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SPECIAL TO JTA

Jewish Agency: Document with its imprint Fraudulent; Designed To Create Anti-Semitism

NEW YORK, June 15 (JTA)--A counterfeit document bearing the imprint of the Jewish Agency's Organization and Information Department in Jerusalem is being circulated in the United States through the mails from Rockville, Maryland and in Europe from Paris. A copy of the four-page leaflet was received by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Washington bureau. The JTA alerted the Jewish Agency in New York to its existence. The obvious intent of the document is to create anti-Semitism by raising the charge of dual loyalty against Jews. It states, in a "manifesto" to Jews, "Now every Jew in diaspora must have the courage of declaring openly the double loyalty. Every Jew has one homeland only--Land of Israel. Every Jew's duty is to defend and consolidate the position of Israel by all accessible means without regard to interests of the country he lives in." The Jewish Agency, American Section, branded the document a forgery and said it has been turned over to U.S. authorities for investigation of misuse of the mails. The document bears the return address, P.O.B. 92, Jerusalem, Israel, the address of the Jewish Agency in Israel. A spokesman for the Agency in New York said "no such piece of literature was ever issued by its (the Jewish Agency's) information department in Jerusalem. It is entirely fraudulent and designed for propaganda purposes against Israel and Jews generally. It voices sentiments never held by the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization or the Israel government."

The document is crudely written and contains misspellings and grammatical errors. The text begins: "Jews! The forth (sic) anniversary of the victorious Six-Day War falls on the period of new endeavors of the Israel's enemies aiming at deceitful depriving us of the regained lands of our forefathers. The Anti-Semites and the Arabs joining their forces together, backed by the Communist block (sic), attempt to set up the public opinion of the world against the Jews! Several European countries for getting oil concessions are backing the partitioning plans of robbing Israel of her lands!... Those nations are owing (sic) a great debt to Jews and Britain in particular because her crimes on the Jewish nation can only be compared with those committed by the Germans!... The Six-Day War has proved once more to the world that the united Jewish nation is determined to sacrifice everything including the atomic holocaust of the world in defense its State in the historical boundaries" (sic). "The very existence of Israel in the present frontiers cannot satisfy us! She must always expand and consolidate her boundaries up to the moment when all the lands of our forefathers will be regained." The Jewish Agency spokesman said efforts are underway to track down the origin of the document and its author or authors.

Trial Of Roiza Palatnik Postponed Until June 23; No Reason Given

NEW YORK, June 15 (JTA)--Jewish sources here reported today that the trial of Roiza Palatnik which had been expected to open tomorrow in Odessa has been postponed until June 23. No reason was given for the postponement. Miss Palatnik, 35, a librarian, was arrested last Dec. 1 and has been held incommunicado since then. She is charged under Article 187 of the Ukrainian Criminal Code with slandering the Soviet Union. According to the sources, Soviet authorities have "invited" her sister, Katya, and a cousin, unidentified, to testify for the prosecution. The sources also reported that the widow and son of the well known Soviet Jewish writer Peretz Markish have appealed to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet to overrule the Moscow visa office which rejected their application for a visa to go to Israel. A letter signed by David Markish, a film producer, and his mother, Esther, was sent to the Supreme Soviet on May 18, the day after they were informed by phone that their request for a visa was turned down. The letter demanded "an immediate reexamination" of the visa office's decision and the issuance of visas so that they can re-unite "with the remnants of our family in Israel." According to the sources the mother and son are still waiting for a reply. David Markish lost his job in the meantime and he and his mother are reportedly in serious financial straits. Peretz Markish was executed on Aug. 12, 1952, a victim of the Stalin purge. He was rehabilitated posthumously after Stalin's death and several of his books were republished. His widow has been receiving a pension from the Soviet government.

Rogers Says Interim Israel-Egypt Pact Still A Possibility

WASHINGTON, June 15 (JTA)--Secretary of State William P. Rogers said today that an interim pact providing for the reopening of the Suez Canal was "still a possibility." Despite obstacles, he told a press conference, "we hope that based on the common factors, something can be worked out this year," perhaps before the General Assembly opens next Sept. 21. Rogers said the United States welcomes "anyone's assistance," including that of the Soviet Union, and in fact would "expect the Soviets to participate at the right time."

Thant Deplores Attack On Israel-Bound Tanker; Rogers Condemns Incident

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 15 (JTA)--Secretary General U. Thant today deplored last Friday's attack on the Israeli-bound Liberian tanker Coral Sea in the Straits of Bab el-Mandab at the southern end of the Red Sea. In a statement released this morning he warned that such incidents "could all too easily become a serious threat to peaceful communications between nations" unless the international community condemns them at the outset. Thant also noted that "Such acts against civilian shipping are inadmissible." Thant issued his statement after the attack on the Coral Sea was brought to his attention by Israel's UN Ambassador Yosef Telkhai who met with the Secretary General yesterday. (In Washington, Secretary of State William P. Rogers said today the U.S. does not have all the facts relating to the incident but nevertheless considers it a "serious matter that deserves the condemnation of all responsible nations," adding the U.S. "very much deplores the attack.")

Leader Of Neo-Fascist Movement Identifies With Israel's Anti-Soviet Struggle

ROME, June 15 (JTA)--Giorgio Almirante, whose neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement scored the Italian right wing's largest electoral victory since World War II in yesterday's local elections, declared yesterday that he and his party were in complete solidarity with Israel's struggle against Soviet expansionism. "We are in the same camp," said the 55-year-old former aid to Mussolini, stressing his party's anti-Communist stand and Israel's achievements. The presence of the Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean, a number of vital interests to Italy, gives encouragement to the Arab countries and impeded peace, Almirante added to newsmen. The rightist leader said of the ISM's attitude toward Jews that Mussolini had promulgated the 1938 racial laws under pressure from Hitler. He himself, Almirante said, had participated in Jew-baiting as a young journalist, but only because he had believed what he had been told about Jews by anti-Semites.

Mussolini's anti-Jewish program was a great blunder, Almirante concluded, adding that he regretted his own part in it. The ISM chieftain said that Italian Jewry's repeated rejection of neo-Fascism since the war would not change his party's attitude towards Jews or towards other nations. Neither, he said, would Arab rejection of the Soviets, because the basic issue was Israel's right to existence, which he said he firmly supports. Almirante contended that his party's political gains constituted "punishment" of Premier Emilio Colombo's Christian Democrats for their alleged tolerance of Communism. The Christian Democrats gained 27.2 percent of the votes in Rome, compared with 36.9 percent last year, while the ISM increased its vote percentage from 10.7 to 15.6. The results in other areas--a fifth of the country held elections yesterday--were similar. The ISM slogan is "With us, new order."

Captain Of Israel-Bound Tanker Gives Eyewitness Account Of Attack

TEL AVIV, June 15 (JTA)--The Greek Captain of the Liberian tanker Coral Sea provided an eyewitness account last night of the bazooka attack on his vessel last Friday as it was passing through the Straits of Bab el-Mandab at the southern end of the Red Sea bound for Eilat with a cargo of oil. Captain Markos Muskoss, 40, said he was able to observe clearly the four men on the attacking motorboat who fired nine bazooka shells, some of which hit his ship. He said one of the men was a Negro. Capt. Muskoss said the attack occurred near Perim island in the middle of the straits. He said he observed three high speed fishing boats cruising in the waters and then a motorboat which circled his ship once and opened fire. He said the motorboat made off after setting a fire aboard the Coral Sea. Capt. Muskoss said it took about an hour to extinguish the blaze and put his ship in order. According to the captain, the fishing boats appeared to be covering the motorboat's escape. The Coral Sea dropped anchor last night off Sharm el-Sheikh at the entrance to the Gulf of Aqaba.

4,000 Management, Service Personnel At 29 Hospitals Go On Strike

JERUSALEM, June 15 (JTA)--Israel was hit by the second serious strike in two days this morning when more than 4,000 management and service personnel at 29 government hospitals walked off their jobs in a demand for higher wages. The hospital workers rejected a plea from the Minister of Health that they return to work. All paper work has been suspended and no meals are being provided to medical and nursing staffs today. Beginning tomorrow, the strikers said they would stop preparing meals for patients. The hospital workers are demanding wage parity with the employees of hospitals run by Kupat Holim, the Histadrut's sick fund. The strike was effective in all but the Tel Hashomer Hospital which is mourning its director, Dr. Sheba, who died last week. The staff said the strike would start there as soon as the seven-day mourning period is over. Meanwhile, 6,000 electric power station workers continued their strike, begun Sunday, to force the government to rescind its veto of a new wage contract negotiated with the State-owned Israel Electric Corp. The government considers the contract inflationary. The power stations which are fully automated, have been functioning normally since the walk-out began.

Terrorist Acts Increasing; Four Israelis Wounded By Hand Grenade

TEL AVIV, June 15 (JTA)--Twenty-two acts of Arab terrorism were recorded last week--double the number of the previous week--according to Israeli authorities. Sixteen of last week's incidents took place in the Gaza Strip, causing the biggest casualty toll in recent months--three local Arabs killed and 92 injured. The last previous major incidents occurred during the week of Jan. 31-Feb. 6, when three local Arabs were killed and 68 were injured by a bomb explosion in a Gaza post office. Last week's 22 incidents, however, were far below the 281 incidents during the corresponding week last year--two months before the governmental cease-fire took effect. But today alone, two Arabs were killed and four Israelis were wounded in three separate clashes. The two Arabs were shot by an Israeli patrol when they tried to cross onto the Golan Heights from Lebanon. Four Israeli soldiers were injured by a hand grenade thrown into an Army bus south of Gaza, and an Israeli civilian and a border policeman were hospitalized after they stepped on a booby trap near Sassa settlement in the Upper Galilee.

Tekoah Says WHO Resolution Condemning Israel Had Only Soviet, Arab Support

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 15 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Yosef Tekoah, called on Secretary General Thant yesterday and afterwards commented on a resolution adopted May 18 by the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. Noting that only Arab, Soviet and Moslem states and their supporters voted in favor of the resolution charging violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and the barring of Red Cross aid to Arab residents there, Tekoah stated: "The majority of member states of the (WHO) organization dissociated themselves from this text. It was nevertheless recorded as having been formally adopted. This development illustrates again that the composition and voting rules of UN organs make it impossible for Israel to receive a fair hearing in them... (and) explains why in these conditions UN organs are unable to deal equitably with the Middle East conflict and to make an effective contribution to its settlement." Tekoah emphasized that the International Committee of the Red Cross had denied the charges against Israel and that it had sent a letter to that effect to the Director General of WHO on June 10.

Dayan: Prospects For Interim Accord Dim; Rules Out Military Alliance With U.S.

JERUSALEM, June 15 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan took a dim view last night of the prospects of reaching an interim accord with Egypt to reopen the Suez Canal. He said Israel was ready for such an accord which could be the first step in a stage-by-stage movement toward peace. However, Dayan declared, the gap between Israel and Egypt with respect to an interim settlement today is as great as the gap between the two on an overall peace settlement. Dayan addressed Hebrew University students at the Jerusalem Convention Center. He warned that the present tendency among the Arabs was to renew the war rather than terminate it. He said Israel was therefore, obliged to act to insure the continuance of the cease-fire, but he ruled out the possibility of a military alliance with the United States.

Dayan said the U.S. was not interested in such an alliance, even if Israel asked for it. On the other hand, he said, such an alliance would obligate Israel to accept the U.S. political position which would mean agreeing to the Rogers Plan. Dayan said the present situation was preferable to a military alliance. He said that despite Washington's desire to avoid a confrontation with the Russians, the U.S. has refused to make common cause with Moscow in the attempt to impose a settlement on Israel. Dayan added the word, "yet." He dissociated himself from talk about the possibility of a new preemptive strike by Israel to subdue Egypt. He said it would not be in Israel's interest to cross the Suez Canal, occupy Cairo and set up an Egyptian "puppet government" to make peace on Israel's terms. But he added that this did not mean that a situation couldn't arise which would oblige Israel to cross the Suez Canal and capture Cairo or even Damascus or Amman.

Demonstrators Removed From U.S. Mission Protest To Rogers, Bush

NEW YORK, June 15 (JTA)--The 15 demonstrators--including 12 rabbis--who were charged with criminal trespass yesterday after handcuffing themselves to the United States Mission to the United Nations protested today the treatment they were accorded during their "moderate and respectable action." In a telegram to Secretary of State William P. Rogers, Under Secretary John N. Irwin, Assistant Secretary for European Affairs Martin J. Hillenbrand and UN Ambassador George Bush, the demonstrators "deplored" their forcible removal from Mission premises yesterday as well as their ejection from the Mission June 9 after they stretched their half-hour appointment to four hours. Yesterday's demonstration involved "responsible clergymen and their legitimate petitions on behalf of Soviet Jewry" the participants claimed, adding that Mission business was not affected by their presence. A Mission official said yesterday that the blocking of the front entrance had required the use of side doors by entering and departing diplomats, and he deplored the demonstration as counterproductive.

The protesters, who were released on personal recognizance and are due in court June 22, asked Ambassador Bush for another appointment to press their demands for "meaningful" and "concrete" American action toward the release of Soviet Jewish prisoners and the cancellation of trials of Soviet Jews; the initiation of Yiddish and Hebrew broadcasts into Russia over the Voice of America, and Presidential support for the bill to provide 30,000 emergency U.S. visas for Soviet Jews. The demonstrators included Rabbis Irving Greenberg of Riverdale Jewish Center; Steven Riskin of Lincoln Square Synagogue; Abraham Weiss of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Monsey, N.Y.; Charles Sheer, Jewish chaplain at Columbia University; Zevulun Charlop of Young Israel of Moshulu Parkway, and David Haber of the Conservative Synagogue of Canarsie, and Glenn Richter, national coordinator of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Seven of the 15 teach at Yeshiva University.

Israeli Expert To Help Rehabilitate Farms In U.S. Southern Agricultural Areas

JERUSALEM, June 15 (JTA)--The U.S. Department of Agriculture asked for and is getting an Israeli expert to help rehabilitate ailing farms in agriculturally backward areas of the South, notably Georgia and Texas. The man invited for the job is Eytan Israeli, deputy director general of the Agriculture Ministry who until a few months ago was the Ministry's chief official on the West Bank. He left for the U.S. this morning. Deputy Agriculture Minister Yigal Drucker told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israeli was chosen because the problems he handled for West Bank farmers right after the Six-Day War were similar to those facing backward farmers in the southern states. He will be in the U.S. for a month and is expected to apply the lessons Israel learned from its contacts with Arab farmers on the West Bank to the needs of American farmers in the South.

S. African Government Suspends Transfer Of Funds To Israel

CAPE TOWN, June 15 (JTA)--The South African Zionist Federation expressed regret today over the government's decision to suspend all transfers of funds from South Africa to Israel. The government said the measure was a temporary one that would be reviewed when clarification was obtained on Israel's donation of \$2,800 in food and medical supplies to the Organization for African Unity. South African Jews have the world's highest per capita rate of support for Israel. Since the June, 1967 Six-Day War more than \$28 million has been remitted to Israel with the South African government's approval. The Jewish population of South Africa is about 120,000. The suspension of fund transfers reflected the anger aroused by the donation to the OAU which Israel said it made on humanitarian grounds in response to an appeal from the United Nations Secretary General for aid to victims of natural disaster. The South African government regards the OAU as a terrorist organization. The OAU, an umbrella organization that supports African "freedom fighter" movements opposed to colonialism and apartheid, has received aid and support from several Western governments. The Israeli donation was bitterly condemned by Premier Vorster and by the South African press. The Zionist Federation and the South African Jewish Board of Deputies issued a joint statement deploring it as a "blunder." The Zionist Federation's statement today expressed "confident hope, based on the government's sympathetic understanding of the humanitarian purposes for which the funds are used, that the suspension will soon be lifted."

Hebrew U. Professors Urge UN Rights Commission To Intercede On Behalf Of Zand

JERUSALEM, June 15 (JTA)--Twelve Hebrew University professors cabled the chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Commission today urging him to intervene with Soviet authorities to get a visa for Prof. Michael Zand. "Refusal to let him leave the USSR violates basic human rights and the principles of academic freedom," they wrote.

Fisher Calls For New Ideas, Approaches To Jewish Education

PHILADELPHIA, June 15 (JTA)--In a broad-searching overview of the future of the American Jewish community, Max M. Fisher, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (CJF), observing that the effect of today's social climate on youth has "brought home to every thinking American Jew how heavy are our casualties on the Jewish front," signaled the vital role that must be played by Jewish education in preserving Jewish continuity and survival. In a major address last night at the 71st commencement exercise at Gratz College where he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Fisher, while noting that Jewish education is now on the "top level of priorities" of Federations and Welfare Funds, nonetheless called for "fresh and revitalized approaches toward making the past more meaningful to Jewish youth" while reaffirming Judaism's viable heritage for tomorrow. Fisher prescribed "exciting ideas and promising programs as first steps toward enlarging and improving Jewish education in America," and as vital to securing the survival of American Jewry. He urged that "we must put a high value on Jewish survival, not only because of what we are--but because of what we can yet give."

At the urging of students and young people, Fisher noted, many communities are taking a fresh look at their overall education programs--responsive to their critique which called on communities "to strengthen what is good; replace that which is bad, to fill in gaps and to find and test new programs and methods." Concurrently, he added, "instead of leaving Jewish education as something isolated, the attempt is being made to relate it more to the quality of Jewish life. Instead of stressing only classroom education, we are addressing ourselves to all those Jewish influences which can shape the lives of our children and our people--formal and informal, here and in Israel." While much has and is being done, much more remains, Fisher told his audience. Of paramount importance, he cited the "vital need to enlarge and improve both the recruiting and the training of administrators and teachers in Jewish education. Everything we do will be only an exercise in futility, unless we have administrators and teachers of the highest quality and in sufficient number." Fisher observed that over the past 10 years "Federations and Welfare Funds have increased their allocations for Jewish education 75 percent--more than for any other field of Jewish service. Cities like Philadelphia and Chicago are already allocating \$1 million or more annually for education."

Reflecting on the present situation in America as it relates to American Jewry, particularly the youth, Fisher observed that what until recently was an "open society," now "has become something else--the turbulent society. Every day," he added, "we seem to count vast losses among our young people as they flee their heritage, or just drift away. They look for meaning in their lives and never guess that meaning is available--if only they knew their Judaism." In contrast to those segments of Jewish youth who have neglected their "Jewish birthright," Fisher reported that a significant development on many campuses across the country was the emergence of the student who has "suddenly recognized that his search for freedom and justice is the same search that has been at the center of the Jewish experience for four thousand years." The honorary degree, presented to Fisher by Gratz president Dr. Elazar Goelman, cited the CJF president's years of dedicated service to the overall community in general and to the Jewish community in particular as a communal lay leader, philanthropist and presidential advisor. Also honored was Dr. Solomon Grayzel, professor of Jewish history at Dropsie University, author of the classic study, "A History of the Jews" and past editor of the Jewish Publication Society of America.

Central Labor Council Tells Members Not To Buy Israel Bonds Until Strike Settled

NEW YORK, June 15 (JTA)--The New York Central Labor Council, representing 1.2 million workers in the city, has expressed support for Local 1797 of the Community and Social Agency Employees Union, AFL-CIO, which has been striking the Israel Bond Organization for 32 days. In a letter to its members, signed by Harry Van Arsdale, president; Morris Iushewitz, secretary, and William H. Bowe, treasurer, the Central Labor Council stated that "all efforts" by the union to settle the contract dispute have been "fruitless" because of management's insistence on a plan that "would effectively destroy the bargaining power of the union." Such a plan, the statement continued, "cannot be accepted" because the union "will not consent to its own destruction." The Labor Council urged its members not to buy Israel Bonds or participate in Bond Organization functions until the strike is settled. It also asked them to contribute to the strike fund of the 500 professional and clerical workers who walked out on May 15, and to express their support of the strikers to Leo Bernstein, executive vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization.

New Group, Americans For A Secure Israel, Formed; Chastises Rogers As 'Munich Man'

WASHINGTON, June 15 (JTA)--A State Department aide accepted a letter for Secretary of State William P. Rogers from a group of demonstrators today but refused to accept a "Chamberlain's umbrella." Twenty-five demonstrators, who said they represented a new organization, Americans for a Secure Israel, marched outside the State Department chanting "Rogers is a Munich man." Bernice Lipkin, a spokeswoman for the group which has headquarters in New York, said the letter was accepted by H.H. Stackhouse of the State Department's Middle East desk. It demanded that Rogers "fulfill the desires of the American people as expressed by Congress for a secure Israel...or resign." Miss Lipkin said the organization was planning an educational campaign to let the public know that "Israel is fighting America's battle in the Middle East." (In New York today Americans for a Secure Israel announced its formation as an "organization to alert the public to the need for changing American policy on Israel." According to its chairman, Prof. Erich Isaac, of City College, N.Y., current U.S. policy in the Mideast is "dangerous both to long term American interests and to the survival of Israel.")

Histadrut Grants Druze Workers Full Status in Labor Federation

TEL AVIV, June 15 (JTA)--Histadrut's central committee has decided to grant Druze workers full status within Israel's labor federation. The decision will integrate the 60,000 Druze trade union members on all levels and grant them their own labor councils in their villages, independent of the central committee. Druze cooperatives will be directly under Histadrut's cooperative center and not under the special Druze department as it has been.