relations," he said. "Though no one here expects that Franco-Israel relations would automatically revert to their previous close degree of understanding and cooperation, Gen. de Gaulle's defeat would speed up a process of normalization." Both Messrs. Pompidou and Poher "are known to be much closer to the sentiments and feelings of French public opinion and to support Israel's security for a variety of human and democratic reasons," Mr. Eytan cabled.

Observers in Paris believed that most of France's 500,000 Jews opposed the referendum, upon which President de Gaulle staked his political future. In contrast, most Jews apparently backed the President and Gaullist candidates in last May's general election, despite their opposition to his foreign policy, because they were afraid of a possible victory for the revolutionary left-wing.

Since then they have become increasingly embittered by the President's unilaterally-imposed embargo of last January on military equipment and spare parts intended for Israel and his support for the Big Four talks on the Mideast, opposed by Jerusalem. It was President de Gaulle who conceived the Big Four approach to the Mideast crisis on May 24, 1967 as the Six-Day War neared. He had been a prime mover in bringing it to fruition.

President de Gaulle has been courting the Arabs and trying to re-establish French influence in the Arab world since he settled the Algerian crisis in 1962. Just last Saturday, France and Iraq signed a cultural agreement providing for technical, scientific and educational cooperation.

Informed political sources say that the election of M. Pompidou would probably move France toward a more neutral French line but he probably would fear abandoning the de Gaulle embargo for an indefinite period. It was indicated that M. Pompidou would probably make his "goodwill" views manifest in the Big Four talks. The prospects for a more favorable policy toward Israel were considered much better if M. Poher attained power. He is regarded as a typical representative of France's usually humanistic and enlightened middle class and himself a warm friend of Israel. There is a general belief that Gen. de Gaulle's successor must align himself more closely with the pro-Israel sentiments of the French public at large which have been at great variance with the anti-Israel views of the resigned President.

An Important Question--What Will Be The Future Of The Mirages?

One of the outstanding questions will be the status of the 50 Mirage V jets ordered by Israel and paid for and which had been embargoed by the President. As a result of this embargo declared on June 5, 1967, the day the war began, the now-produced Mirages are warehoused in France, and Israel turned to the U.S. which decided after long hesitation to sell her 50 Phantom jets. The second embargo was levied following last December's Israeli commando raid on Beirut airport which angered Gen. de

Gaulle because of France's traditional close ties to Lebanon and because helicopters sold to Israel by French firms were used in the assault that destroyed some 13 commercial craft, part of which were owned by Air France, the French national airline.

The French position at the Big Four talks, which are scheduled to resume tomorrow, may undergo changes but certainly not until the new Government takes over. Meanwhile no substantive changes in the discussions are expected at this time, sources said. Even a wholesale alteration in the French position, which has basically paralleled the line taken by the Soviet Union, might not necessarily affect the future of the talks, an observer said, since progress really rests upon United States-Soviet agreement, and talks between Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin are continuing apace in Washington. The U.S. has rejected an offered French solution to the Mideast solution. The French delegation to the Big Four meetings, headed by UN Ambassador Armand Bernard, would probably adopt a more neutral attitude if M. Pompidou becomes President, cabled Mr. Eytan, and "this would be in keeping with his desire to still further improve relations with Washington." But he probably would not release the Mirages.

Meanwhile Gen. de Gaulle's departure has reportedly already struck a heavy blow to Arab interests. The Arab lobby especially in the strong oil industry has not hidden its disappointment. The same tone is voiced by the Lebanese whose cause the former President fully espoused following the Beirut raid.

The low point in Franco-Israel relations began after President de Gaulle declared Israel the aggressor in the Six-Day War. He alienated the Jewish people throughout the world in his famous press conference of Nov. 27, 1967 when he called the Jews a people that was "elite, self-assured and domineering." He subsequently attempted to water that statement down in a letter to former Premier David Ben-Gurion when he wrote that his remarks were not "pejorative" and that there was "nothing unkind in stressing qualities thanks to which this strong people was able to survive and remain itself after 19 centuries spent in unimaginable conditions..."

Official Jewish bodies in Paris are refraining from any comment until elections are held for President de Gaulle's successor. But many individual leaders were unable to conceal their satisfaction with developments. Many French Army officers, particularly those who served in French forces during the 1956 Suez campaign and in the Algerian fighting, privately expressed their satisfaction. Israeli circles were taken by surprise by the President's precipitous downfall.

Thousands Of Israeli Students Demonstrate In Support Of Self-Imolated Latvian

JERUSALEM, April 28 (JTA) -- Thousands of students demonstrated on campuses in Israel's three largest cities today in support of a Russian-Jewish mathematics student who reportedly set himself afire in Riga recently because he was refused permission to emigrate to Israel. The eyewitness reports, which were unconfirmed by any other sources, said that 21-year-old Ilya Ripp was beaten by Soviet marines and hauled off to jail after his attempted self-immolation. He was reportedly in the custody of the Soviet secret police. His condition is not known.

Over a thousand students on the Hebrew University campus here were addressed by University President Avraham Harman who wished Mr. Ripp a speedy recovery and condemned the Soviet treatment of its Jewish citizens. The Ministry of Education and Culture ordered public schools throughout the country to devote an hour a day to the plight of Russian Jews.

Hundreds of students at Tel Aviv University protested against the Soviet ban on emigration and declared their solidarity with Mr. Ritt. They urged the Israel Government to raise its voice on behalf of Russian Jews. At the Haifa University, hundreds of students listened to Prof. Eri Jabotinsky who said that young Ritt had become aware of his Jewishness only 18 months ago and thereafter devoted his life and was willing to sacrifice it for the freedom of his fellow Jews. Prof. Jabotinsky did not say where he got his information.

(British students massed outside the Soviet Embassy in London last night in a demonstration in support of Mr. Ritt organized by the Universities Committee for Soviet Jewry. They held a vigil and a hunger strike to demand Mr. Ripp's release and permission for him to go to Israel.)

Egyptian UN Envoy Blames Israel For Firing On Truce Observers Posts At Suez

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 28 (JTA) -- Egypt today blamed Israel for firing on United Nations observation posts along the Suez Canal and called the Security Council's "urgent attention" to what it termed "the grave situation prevailing in the Suez Canal sector which has recently attained a high degree of danger." The charge against Israel, contained in a letter to the Security Council president from Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Awad el-Kony, contradicted the chief UN truce observer, Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, of Norway, who has blamed Egypt for starting most of the gun battles across the waterway.

Mr. El-Kony reiterated Cairo's contention that only implementation of the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution could lead to peace in the Middle East. As Egypt interprets the resolution, it calls for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory before any of its other clauses become operative.

Israeli Civilian Killed, 3 Seriously Injured When Bus Hits Explosives In Galilee

TEL AVIV, April 28 (JTA) -- An Israeli civilian was killed today and three others were seriously injured when a bus was hit by explosives while traveling on a road from Samakh, on the southeast corner of the Sea of Galilee, to El Hamma in the southern Golan Heights. A number of other passengers were reported slightly injured. One Israeli soldier was wounded by a sniper in the Suez Canal zone today and another suffered wounds in a clash with Syrian forces using recoilless guns in the Golan Heights.

Fighting was reported along the Suez Canal and across the Israel-Jordan border near the Dead Sea yesterday. A saboteur was killed while trying to cross the Jordan River into Israeli territory in the same area. An Israeli soldier was wounded in a small arms duel along the southern section of the Jordan River. Jordanian forces fired several mortar shells and small arms at an Israeli patrol near Ashdod Yaacov in the Beisan Valley this morning. Israeli forces returned the fire. There were no Israeli casualties, a military spokesman said.

Three Israeli soldiers were injured when an Army vehicle struck a mine northeast of Qantara on the Suez Canal today. Another Israeli soldier was wounded during artillery and small arms exchanges along the waterway yesterday. A military spokesman said the Egyptians started the attacks north of Qantara and later opened fire near the south end of the canal as well. The Egyptians used anti-tank missiles in addition to artillery.

A Jordanian spokesman claimed that 20 Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded in artillery battles across the Jordan yesterday. He also claimed the destruction of two tanks, five trucks and a military tractor.

An Israeli official said today that the Egyptian Army has been placed on a war footing and that Israeli forces along the Suez Canal were prepared for any contingency. One observer said that if the Egyptians attempted to cross the canal in force they would do so through the salt marshes near Qantara, about 25 miles south of Port Said, where the Israelis would be unable to use tanks. The observer said the Egyptians might depend on their superior numbers to gain a salient on the canal's east bank.

Red Cross Arranges Jordanian Return Of Body Of Israeli Pilot Shot Down During Raid

TEL AVIV, April 28 (JTA) -- The body of an Israeli pilot shot down over Jordan last week was returned to Israel by Jordanian authorities today under the auspices of the International Red Cross. The coffin bearing the remains of Capt. Naftali Porat, of Kfar Giladi, was received by an Israeli military guard. Chief Chaplain Shlomo Goren officiated at the Allenby Bridge where the transfer took place. Capt. Porat was killed when his Mirage jet was hit by ground fire during a raid on saboteur positions and Egyptian radar bases in Jordan.

NPD Leader Von Thadden Outlines Campaign Plans; Statute Abolition Opposition Mounts

BONN, April 28 (JTA) -- Adolf Von Thadden, chairman of the ultra right-wing National Democratic Party (NPD), told a party planning session in Nuremberg that 15 to 20 West German Army officers will run for election to the Bundestag (lower house) on the NPD ticket in next September's national elections. He said the party planned to spend \$2.5 million on election campaigning and would print 15 million copies of election pamphlets for national distribution. Mr. Von Thadden said he planned to address over 100 campaign meetings, starting next Aug. 28.

The Cabinet's decision to propose legislation to abolish the statute of limitations on war crimes prosecutions ran into trouble in the Bundestag today. Wolfgang Mischnick, vice chairman of the liberal Free Democratic Party, and its parliamentary leader, declared that his party will oppose abolition and try to bring the statute into effect on Dec. 31 as scheduled. Allied with the Free Democrats are the Christian Social Union, the Bavarian wing of Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger's Christian Democratic Union, and some members of the CDU. The Chancellor hopes to work within his party for support for the Government's decision. Observers here said it seemed doubtful that he could rally the necessary backing.

Columnists Claim Israel Holds Egyptian Pilot And Stifles Freedom For Egyptian Jews

WASHINGTON, April 28 (JTA) -- Two American journalists reported from Cairo today that Israel's refusal to return a captured Egyptian pilot has brought to an impasse delicate international negotiations for the release of the last 200 stateless Jews remaining in Egyptian jails. According to Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, whose column appears in the Washington Post and other newspapers, Egypt was well along toward the final release of the Jews until an Egyptian fighter pilot was captured in the Sinai Desert after parachuting from his stricken MIG-21 last February or March. The pilot turned out to be the son of a high ranking Egyptian intelligence officer. The Egyptians want him back badly but the Israelis believe they can extract information from the pilot and are holding on to him, Evans and Novak said.

"As a result of this impasse, the stateless Jews, who with their families total some 800, are stuck at Bawaag (a barracks in the Nile delta) and negotiations involving at least five nations have come to a stop." Foremost among the nations involved are Spain, whose Cairo Embassy represents United States interests in Egypt. It was thought that U.S. intercession would prevail upon Israel to exchange the pilot for the Jewish prisoners, the columnists said. They said that Spain offered to admit nearly 50 of the stateless Jews. France agreed to take 40, Italy 16 and Austria one. "Thirteen others were permitted to write 'somewhere' as their destination which is a euphemism for Israel, and 26 decided they wanted to stay in Egypt. It now appears that they will all stay in Egypt until Israel releases the pilot," Evans and Novak wrote.

State Department officials denied the report that the U.S. Government interceded with Israel to seek the exchange of the captured pilot for the detained Jews. The officials said the report was inaccurate, distorted, and perhaps undermined the status of hapless Jews in Egypt.

Dr. Sabin Elected President Of Weizmann Institute, Succeeding Meyer Weisgal

REHOVOTH, April 28 (JTA) -- The Weizmann Institute of Science has elected Dr. Albert B. Sabin, a research professor at Cincinnati University who developed the oral vaccine against polio, as its next president. Dr. Sabin accepted the post when he was informed of his election via overseas telephone. He will succeed Meyer Weisgal who is approaching the retirement age of 75. Dr. Sabin is expected to take office toward the end of this year. Dr. Sabin 62, was born in Bialystok, Russia, and came to the United States as a child in 1921. He received his medical degree from New York University in 1931.

In another development, the Weizmann Institute conferred an honorary fellowship yesterday on Dr. Abraham L. Sachar, chancellor and former president of Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass. The ceremonies, held at a special meeting of the Institute's board of governors, were addressed by Dr. Sachar, United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour; Dewey Stone, chairman of the board of governors, and Mr. Weisgal. The board approved the appointment of Prof. Gerhard Schmidt, head of the chemistry department, as the new director of the Institute. The Institute was named after the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann, a scientist and leader of the World Zionist movement who served as Israel's first President. It is considered to be one of the world's largest scientific institutions and has done considerable nuclear research.

Head Of Orthodox Education Unit Attacks Supreme Court's Pornography Decision

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- An Orthodox rabbi has attacked the recent United States Supreme Court decision that the possession or exhibition of pornographic material in the privacy of one's home is not illegal. The decision has been hailed by many who otherwise oppose the free circulation of pornographic books and films. According to Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht, executive vice president of the National Committee for the Furthurance of Jewish Education, an organization headquartered in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, the high court's ruling opens the way to "a flood of pornography that will make Noah's flood look like an overflowing brook and will soon engulf the United States."

Rabbi Hecht believes that "by telling everyone that pornography in the home is permissible, the Supreme Court is not only sanctioning dirty movies and lewd books, it is actually promoting them. The home of the future will consider pornography as commonplace and necessary as a color TV or dishwasher," he said. He urged "action for decency" by school authorities, the clergy and lawmakers.

ADL Urges Rockefeller To Veto Bill Prohibiting Bussing Of Students Across Districts

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has urged Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller to veto a bill that would prohibit the bussing of students across public school district lines. David A. Schulte, chairman of the ADL's national urban affairs committee, said in a letter to the Governor that the bill would prevent action "to end existing inequality of educational opportunity arising out of existing de facto segregation." He said it would also "prevent many school boards from arranging for the bussing of children to correct racial imbalance in the public schools." It "may well violate the Federal Constitution" if it is used to defeat efforts to desegregate schools, Mr. Schulte said.

'Yippie' Leader Jerry Rubin Was Bitterly Disillusioned With Israel, 'Post' Reports

WASHINGTON, April 28 (JTA) -- The leader of the Yippie movement, Jerry Rubin, of Cincinnati, now 31 and a radical agitator on high school and college campuses across the nation, was bitterly disillusioned with Israel where he went with his younger brother after both their parents died several years ago.

Rubin, who is under Federal indictment for inciting to riot during the Democratic National Convention in Chicago last summer, was the subject of a lengthy profile in the Washington Post yesterday. It traced his transformation from a graduate of Cincinnati's honors high school, Walnut Hill--"the ambition of all Jewish mothers"--to an implacable foe of the Establishment, user of marijuana, LSD and a spell-binder of the young.

Jerry Rubin had this to say of the year and a half he spent as a student in Israel: "All of the American values had been transplanted to Israel, all of the capitalism and competitiveness. All of the Jews from Europe and America had the exploitive positions and all the Jews from Oriental and Arabic countries got the worst housing and jobs."

Col. Henry Tavel, Retired Chaplain, Dies In Houston; Saw 19 Years Of Active Duty

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- Col. Henry Tavel, a retired Jewish chaplain in the U.S. Army who was decorated for his service during World War II, died at his home in Houston, Tex. at the age of 63, the National Jewish Welfare Board said today. Chaplain Tavel saw 19 years of active duty with the Army. He served in the North African and Sicilian campaigns in 1943 and later with U.S. forces in Germany and the Far East. He was the recipient of the Bronze Star and a commendation ribbon with medal pendant.

Dr. Lev Zelmanowitz, Former WJC Official In Britain, Dies At 62

BONN, April 28 (JTA) -- Burial services will be held in Israel for Dr. Lev Zelmanowitz, a former Zionist leader in Czechoslovakia and former secretary-general of the British section of the World Jewish Congress, who died in Cologne at the age of 62. Dr. Zelmanowitz was born in Cracow and lived in Prague until the Nazi occupation when he came to England as a refugee. He was associated with the World Jewish Congress from 1947 to 1951 when he joined a law firm acting on behalf of Jewish claimants for German reparations. His work required him to live in West Germany.

6 American Lubavitcher Students Will Leave For Australia For 2 Years Of Study

NEW YORK, April 28 (JTA) -- Six American rabbinical students of the Lubavitcher Hasidic sect will leave for Australia this week for two years of study at the Rabbinical College in Melbourne. The college was established two years ago by Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, the Lubavitcher Rebbe.