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Rogers: Now Is Most Opportune Moment For Peace; Confers With Mrs. Meir, Eban

TEL AVIV, May 6 (JTA)--Declaring that "the search for peace will be the central theme" of his talks with Israeli leaders, Secretary of State William P. Rogers arrived here today on the last leg of a week-long Mideast tour that has taken him to four Arab capitals. In a prepared statement which he read from a podium at Lydda Airport with Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban standing at his side, Rogers declared that now was the most opportune moment for peace in the region. "My talks in the Arab capitals have only reaffirmed my conviction that there has never been and may not be for a long time to come a better opportunity than exists today to move towards a just and lasting peace," he asserted. Rogers added that the move toward peace would be "in pursuance of the Security Council's resolution that...in all of its parts remains the cornerstone of American policy as set forth in my speech of Dec. 9, 1969, and in President Nixon's policy speech of this year." Rogers also told the newsmen and dignitaries who greeted him at the airport that safeguarding Israel's security was one of the foundations of American Middle East policy. Rogers said that the "core" of his talks with Premier Golda Meir and other Israeli leaders would be a review of "all possibilities of renewing progress toward an overall settlement" and "to explore and exchange specific and concrete ideas on the question of the interim Suez agreement."

Rogers stated that if Israel and Egypt could reach such an agreement "it would not only contribute to the climate of the continuation of the cease-fire...but will also facilitate the talks conducted under the auspices of Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring." He observed that while there are risks in agreeing to peace, "there are greater risks in failing to do so." Israel, he said, "has experienced and met the challenge of war. I am confident Israel would equally meet the challenge of making peace." Rogers said he expected his talks in Israel, on this, the first visit here by a Secretary of State in 18 years, "to be frank and friendly as they always are between us." He said the message from President Nixon he would convey to Mrs. Meir was that "if we work together for peace, history will judge us well." Rogers left immediately for Jerusalem, where he conferred for half an hour with former Premier David Ben-Gurion in the King David Hotel. Also present were Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco and Dr. Yaacov Herzog, Director General of the Israeli Premier's office. The meeting was conducted under strict secrecy. Rogers sought the meeting at the last minute today to discuss with Ben-Gurion the Israeli's recent article in the Saturday Review expressing territorial views similar to Rogers'. Ben-Gurion is also known to favor total Israeli evacuation from the Sinai Peninsula.

Rogers and Sisco, their wives and their party of 40 attended a memorial ceremony for the victims of the Nazis at the Yad Vashem, the building dedicated to martyrs and heroes in Jerusalem. Rogers laid a wreath in the memorial tent. The chairman of the Yad Vashem, Knesset member Gideon Hausner, conducted the Americans on a tour of the permanent exhibit of Holocaust documents and relics. Rogers recalled that after World War II he was a member of a Senate committee that induced Germany to retry SS officer Ilse Koch, who was given life imprisonment. Rogers said he was greatly impressed by the Yad Vashem. "It is important," he said, "that we should continuously remind ourselves of these horrors so that they should never recur." This evening, Rogers met with Mrs. Meir and Eban. Tomorrow he addresses the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and again meets with Mrs. Meir in Tel Aviv. According to a press conference statement by Robert McCloskey, State Department press officer here, Rogers and Mrs. Meir had "a good animated exchange of views" and also had agreed not to provide any details of their talks to the press. The press officer also said that Rogers had summarized to Mrs. Meir the impressions he gained in his lightning tour earlier in the week of Arab capitals. McCloskey said Rogers had not brought any new proposals for his meetings with Israeli leaders.

'Rogers Go Home,' 'Rogers Is Chamberlain' Marks Rallies Against Rogers Plan

JERUSALEM, May 6 (JTA)--A series of demonstrations against the Rogers Plan for Israeli border rectifications occurred here and Haifa this morning and last night before U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers landed at Lydda Airport. In Tel Aviv, several hundred demonstrators, mainly students from various area campuses, assembled near the American Embassy where they carried placards reading, "Rogers Go Home," and "Rogers Is Chamberlain." More demonstrations in Tel Aviv were expected later today by students from Bar Ilan University whose demands center on "No Retreat," and counter-demonstrations by New Left groups. Police in Tel Aviv recruited all available manpower to prevent clashes. A student leader of the demonstration near the American Embassy said that Americans who fought for their own independence should understand that the independence of other nations is equally important.

Referring to Rogers' recent statement that geography was less important than a peace settlement, other demonstrators said Rogers could afford to be "light-minded" about this because Jordan and the Suez Canal are not American borders. "If geography is so unimportant, why doesn't Rogers tell that to (Egypt's President Anwar) Sadat?" Several thousand persons attended a street rally here last night addressed by Gahal leader Menachem Begin. Declaring that an Israeli pull-back to its pre-June 1967 borders as envisioned by Rogers would place the country's heartland under the guns of its enemies, Begin denounced American promises or guarantees. He referred to British guarantees to assist France which "proved hollow" when the Germans occupied the Rhineland in 1936 and the guarantees to Czechoslovakia after Munich in 1938. Students demonstrated in front of the U.S. Consulate in Haifa this morning. They presented officials with a document criticizing the Rogers Plan which they asked to be conveyed to the Secretary of State.

Jewish Scholar In Russia Cables Thanks For Hebrew Union College Citation

LOS ANGELES, May 6 (JTA)--Prof. Mikhail I. Zand of Moscow has acknowledged news that he has been cited by the California School of the Hebrew Union College for his scholarly achievements in Jewish studies and for upholding the rights of fellow Jews in the Soviet Union. A cable from Moscow expressing "my most cordial thanks for the great honor done to me" was received from him by Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, acting president of the college. Zand, 44, has been in trouble with the Soviet authorities because of his stand on the rights of Jews in Russia, and he was recently ousted from his post as a staff member of the Institute for Eastern Studies. His removal followed denunciation by fellow Russian educators as a "traitor" and 15 days in prison on a charge of hooliganism for leading a peaceful demonstration of 40 people in the office of the State Prosecutor in Moscow. The Jewish scholar recently requested permission for his family to emigrate to Israel, and Dr. Gottschalk said he hoped that the request would soon be granted. If so, the citation, the first of its kind ever issued by the college, would be presented to Zand at the college's Biblical and Archaeological School in Jerusalem.

Seven Italians Who Helped Jews During Nazi Era Honored

ROME, May 6 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Amiel E. Najar, representing the Yad Vashem, presented certificates and medals here yesterday to seven Italians who helped Jews during the Nazi era. The ceremony took place in the Capitol. The recipients included Dr. Giuseppe Brusasca, a Senator who escaped after being sentenced to death for organizing a network of volunteers to save Jews; Fr. Don Dante Sala, who headed a group that transported 105 Jews to Switzerland; Eduardo Focherini, who died in a concentration camp and whose awards were accepted by his son; Arturo Demolo, a noted lawyer; Demolo's wife, Adele, and their late daughter, Adele Maria Radice. The ceremony was hosted by Deputy Lord Mayor Alberto Di Segni. The citations were read by Sen. Piero Caleffi, president of the Italo-Israeli Association.

Jewish Group Refuses To Endorse U.S. Withdrawal From Vietnam Or Condemn JDL Tactics

GROSSINGER, N.Y., May 6 (JTA)--The National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, ending its 42nd annual convention here today, refused to condemn the harassment tactics of the Jewish Defense League or to endorse the withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam "at the earliest possible time consistent with their safety." The Federation did approve resolutions condemning Soviet anti-Semitism, public support of private schools and "formal prayer in any form or guise" in American public schools, and measures favoring freedom of emigration for Soviet Jews, continued American military aid to Israel and aid to the disadvantaged of all religions.

Three Ex-Nazis, Charged With Organizing Massacre Of Jews At Babi Yar, Go On Trial

BONN, May 6 (JTA)--Three former-Nazi police officials, charged with having organized the massacre of 33,771 Jews at Babi Yar in the Ukraine went on trial today in Regensburg. The defendants are Major Engelbert Kreuzer, 57; Major Martin Besser, 79; and Sgt. Fritz Forberg, 65, all of the 45th Police Battalion. Rene Rosenbauer, 82, regiment commander, was declared physically unfit to stand trial. The three were charged with having organized the executions in 1941 and with personally having killed some of them. The trial is expected to last three months.

Mrs. Meir: Israel Will Accept No Dictates From Those Who Sought To Destroy It

TEL AVIV, May 6 (JTA)--"We are not numerous, but we are independent, and if it's necessary to say no we shall say so to our enemies and even to our friends," Premier Golda Meir declared yesterday at a public meeting in Petach Tikva commemorating the 50th anniversary of the township. Mrs. Meir, who will soon mark her 50th anniversary in the Holy Land, said of Israel: "This people will accept no dictate from those who wished to destroy us and did not succeed. The world does not realize that the source of our strength is our people, the independent free people." A nation is free, she asserted, "not when it announces its freedom but when it decides and knows in its innermost heart that it is free." Mrs. Meir emphasized to her listeners, who included Hagana veterans, that "We are not a people striving for war but a peace-loving people," a situation that she said was "so simple as not to be understood by the world." Israel, she said, "can no longer be frightened," for "what have we not experienced?" Thus, she said, "We shall stand fast also in hard disputes with our friends."

Women's Campaign For United Communal Fund Launched

JOHANNESBURG, May 6 (JTA)--A women's campaign for South African Jewry's United Communal Fund has been launched following a 10-day tour by Mrs. Zena Harman, a member of Israel's Knesset and wife of Hebrew University President Avraham Harman. Mrs. Harman, who visited the major South African cities to help launch this campaign, stressed the interdependence of Israel and diaspora communities. She expressed gratification that her visit here represented Israeli assistance to an important diaspora community which had always stood solidly with and contributed generously to Israel. What was at stake, Mrs. Harman stated, was the strengthening of Jewish life and Jewish values wherever Jews resided.

Eight Israeli Soldiers Wounded By Mine On Road To El Arish

TEL AVIV, May 6 (JTA)--Eight Israeli soldiers were injured today when a bus in which they were traveling hit a mine on the main road to El Arish in northern Sinai. This incident, less than a mile from the town, came after several weeks of quiet in the area.

15,000 Students From Developing Countries Completed Studies Over Past 15 Years

JERUSALEM, May 6 (JTA)--With the graduation of 21 students from the Hebrew University's fourth international course in groundwater research, exactly 15,000 students from developing countries have completed studies in Israel over the past 15 years. That figure was given at a farewell banquet for the 21 new graduates by Azriel Harel, Assistant Director of the Foreign Ministry's Division for International Cooperation.

Catholic Calls On Christian Leaders To Uproot Anti-Semitic Attitudes

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA)--A leading Roman Catholic writer and editor said today "The battle against Christian anti-Semitism, conscious and unconscious, is not yet won" and called upon Christian leaders to take action to uproot the anti-Semitic attitudes that still pervade the world. Mrs. Clair Huchet Bishop of France, spoke at a symposium of 60 Christian and Jewish theologians and scholars convened by the American Jewish Committee to mark the publication by Holt, Rinehart and Winston of the English translation of "Jesus and Israel" by the late Professor Jules Isaac, which was originally published in 1948 in French. The book is credited with having influenced Pope John XXIII and Vatican Council II to reject the charge of collective Jewish guilt for the crucifixion. Mrs. Bishop declared that 2,000 years of Christian anti-Semitic teachings were not going to be eliminated overnight and stated that Christian acts today continue to reflect the result of this conditioning. To illustrate her point she asked, "Where were the Christians during the Six-Day War? Has not Oberammergau played to capacity audiences, mostly American, in 1950, 1960 and 1970? Why was there in 1970 a World Conference of Christians for Palestine where only Arabs were heard and not Jews?" Mrs. Bishop, whom Dr. Isaac had called his "spiritual heir," is the editor of the English translation of "Jesus and Israel." She had spent 20 years seeking to find a publisher for the English translation of the book that many hold to be responsible for the revision of textbooks used in Catholic and Protestant church schools to eliminate the teachings of contempt, indifference and hostility of Christians toward the Jew.

Other speakers at the symposium included the Rev. Edward W. Flannery, executive secretary of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations, National Conference of Catholic Bishops; and the Rev. Dr. Jaroslav Pelikan, Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Yale Divinity School. Father Flannery, author of the prize-winning study, "The Anguish of the Jews," said that many anti-Semitic teachings throughout the centuries had been evoked as underpinning for theological doctrine. This "conflict of dogma and history" is not altogether a thing of the past, he said. Dr. Pelikan, author of the multi-volume study on "The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine," called "Jesus and Israel" "unique among the biblical studies of its time" in that it took seriously "the immediate context of the life and teachings of Jesus." He added, "From the Sermon on the Mount to the crucifixion, nothing that Jesus said and did is intelligible apart from that Jewish context." Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national director of Interreligious Affairs of the AJCommittee, examined the impact of "Jesus and Israel" on the growing international movement of Jewish-Christian understanding. Rabbi Tanenbaum also served as chairman of the symposium. At the press conference and general discussion which preceded the symposium, Father Flannery declared that the problem of anti-Semitism was more important than the problems of the Negro and disinheritance or the schism between rich and poor. Anti-Semitism has existed for 2,300 years. It will survive anti-Negroism, he said.

U.S. Intelligence Reports Confirm Continued Russian Defense Build-Up In Egypt

LONDON, May 6 (JTA)--American intelligence reports which confirm the continued build-up of sophisticated Russian defenses in Egypt are causing the Nixon administration increasing concern regarding the Kremlin's long-term intentions in the Middle East, it was reported here today. American sources report the deployment of SAM-6 missile batteries at the Aswan Dam and at airfields used mainly, if not exclusively, by the Russian Air Force may be justified as being purely defensive but they also strongly suggest that the Russians are digging in for a long stay. Also confirmed were earlier reports that Soviet MIG-21's had been crated aboard 22 Soviet cargo planes for assembly in Egypt. Three MIG-23 "flogger," the best Soviet fighter plane, have been definitely spotted in Egypt.

Two Non-Jews Honored For Having Protected 1,200 Jews During World War II

BUENOS AIRES, May 6 (JTA)--Two non-Jews who protected 1,200 Jews employed in their factory in Czechoslovakia during World War II were honored here by the Latin American Jewish Congress. Mrs. Emilia Pelse Schindler and her late husband, Oscar, helped save the 1,200 from concentration camps. At the ceremony Dr. Katriel Katz, chairman of the Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, stated that "he who is righteous with one son of Israel must be considered righteous with all Israel." The other speakers were Bela Andahazy Kasnya, a former Hungarian government minister who aided the 1,200 Jews with false passports, and Dr. Isaac Goldenberg, chairman of the Latin American Jewish Congress. Unfortunately, the Argentine postal strike prevented the arrival from Israel of the citations to the Schindlers.

Women's American ORT Delegation Sees Networks In Latin America

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA)--Mrs. Monroe M. Rosenthal, of Forest Hills, N.Y., national president of Women's American ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training), is heading a three-member delegation on a mission to Latin America. Accompanying her are Mrs. Seymour Phillips, board member of the Southern California Valley Region and Mrs. Robert Ostreicher, member of the national executive committee. The group left New York this week to visit the new ORT vocational school recently opened in Caracas/Venezuela--the first in this country--as well as ORT vocational installations in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. The delegation will return to the United States May 17. Mrs. Rosenthal said that "this will be our first visit to a new ORT country, Venezuela, and we are most anxious to see the impact that our program has made there. We will participate in the dedication of new ORT schools in Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo and we plan to inspect the progress made at ORT schools in Buenos Aires and in some of the provincial cities of Argentina." She stated that the ORT program in Latin America is "an expanding network and one that will become increasingly more important as time goes on."

Confirm Reports Soviets To Close Commission They Set Up To Expedite Emigration

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA)--A Jewish source confirmed today published reports that the Soviet government had set up a special police commission in March to speed up applications for emigration by Jews. The commission reportedly will now be closed down next Monday.

JTA NEWS ANALYSIS

JEWISH-BLACK TENSIONS MOUNT IN BROOKLYN COLLEGE

By DAVID GOLDSTEIN, JTA Staff Reporter

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA)--The strains of a current hit parade Israeli record, "E'shanah Habaah" (Next Year), being played on the jukebox in the Student Union Building at Brooklyn College, filled the air. White and black, Jewish and non-Jewish students milled around between classes. The record finished playing and someone started it again. This continued several times and at the end of the record's seventh consecutive play, according to eyewitnesses, several black students walked over to the jukebox, broke the cage, removed the record and broke it. Fists began to fly, but college security guards swiftly moved in and the fighting subsided. That was last Friday. On Tuesday, several hundred Jewish and black students were involved in a melee that began in the S.U. building and spilled out onto the campus grounds and streets outside the college. Some Jewish students said that the record-breaking episode "tore it for us." An on-the-spot survey yesterday by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency showed Friday's episode might have been the immediate cause of the melee but not its real cause. The fighting on Tuesday only disclosed the rancor, tensions, hostilities, misunderstandings and suspicions that have long existed between black and Jewish students at the college. In interviews with Jewish students, Hillel Foundation officials and college administration spokesmen all expressed anxiety that the situation would continue to fester and deteriorate unless long-felt fears were put to rest. No black student leaders were available for interviews.

Rabbi Norman E. Frimmer, director of the Hillel Foundation chapter at the college and national coordinator for Hillel, affairs in the New York area and his associate, Rabbi Frank A. Fischer, expressed pessimism over the situation. "It's building up steam, not cooling down, because both blacks and Jews feel put upon and neither are willing to compromise," they said. Whatever the reasons given - and they differed among those interviewed - all agreed that the breaking of the record was only the "trigger" which released the pent up hostilities. Brooklyn College has one of the largest concentrations of Jewish students in any of the public colleges in the city. Of a total student body of some 28,000 in the day and evening sessions, some 18,000 are Jewish. Of these 18,000, some 5,000 are Orthodox Jews. For some Jewish students, the black-Jewish tensions have been caused by the continuing robbery of Jewish students by black students in the S.U. building. Robert De Santis, college director of public relations and assistant to college president John W. Kneller, and Rabbi Frimmer, both agreed with this and said that the muggers were prosecuted when caught. Both denied, however, that the muggings were directed specifically against Jewish students. They said that since the majority of the students were Jewish, the greatest number of muggings, by the law of averages, would be suffered by Jews.

Trouble Has Been Brewing For Some Time; Reasons Are Multiple And Complex

The Jewish Defense League, which has a chartered on-campus group, has long accused Kneller of "anti-Jewish bias and insensitivity to the needs of Jewish students." A JDL member on campus said the tensions were caused by the "beatings and harassment" of Jews by blacks during the past two years. The JDL also claims that protests to the college administration have been ignored. De Santis, who said he was unaware that Jewish students had been protesting "beatings and harassment," stated that he would look into the matter and report his findings to the JTA. But, he observed, the real causes of the existing tensions began when open enrollment was first proposed and supported by Kneller. The Jewish community, especially the Orthodox Jewish community, feared that open enrollment would result in the lowering of standards at the college and the "forcing out" of Jews to make room for black and Puerto Rican students. Neither has happened, De Santis observed. Rabbi Frimmer, who said he was aware of the black-white division at the S.U. canteen where, according to reports, Jewish and black students each have their own "territory," noted that it was "natural" for different groups to congregate separately. He acknowledged that he had received reports from Jewish students of "muggings, beatings and harassment, but blacks were beaten and mugged too." He said he knew of no blacks who "organized" to beat and harass Jews as Jews.

Rabbis Fischer and Frimmer expressed the belief that black-Jewish tensions on the campus began with the Ocean-Hill teachers' union confrontation and the subsequent teachers' strikes of 1968, and aggravated by the open enrollment controversy and the social and economic conditions in which blacks and Jews view each other as the "obstacle" to social aspirations. Several Jewish students, however, also recalled several incidents at the college that exacerbated tensions. A speech late last Oct. by a self-styled black educator, James Garrett, stirred up controversy when the director of the Center For Black Education in Washington, D.C., said among other things that, "It is the Jew in particular who has kept the black man under chains." In Oct., also, one of two succahs erected at the college was toppled over by unknown persons, a swastika daubed on it and vandals stole paintings and other artifacts used as decorations. The melee on Tuesday was triggered when Rabbi Meir Kahane, national chairman of the JDL, after speaking on the campus about the plight of Soviet Jewry, marched with some 40 of his followers to the S.U. building and began to sing and dance in the "black section" of the canteen. JDL members told the JTA: "When by 'hook or crook' we got a Hebrew record into the jukebox and played it seven times, the blacks broke the record. They didn't like the song on the record, so we decided to give it to them live."

Mass Rallies In South Africa To Celebrate Israel's 23rd Anniversary

JOHANNESBURG, May 6 (JTA)--Israel's 23rd anniversary was celebrated here and in other large South African cities at mass rallies organized by the South African Zionist Federation. At the Wanderers Stadium here, former Chief Rabbi Dr. Louis Rabinowitz, now a city councillor in Jerusalem, stressed Israel's determination to achieve a full and effective peace settlement based on direct negotiations. Civic greetings were given by the Mayor of Johannesburg and local officials. Special services at all the main synagogues, attended by large congregations, were conducted prior to the anniversary celebrations.