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New French Government Seen Lending Itself To Re-Opened 'Dialogue' Sought By Israel

PARIS, June 23 (JTA) -- The composition of the new French Government, announced by President Georges Pompidou yesterday, indicates that Israel will not have too much trouble re-opening its desired "dialogue" with France in an effort to steer French Middle East policy away from the pro-Arab stance adopted by former President Charles de Gaulle. This is the consensus of observers here who say that President Pompidou's Cabinet appointments demonstrate that he has successfully resisted pressure from orthodox Gaullists.

The new French Foreign Minister, Maurice Shumann, a European-minded internationalist, and Leo Hamon, Secretary of State in the Premier's office, are known to be friendly toward Israel. Such hard-line Gaullists as former Premier Maurice Couve de Murville, former Education Minister Edgar Faure and former Defense Minister Pierre Messmer were not included in the new Government. All had approved Gen. de Gaulle's Mideast policies. Former Foreign Minister Michel Debre, regarded as less than friendly toward Israel, was removed from that post, reportedly against his will, and installed as Defense Minister, succeeding M. Messmer.

Observers here said that M. Schumann is not expected to be a "strong" Foreign Minister and that President Pompidou himself will make France's foreign policy. But his appointment of Mr. Schumann indicated that it will be far more liberal and flexible than the policies of former President de Gaulle, observers said.

New Premier Sends Kollek Greetings (Written As Bordeaux Mayor)

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- France's new Premier, Jacques Chaban-Delmas, writing as the former mayor of Bordeaux, has sent a letter of greeting to Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem. The letter, written before his appointment to the Premiership, was handed yesterday to Mr. Kollek by Emile Leon, deputy mayor of Bordeaux, who is here to attend a conference of rabbis and synagogue leaders devoted to tourism. The message expressed best wishes for prosperity and happiness to the mayor and citizens of Jerusalem.

Israelis Strike In Jordan Again, Hit Artillery Katyusha Rocket-Launching Sites

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA) -- Israeli commandos struck at military positions inside Jordan today in their second punitive raid behind Arab lines in 24 hours. The targets were artillery positions and Katyusha rocket-launching sites in northern Jordan which had been the sources of continued attacks on Israeli settlements and military patrols in the Beisan Valley. Before dawn Sunday, Israeli commandos smashed an Egyptian naval radar station on the Gulf of Suez, six miles south of Port Suez, a military spokesman said. Israeli jets carried out raids on Jordanian artillery positions opposite the Beisan Valley yesterday.

A spokesman said Egyptian commandos attempted another attack on Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal today but were repulsed, leaving three of their numbers dead. He said there was evidence that the Egyptians suffered additional casualties before they retreated. One Israeli soldier was slightly wounded. Egyptian artillery shelled Israeli positions across the canal during most of the night. Their fire was concentrated along the southern section of the waterway.

A military spokesman said two Arab saboteurs were killed last night in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Golan Heights. Two Soviet-made rifles, an anti-vehicle mine and other sabotage equipment was found on the bodies.

Today's raid on Jordan was centered in the vicinity of Abassiyeh village, an Arab guerrilla base about one mile behind the cease-fire demarcation line. The Israeli commandos damaged the Ghor Canal, Jordan's main irrigation channel, after penetrating between heavily guarded Jordanian positions. A spokesman described the action as "clean." He said there was no shooting and that the explosive charges planted were detonated only after the last Israeli re-crossed the Yarmuk River to safety. The Jordanian Radio claimed today that one civilian was killed, 16 persons were injured in the attacks.

The Egyptian Radio claimed that Egyptian commandos staged two raids across the Suez Canal today and killed 18 Israeli soldiers in one of them. It said the second raiding party found Israeli fortifications near El Ballah evacuated and blew up bunkers and fuel supplies. Israeli reports mentioned only one raid on a position south of Qantara. The Israelis said the Egyptians crossed the canal under cover of an artillery barrage but succeeded only in reaching the outer perimeter of the Israeli position before they were repulsed.

Troops Turn Back Israelis Who Want To Establish Settlement In Nablus

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA) -- Israeli authorities blocked an attempt by several groups of Jewish youths to settle in the West Bank town of Nablus today. The would-be settlers arrived in several trucks loaded with household utensils and announced that they intended to establish a Jewish settlement on nearby Mount Gerizim. Military police, acting on orders of the military governor of the re-

gion, turned back the trucks at one checkpoint and turned them away a second time when they attempted to enter Nablus by another route. Israelis are not permitted to remain longer than 48 hours in the occupied territories without special permission. The attempt to establish a Jewish foothold in Nablus, the largest West Bank town, was attributed to the Greater Israel movement. Its adherents insist that Israel annex all the territories occupied in the June, 1967 war. A leader of the movement, Knesset member Shmuel Tamir, was angered by the blocking of Nablus to Israeli settlers and said he would introduce an urgent question in the Knesset over the incident.

In another West Bank development, Premier Golda Meir yesterday suspended a controversial order requisitioning 300 acres of Arab-owned land north of Hebron. Mrs. Meir acted after receiving telegrams from Sheikh Mohammed Ali Jaabari, mayor of Hebron, and other Arab dignitaries urging her to rescind the order. She said she would review the question.

The requisition order was issued last Monday on grounds that the land was needed for security purposes, apparently to protect the nearby Etzion bloc of settlements. The region has been the scene of frequent guerrilla raids and acts of sabotage in recent months. Local Arabs feared that Israel was planning to expand the Etzion settlements or build a new para-military (Nahal) settlement on the land. Government sources said an Army base would be constructed but not a new settlement. Forty-five Arab families were given until today to evacuate the land which is owned mainly by Arabs in a nearby village. The owners were to be compensated, a military government spokesman said.

Second World Economic Conference Set For Wednesday, Some 100 Will Attend From U.S.

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- A second world economic conference for Israel will open here Wednesday, just 14 months after the first one was opened in June, 1968 by the late Premier Levi Eshkol. The gathering will be attended by 250-300 businessmen, financiers and economists from Europe, Asia, North and South America and a like number of Israelis. The largest contingent, over 100 persons, is expected from the United States. About 80 delegates will come from continental Europe and 25 from Great Britain. The conference will run through Sunday, June 29.

The economic conference, designed to spur foreign investment in Israel and cooperative business ventures between Israeli and foreign firms, will be sponsored by Premier Golda Meir. According to Dr. Yaacov Herzog, director general of the Prime Minister's office, this year's conference will be devoted to a summation of the progress made since June, 1968 when 10 committees were set up to follow through on the various decisions and programs adopted. Each committee deals with a specific branch of Israeli economics such as electronics, science-based industry, textiles, clothing and food. Various new investment and savings projects are expected to emerge from the gathering. The Cabinet approved several bills yesterday which will give broad tax reductions to investors and to certain productive industries.

Kol Promises Future Tourist Itineraries Will Put More Emphasis On Religion

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- Minister of Tourism Moshe Kol promised today that standard tourist itineraries in the future will put greater emphasis on religious aspects of life in Israel. Mr. Kol spoke at a meeting of rabbis, synagogue elders and religious lay leaders held at Hechal Shlomo, the religious center in Jerusalem. The meeting, attended by Israel's two chief rabbis and those of Great Britain, France and South Africa, was officially described as a gathering to promote tourism.

Mr. Kol spoke in reply to allegations that many tourists complained that their tours gave no evidence that there was any religious life in Israel. He said that if rabbis from abroad wanted to demonstrate their solidarity with religious institutions in Israel, they should visit with their congregations on Sukkot or some other festival to lead a procession to the Western Wall.

19-Year-Old Arab Girl Gets Life Sentence For Planting Bomb At Hebrew University

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA) -- A 19-year-old Arab girl from Nablus received a life sentence yesterday for planting a bomb that exploded in the Hebrew University cafeteria last March. Miriam Shachshir pleaded guilty to the charge but appealed for clemency on grounds that she thought the bomb would only "make a big noise" and would not injure anyone. Twenty-nine persons were injured in the blast. The military tribunal at Lydda rejected her appeal. The court said Miss Shachshir was an educated, highly intelligent girl and was fully aware of her crime, which was premeditated.

27 Arabs Still Held By Police Following Explosions Near Western Wall

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- The 27 Arabs still held by police here after Friday night's terrorist explosions on a road to the Western Wall here were remanded yesterday in custody for 10 days by the Jerusalem magistrates court. Police said it was too early to say if the men who planted the three explosive charges are among the detainees. The investigation was continuing.

Leader Of Israel's Moscow-Oriented Communists Tells Of Conversation With Brezhnev

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA) -- The leader of Israel's Moscow-oriented Communist Party said today that he was assured by Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid I. Brezhnev that Israel could have a political solution of the Middle East conflict and renewed diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union if it would abandon its present "stiff position" and "eliminate the causes" of the present tensions.

Meir Wilner spoke at a press conference on his return from Moscow where he attended the recent summit conference of world Communist Party leaders. He said his conversation with Mr. Brezhnev took place after Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko returned from his Cairo consultations with Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser. Mr. Wilner said the Soviet leader made it clear

that Russia wants a political settlement in the Middle East but that Israel would have to support a "realistic" peace agreement. In that event, Israel would emerge "profiting from all aspects," Mr. Brezhnev said, according to Mr. Wilner. The Israeli Communist said he met Arab Communists in Moscow and found a "mutual understanding" with them. Israel's other Communist faction boycotted the Moscow conference on grounds that it could not represent world Communist leadership as long as Soviet forces remained in Czechoslovakia.

Police Clash With Neturei Karta On Autopsy Issue, Arrest Leader Amram Blau

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- Some 400 members of the ultra-Orthodox Neturei Karta sect protesting autopsies clashed here with police yesterday. Twenty protesters were arrested, including veteran Neturei Karta leader Amram Blau. The demonstrators gathered at dusk at Sabbath Square, holding up traffic and shouting anti-Zionist and anti-autopsy slogans. A police detachment asked them to disperse, but they regrouped after an hour and threw stones at policemen. The police brought up a baton charge against the demonstrators, arresting the leaders and dispersing the rest with a high-pressure water hose. Observers believe the issue is being reopened as the election draws near and the Neturei Karta wants to influence the moderate Orthodox on the autopsy issue. The clash was the most violent of its kind since the 1967 war.

Eban Plans Visit Next Month To East Africa, Will Confer With Selassie, Kenyatta

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban will visit three East African nations next month at the invitation of their leaders, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday. He will meet with Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, President Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya and President Milton Obote of Uganda.

Foreign Ministry officials said the visits would emphasize Israel's close links with East Africa. They said that over the past 10 years, Israel had twice fought to protect its right of free passage to the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, demonstrating the importance Israel attaches to its communications and relations with the nations of East Africa. They said Mr. Eban would confer with the foreign ministers of Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda on African and Middle East subjects.

Goldmann Denies Published Rumors That He Plans To Enter Faction In Knesset Elections

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, has emphatically denied published rumors that he was planning to set up a "new left" political faction in Israel to enter a list in the forthcoming Knesset elections. Dr. Goldmann's denial was contained in a cable from him received here.

The rumors arose after a talk he had had with Uri Avneri, the one-man Knesset faction known as "Ha olam Hazeh." Mr. Avneri, a magazine publisher, supports unpopular causes, among them the Big Four Mideast talks in New York which the Israel Government bitterly opposes. As a result of a rumored association with Mr. Avneri, Dr. Goldmann was said to be on the "black list" of many Israelis. He declared in his cable, "I have no intention whatsoever of intervening or taking part in Israeli politics and have given no one any promise of support."

Warhaftig Tells Rabbinical Council Relations Are Good With Christians, Moslems

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 23 (JTA) -- Israel's Minister of Religious Affairs said here today that relations between the Government and the Christian religious community in Israel were "excellent" and relations with Moslem leaders "appear to be improving." Dr. Zerach Warhaftig addressed the opening session of the 33rd annual convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, the Orthodox rabbinical association.

He said, "Many Christian leaders have come to me to say that never have Christian shrines felt so secure as under the Israeli regime, and some have even gone so far as to tell me that they never had it so good for centuries."

Dr. Warhaftig said that religious, cultural and educational institutions of all faiths in Israel receive the same Government support as Jewish institutions. Places of worship are tax exempt and while Israel taxes the income from non-religious church-owned property, it compensates churches for import duties paid on building materials and other items brought in from abroad.

As an example, Dr. Warhaftig said his Ministry refunded hundreds of thousands of pounds to the Roman Catholic Church for tariffs paid on materials to build the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, the largest Catholic Church in the Middle East.

Dr. Warhaftig said, "As far as Moslems in the administered areas are concerned, we have good relations with them in the Gaza Strip, and their religious authorities are paid by my Ministry. On the West Bank the Moslem authorities took their salaries from us soon after the Six-Day War but because of political considerations, they have stopped doing so."

Dr. Warhaftig criticized the recent demonstrations by Hasidic Jews at the Israel Consulate General in New York protesting the performance of autopsies in Israel. He said the question of autopsies is a matter of concern not only in Israel but all over the world. But, he said, "If American Jews would like to be an influence in the matter, let them come to Israel to settle there and then, in a democratic manner, fight to have the problem solved."

Rabbi Kirshblum Says ZOA Parley Will Reject Amendment Leading To Torczyner Re-Election

NEW YORK, June 23 (JTA) -- A contender for the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) says he "feels confident" that the organization's 72nd national convention will reject a proposed constitutional amendment that would qualify Jacques Torczyner to seek fifth and sixth consecutive terms as president.

Rabbi I. Usher Kirshblum of Kew Gardens Hills, N.Y., a ZOA national vice president, decried in a statement a vote taken by ZOA's national executive committee, during the recent Pan American Zionist conference in Miami Beach, to amend the constitution.

The Long Island rabbi, whose candidacy is being backed by a number of ZOA members, claims that "not even a legal quorum participated in the vote" of the executive committee. He said that a quorum consists of 50 members, that the recommendation for an amendment was carried by 29-11, and that "it is quite obvious that at least 10 members abstained from voting." Asked to comment, Mr. Torczyner said that the ZOA's constitution does not provide for a national executive committee quorum. The committee has some 200 members, he said, and there is never more than 60-80 at any meeting.

Rabbi Kirshblum contends that before the Miami Beach session, he had asked Mr. Torczyner to call a special national executive committee meeting "in the East in order to afford a maximum number of members the opportunity to attend. That request was denied. Apparently the president was interested in having a small, rather than a large attendance." Mr. Torczyner denies that assertion. He says he was never approached by Rabbi Kirshblum. Moreover, he says, even if the meeting had been held elsewhere, the committee would have approved the constitutional change, because his reelection is supported by an "overwhelming majority" of the committee.

The committee's vote, alleged Rabbi Kirshblum, was designed "to suit the personal ambitions of our president." Replied Mr. Torczyner: "I have no ambitions. I do not want to stay on as president, but I have been urged by about 125 committee members to do so because of the critical times in which we live."

The constitution presently reads that a president who has served for four consecutive terms shall not be eligible to succeed himself further without the lapse of at least one full term. A term is one year. The committee voted in Miami Beach to recommend that the August convention change the basic law so that while the four term restriction still exists, "the incumbent president shall be eligible to succeed himself for not more than two further consecutive one-year terms." Another candidate who will be vying for the president at the Los Angeles convention is Rabbi Joseph Shubow of Boston.

Orthodox Group Participates In Michigan Sunday Job Rights Case Won By Christian

DETROIT, June 23 (JTA) -- Federal guidelines protecting the job rights of Sabbath observers have been upheld by a Federal court in Michigan in their first application to a local case in a suit in which an Orthodox lay organization participated in a "friend of the court" brief.

Lawrence Halpern, chairman of the Detroit chapter of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs, told the Jewish News of Detroit that the decision of Federal District Court Judge Noel P. Fox of Grand Rapids had "far-reaching implications for religious Jewish Sabbath observers who are employed in Michigan and throughout the United States." COLPA has been instrumental in obtaining promulgation of the Federal Equal Employment Commission rules protecting such job status.

The case involved Robert Dewey, a member of the Reformed Church, who was required by a union contract at Reynolds Metal Co. and by company policy to work on Sunday. He refused to do so because it was against his religious principles. The worker refused to obtain a Sunday replacement for himself on grounds that what was forbidden to him was forbidden to others.

Judge Fox wrote that a rule "which forces a person to choose between his religion and compensation benefits is penalizing him solely because of his religion." He wrote also that Mr. Dewey had been forced to choose between his religion and his job and that such a choice "limits (the plaintiff's) free exercise of his religion and is thereby discriminatory in its effect." The jurist cited the Federal guidelines as "a very reasonable interpretation" of Federal law on such discrimination and said they "are hereby adopted as defining the requirement of the statute that an employer not discriminate on the basis of religion." He ordered the company to reinstate Mr. Dewey with back pay.

Agudath Seeks To Get Law On Organ Donations To Conform With Jewish Law

NEW YORK, June 23 (JTA) -- The ultra-Orthodox Agudath Israel of America is trying to get laws governing the donation of human organs for transplants to conform with Jewish religious law. The group announced that it has sent memoranda to key national and state government officials urging that the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act which has been presented to 36 State legislatures be amended with respect to the determination of the time of death of the donor.

The Agudath Israel asserted that "there are doctors who, in their eagerness to perform a transplant operation, are willing to declare the donor as dead when the brain waves cease although the patient is still breathing." This practice, the Orthodox petitioners said, is contrary to Jewish religious law which places the time of death at the moment breathing stops. This formula has been "the accepted practice in most civilized countries," they said. The Act has been approved by legislatures of California, Kansas, Louisiana and Maryland, but was rejected by the New York Assembly.