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'New York Is Yours!' Says Mayor Lindsay In Welcome To Golda Meir

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Golda Meir returned to New York today to receive unparalleled welcome from this city's Jewish community and the official welcome of the City of New York. Before cheering thousands jammed into City Hall Park and hundreds of notables, Mayor John V. Lindsay presented the key to the city to the guest from Israel and gave her the Gold Medal of the City, its highest award.

In making the presentation, Mayor Lindsay declared that "Israel has conquered the desert and defeated it, but today, a single woman has conquered the heart of New York. New York is yours," he told Mrs. Meir. "Sholem Aleichem!"

Mrs. Meir's three-day visit to New York began with a tremendous welcome at Kennedy International Airport when she arrived in President Nixon's plane. Thousands, many of them children, sang, "Haveinu Sholem Aleichem," as she alighted from the plane to be greeted by Mayor Lindsay as "a gallant woman and a gallant leader." He hailed her as the representative of the Israeli people -- "the men, women, and children of brave, beleaguered Israel."

Mrs. Meir replied with a tribute to New York as "a haven of refuge" for the Jews from "the tears, fears, humiliation, degradation and death that was the share of Jews in Eastern Europe." She was near tears when the crowd broke into "Hatikvah" as five young girls each presented flowers to her. She embraced each one.

Intense Security Precautions Observed Throughout Visit

Intense security precautions were in evidence at the airport and later, at City Hall and the other functions on Mrs. Meir's crowded schedule. A heavy police escort accompanied the motorcade that sped her from the airport to City Hall. At the United Nations, where Mrs. Meir was the luncheon guest of Secretary-General U Thant, security precautions were so strict that the correspondents accompanying Mrs. Meir's party were not admitted to the UN Headquarters Building. Crowd control measures were in force around the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel where this afternoon Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban tendered a reception in Mrs. Meir's honor for members of missions to the United Nations and where, tonight, Mrs. Meir was guest of honor at a banquet tendered by 55 national Jewish organizations.

The major welcoming ceremony was held at City Hall. There before the cheering thousands, city and state notables and leaders of Jewish organizations, Mrs. Meir received the tribute of an admiring city and voiced her thanks. The Premier announced that she brought greetings to New York from "united Jerusalem." To Mayor Lindsay, she presented a medallion commemorating the reunification and liberation of Jerusalem.

Mrs. Meir recalled her early associations with New York after her father, a carpenter, had earned enough money to bring his family here from Czarist Russia. "The first lesson of what democracy really means, I learned here," she said. She spoke feelingly of the great opportunities America had offered and stressed that she had left America for Palestine in 1921 neither because she did not like the country nor because of anti-Semitism. It was because she had accepted Zionism and wanted to bring to Palestine "all I learned in this wonderful country."

Reminiscing about her family's arrival here as refugees, Mrs. Meir noted proudly that since the establishment of the State of Israel 20 years ago, "for the first time, Jews need not beg anyone to let them in."

Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller called on Mrs. Meir in her suite at the Waldorf-Astoria this afternoon before the diplomatic reception.

American, Canadian Jewish Leaders Join In Tribute To Mrs. Meir

More than 2,700 Jewish leaders, including a Canadian delegation led by Samuel Bronfman, honorary president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, overflowed the Grand Ballroom and two adjoining foyers at the Waldorf-Astoria in American Jewry's formal tribute tonight to the Israeli leader. Edward Ginsberg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, and Samuel Rothberg, national campaign chairman of the Israel Bond Organization, served as co-chairmen of the function. Speakers included Abraham Feinberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization; Max M. Fisher, president of the United Israel Appeal, and Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Mrs. Meir made an extemporaneous reply.

Mr. Ginsberg, who presided over the first half of the program, declared that the purpose of the dinner was to "express our love and admiration for one of the greatest leaders of our people, and by doing so, also express our love and full support for the State and the people of Israel." He referred to

the extermination of six million Jews in World War II and said that "we are here to show in a sense how far Jews have come since those terrible days and how much we have learned, since -- learned that we can and must rely upon ourselves first -- that we can perform miracles -- and that we can go on performing them -- that there can and shall be a Jewish State -- dedicated to justice -- to freedom -- to human dignity and human opportunity."

Speakers Warn Of Continuing Threat To Israel's Existence

Mr. Rothberg told the assemblage that "Tonight the Jewish people stand at destiny's door. It has stood at destiny's door before. But today the key to its fate is in its own hands to a greater degree than ever before. It has never been closer to its goal of freedom and justice. Yet never has it been in greater danger of being deprived of its right to live."

Mr. Feinberg warned the audience that "we cannot disengage ourselves without the consequences of self-destruction. We dare not separate ourselves without placing the future of Israel in jeopardy. There can be no retreat for Israel without a retreat for us. There can be no defeat for Israel without a defeat for us. We do not intend to retreat and we shall not be defeated."

In his address, Mr. Fisher cited the Jewish tradition that "each Jew who can is obliged to help others." He said that "no one observes this tradition with more meaning and more sacrifice than the people of Israel themselves. No one can begin to measure what the Jews of Israel themselves have done to receive, to welcome, and to make a part of the country the 1.5 million refugees who have come in since the State was born."

Mrs. Meir was introduced by Mr. Rothberg who described her as "the soul of Israel, its courage, its faith, its hopes, its worries and its prayers," and said that "she stands before the world as the image of the Jew unafraid -- challenging the world to give our people the justice and the freedom they demand and they deserve."

Foreign Ministry Denies Mrs. Meir Asked Nixon For \$1 Billion In Aid

JERUSALEM, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry denied reports published here and abroad today that Premier Golda Meir has asked the United States for one billion dollars in economic aid to balance Israel's expected foreign trade deficit over the next five years. The reports appeared in the newspaper Yediot Achronot and were carried by the State-owned Kol Israel radio.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that reports concerning specific requests said to have been made by Mrs. Meir in her talks with President Richard M. Nixon in Washington last week were "pure speculation." The spokesman said that neither the Foreign Ministry nor the Prime Minister's office had any information about such requests, particularly the one billion dollars in aid.

Kol Israel quoted "well informed sources" in Jerusalem for its report. Yediot Achronot credited its economic correspondent in Jerusalem. According to the newspaper, President Nixon did not commit himself but promised a definite answer in the near future. The reports said that Mrs. Meir left it up to the President to decide how the aid would be rendered -- whether by long term loan, a grant or by very easy credit terms for the purchase of military hardware in the U.S. Israel's trade deficit stems from its heavy expenditure for arms abroad.

Eban Reports No Progress In Current Talks On French Release Of Mirage Jets

MONTREAL, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban of Israel told newsmen here yesterday that despite recent talks at the United Nations with France's Foreign Minister, Maurice Schumann, no progress had been revealed on delivery of Mirage jets to Israel.

He said that he indicated that Israel still holds the French Government morally and legally responsible for delivery of the 50 Mirages, embargoed by former President Charles de Gaulle. Talks on the jets will continue.

Mr. Eban was here to address a fund-raising dinner of the Combined Jewish Appeal. He said that he had discussed with Mr. Schumann issues of peace, arms and Israel's interest in securing a firm position in the European Economic Community. Overall, the talks with Mr. Schumann were aimed at restoring the previously amicable relations between France and Israel, Mr. Eban said.

Arabs Glory In Air Strike In Sinai Which Israelis Say Never Happened

TEL AVIV, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Arab capitals were making much today of an alleged Egyptian commando raid on Israeli positions deep in the Sinai Peninsula which Israel claims never took place. According to Cairo, Egyptian forces using helicopters for the first time, struck 50 miles into Israel-held territory Sunday, surprised Israeli troops and caused considerable casualties and damage. Cairo radio described the raid as a "turning point" in Arab strikes against Israel and claimed that the Sinai would become a trap for Israeli forces.

Newspapers and radio broadcasts in Damascus and Beirut hailed the Egyptian "victory." Israeli authorities said no raid took place. They said what apparently happened was that an Egyptian plane fired rockets at an abandoned railroad station near a paramilitary settlement about 50 miles east of the Suez Canal and probably dropped some incendiary bombs and ditched their extra fuel tanks. But there were no targets to be hit in the area, according to the Israelis. They said that if the Egyptian pilots reported otherwise they probably did so out of fear of disappointing their superiors. The attack represented the deepest penetration of the Sinai since the 1967 war.

Leader Of Defeated NPD Vows To Challenge West German Election In Court

BONN, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The leader of the ultra right-wing National Democratic Party (NPD) said today that he would go to court to challenge yesterday's national election in which West German voters virtually buried the reputedly neo-Nazi faction. The NPD polled 4.3 percent of the vote -- double its showing four years ago but short of the five percent minimum required to win seats in the Bundestag, West Germany's lower house.

Adolf von Thadden conceded defeat but contended that his party was shackled by police bans on some of his rallies, refusals of newspapers to publish his advertisements and cancellation of his hall rental contracts. Blaming "propaganda that made us into devils" he said, "I have firmly decided to challenge the election in the Constitutional Court."

The outcome of the election was close, with the Christian Democratic Union of Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger winning 46.1 percent of the vote and the rival Social Democrats headed by Foreign Minister Willy Brandt 42.7 percent. The CDU ran 1.4 percentage points behind its 1965 vote while the Social Democrats were ahead of their last voting record by 3.4 points. The liberal Free Democrats dropped sharply from 9.5 percent four years ago to 5.8 percent. Nevertheless their vote coupled with that of the Social Democrats is sufficient to form a new coalition Government.

The Free Democrats are being wooed strenuously by both major parties, an enviable position which Von Thadden expected to fall to the NPD when he predicted before the election that it would poll eight-12 percent of the vote.

Both Chancellor Kiesinger and Foreign Minister Brandt hailed the failure of von Thadden's party to win Bundestag seats. The outcome appeared to vindicate the Chancellor's strategy of not seeking a constitutional ban against the NPD. That course had been urged on him by many who feared that the NPD represented a resurgence of Nazism and that West Germany's image abroad would suffer badly if it entered parliament. The Chancellor contended however that the best way to fight the NPD was at the polls. His own party's campaign took a conservative turn nevertheless to offset the right-wingers' appeal for "law and order."

Von Thadden denied yesterday that his supporters were "right-wing radicals" much less neo-Nazis. His campaign, frankly aimed at discontented elements of the blue collar and lower middle classes, was a stormy one. Most of his rallies sparked bitter demonstrations by anti-Nazis and trade unionists and many ended in violence.

(The American Jewish Congress said in New York today that the failure of the NPD to win seats was "a reassuring demonstration of the common sense and political grasp of this generation of West Germans." However, AJCongress executive director Will Maslow warned against "complacency" over the election results. "The NPD cannot be expected to disappear or give up its fight to revive the spirit of Nazism," he said. The New York Times interpreted the election outcome as a vote for "continuity." It remarked editorially that Chancellor Kiesinger's apparent shift to the right succeeded in keeping von Thadden's "motley collection of old and new Nazis" out of parliament.)

Yugoslavia Federation Urges International Organizations' Aid For Persecuted Iraqis

LONDON, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia has appealed to international bodies to act immediately to preserve the basic human rights of Iraqi Jews and other Iraqis persecuted by the Baghdad regime. The resolution was the second of its kind adopted by the Belgrade group since the first executions of Jews and others in Iraq as alleged spies last January. It protested the most recent executions in which no Jews were involved but urged that Iraqi Jews be given the right to leave that country if they so desire.

The president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Alderman Michael Fidler, will go to Belgrade Oct. 6 to attend celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Federation of Jewish communities there. Mr. Fidler was invited by Dr. Lavoslav Kadelburg, Federation chairman.

600 Jews Of Riga Attend Memorial Services For Nazi World War II Victims

LONDON, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Some 600 Jews of Riga attended memorial services for Jews killed by the Nazis during World War II, it was reported here today. The services were held at the Jewish cemetery the day after Rosh Hashanah. The gathering was addressed by Mrs. Irene Lipshitz who noted that many who participated in the mass murder of Jews are still at large. A memorial to the 5,000 Jews killed in the Latvian town of Rzekne soon after the Nazi occupation was unveiled.

'Sovietish Heimland' Reports On 1st Prize Given To Kaunas Dramatic Group

LONDON, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- A Jewish dramatic group in Kaunas (Kovno), capital of Soviet Lithuania, won first prize in its class in a nation-wide competition conducted by drama critics, it was reported last week in Sovietish Heimland, a Yiddish magazine of Soviet Jewry. The publication carried information about the dramatic group which consists of amateurs and professionals, but it omitted the fact that the group has no playhouse.

The same issue contained the memoirs of the late Peretz Markish, a Soviet Jewish poet killed during the Stalin purges of the 1950s. But the article failed to say how he died. Also mentioned was the Hebrew writer Joshua Chone Rawmitzki, who was a friend of Israel's poet laureate Chaim Nachman Bialik, and the Polish Jewish poet, Julian Tuwim. The articles noted that Mr. Rawminski died of old age in Tel Aviv and Mr. Tuwim died in Poland in 1953.

Cleveland Federation And Foundation Underwrite Program To Combat Business Bias

CLEVELAND, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The Cleveland Jewish Community Federation and the Cleveland Foundation are underwriting a \$60,000 three-year program designed to help major industrial companies in the Cleveland area recruit, retain and promote qualified Jews in managerial positions, according to Robert Hexter, chairman of the Committee on Executive Suite Discrimination of the Cleveland chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

The project has two goals: to eliminate discriminatory practices that still exist in the hiring and promoting patterns of major industries in the Cleveland area, and to encourage young Jews to apply for executive positions.

"This is a program that can benefit everyone," stated Mr. Hexter. "Companies are yearning for good talent, and talented young Jews want good jobs. But the Jewish executive has been bypassed by discriminatory policies that exist among middle-level executives despite top management's desire to pursue an open-door policy. It is also a fact that young Jews have felt excluded from major companies because of the Anglo-Saxon image these companies have built up over the years."

The new program will be administered jointly by the Cleveland chapter of the AJCommittee and the Cleveland Jewish Vocational Service, a recruiting and employment advisory agency and an affiliate of the national Jewish Occupational Council. A grant of \$12,000, has been received for the program from the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. The Cleveland Foundation, through the Anisfield Wolf Fund, has made a grant of \$39,400 toward a total budget of \$60,000.

The \$12,000 grant from the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland marks the first time that a local coordinating group for Jewish philanthropy has made a major financial contribution to an action project having to do with executive suite discrimination. It is to be applied to the first 18 months of the project's operation, with an option for an additional grant for the second half of the program. The project is a direct result of a research study conducted under the auspices of the AJCommittee by the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research and underwritten by the same federation and foundations that are now supporting the followup action program.

The report of this study, titled "The Chosen Few" and released in May 1968, indicated a wide gap between nondiscriminatory personnel policies as expressed by top management of major companies and actual personnel practices as executed by middle-level executives.

Mrs. Jacobson Calls Coming Year Important In The History Of American Zionism

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Declaring that the next year will be among the momentous in the annals of American Zionism, Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency-American Section, said yesterday that the new unified American Zionist Federation will give a "new impetus to Zionism in this country."

Mrs. Jacobson, former Hadassah president, spoke before 600 persons attending the installation ceremonies of Raymond M. Patt as national president of B'nai Zion, the fraternal Zionist organization.

"The creation within the next 12 months of the national Zionist federation as the voice of U.S. Zionism will present American Zionism with a unified organization that will make it possible to better present the historic message of Zionism to the American public, Jewish and non-Jewish. "At a time when Israel needs the full support of the total U.S. Jewish community, this is a need which for some years has been unmet," she said.

Hadassah-Sponsored Occupational Therapy School Opens On Jerusalem's Mount Scopus

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- Israel's new school of occupational therapy has been dedicated in Jerusalem, it was announced by Mrs. Max Schenk, president of Hadassah, which is sponsoring the school. The school is housed in the Edith and James Ross building on Mount Scopus. It will train therapists to work with paraplegics and victims of shock, stroke, heart disease and other disabling illnesses. The Mount Scopus complex, which Hadassah is rebuilding after 19 years of Jordanian occupation, includes a 260-bed general hospital and the Daniel and Florence Guggenheim rehabilitation center.

American ORT Federation Announces Opening Of 8 New Schools In Israel

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The American ORT Federation announced that eight new vocational and technical high schools were opened by ORT in Israel on Sept 1 when the current school year began. According to William Haber, president of the Federation, the new schools, plus the expansion of existing facilities, will eventually train 35,000 enrollees.

Dr. Haber said in a report to Charles J. Bensley, chairman of the organizations's national executive committee, that two of the new schools are located in Arab areas of East Jerusalem. The others are in Bat Yam, a Tel Aviv suburb, and at Lydda, Hof Hasharon, Benyamina, Jerusalem and the Negev town of Yeruham.

Golden Jubilee Of Keren-Hayesod Will Be Marked With Israel State Medal

NEW YORK, Sept. 29 (JTA) -- The golden jubilee of the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, the fund-raising arm of the Zionist movement, will be commemorated by a special Israel State medal, according to a report in "The Shekel," official publication of the American Israel Numismatic Association.