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Israel Plans Compensation Payments Totalling \$100 Million To Israeli Arabs

JERUSALEM, June 29 (JTA)--What appears to be Israel's first major step toward paying compensation to Arabs for property they once held within the borders of the present Jewish State was announced today by Minister of Justice Yaacov Shapira. Shapira said that a bill he has submitted to the government, with the approval of the Premier and the Minister of Finance, would obligate Israel to pay an estimated minimum of \$100 million to Arab residents of East Jerusalem for immovable property they possessed in Israeli territory prior to 1948. The East Jerusalemites became official residents of Israel following the 1967 Six-Day War. Under the proposed bill, the East Jerusalem Arabs, whether refugees or not, will be compensated on the basis of the value of their property in 1947 as determined by a United Nations commission, plus 25 percent, the total to be multiplied by the factor of 8.4 to allow for inflationary value increases over the past 24 years. The formula for compensation is in accordance with the recommendations of the UN Palestine Conciliation Commission of Oct. 2, 1949.

Compensation will be in the form of non-transferable Israel government bonds redeemable in equal yearly installments over a period of 20 years commencing in 1975. The bonds will bear 5 1/2 percent interest and will be linked to the cost-of-living index. They will be identical to the State of Israel Bonds sold abroad except that the latter have a 17 year maturation period. The Arabs will not have the right of choice between compensation and the actual restoration of their property under the Shapira bill. Claims for compensation will have to be submitted within two years from the commencement of the law. In outlining his measure, Shapira said payment would be made in the form of bonds because the burden on the Treasury consequent upon the obligation to pay compensation will be onerous and the Treasury cannot make the payments at once. Another consideration, he said, was that the flow of large sums into the market at one time would hold peril for the economy.

Activists Picket ADL Soviet Jewry Exhibit Re-Opened On 'Invitation Only' Basis

NEW YORK, June 29 (JTA)--The B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League's exhibit on the plight of Soviet Jewry, postponed last week for fear of demonstrations by Jewish militants, opened here last night on an "invitation only" basis. Pickets representing the Jewish Liberation Project handed out leaflets accusing the defense agency of "too little and too late concern" for Soviet Jews and castigate it for accepting the State Department's "quiet diplomacy policy under the delusion that it will help Soviet Jews." The 225 communal leaders who attended the private opening, heard from Mrs. Rita Hauser, United States representative to the UN Human Rights Commission, who said it was "most desirable that official contacts (on behalf of Soviet Jews) be kept on as quiet a level as possible." Mrs. Hauser, always sympathetic to the cause of Soviet Jews, said President Nixon was following the issue "closely" and had encouraged her in all her activities. But Brooklyn District Attorney, Eugene Gold, who arrived at the exhibit after Mrs. Hauser delivered her remarks, stressed the need "to influence our own government to be heard on this issue" and declared that "The President must speak out."

Last night's picketing by about 14 JLP members was peaceful and engendered a mixed reaction among the invited guests. Some expressed strong opposition to the charges against the ADL and said "Jews shouldn't fight Jews." Others said they were "confused" and several took issue with the ADL for "informing" the FBI against other Jews, namely the militant Jewish Defense League. It was the prospect of possible violence by the JDL and the JLP, a radical Zionist group, that led the ADL to postpone the opening of the exhibit, originally scheduled for Monday, June 21. Spokesmen for both groups denied at the time that they planned violence. Fear of embarrassing incidents inside the exhibit apparently brought the ADL decision to close it to the public.

The exhibit, which runs for two days, consists of historical documents and photographs tracing Jewish life in the Soviet Union during the half century of the Soviet regime. Included in the show is a half hour CBS documentary film on the current condition of Jews in the USSR and taped interviews with Soviet Jewish emigres arriving in Israel. Ben R. Epstein, national director of the ADL, said the purpose of the show was to call attention to the materials displayed so that they might be distributed for community use. The JLP leaflets demanded that the ADL make the case of Soviet Jewry a "top priority" issue. They demanded that it stop "spying" on Jews and stop "turning over their names to the FBI." The leaflets also accused the ADL of "smearing radical health groups," a reference to such episodes as the one at Lincoln Hospital where Jewish radicals on the staff supported Black and Puerto Rican demands for the ouster of a Jewish physician. Gold, who recently visited the Soviet Union, and Mrs. Hauser both said the situation of Soviet Jews must be one of universal human concern, not simply a Jewish question. Gold emphasized his personal opposition to the "barbarism" of the Jewish Defense League but noted that some Russian Jews supported JDL tactics. He said the fact that Russian officials say the JDL is hurting the cause of Soviet Jews "doesn't make it so." Former ADL chairman Doré Sobry, who attended last night's opening, opposed "random harassment and violence" and called for "persuasive work" for the Jews in Russia.

State Dept. Says No Action Planned Against U.S. Diplomat in Cairo Over 'Memo'

WASHINGTON, June 29 (JTA)--State Department officials said today that no disciplinary action would be taken against Donald C. Bergus, the senior American diplomat in Cairo, whose recent personal views on the Middle East have caused him ill will in the region. The Department denied yesterday that there was any official standing to Bergus' memorandum to Egyptian leaders proposing an Israeli withdrawal from half of the Sinai Peninsula, an Egyptian crossing of the Suez Canal and a United Nations buffer force. Although the "phantom memo," as it is being called, has injected an unwelcome element into

the negotiations for an interim settlement, no private outrage has been voiced in the higher echelons of the State Department, according to Department officials. They reiterated that while the announced U.S. policy is to tell both Mideast sides the same thing, this is restricted to official government communications, thus excluding Bergus' memo.

Informed sources said the case will impel the United States to put its official position on paper, a move expected within a week or two. They said that such a formality would probably be taken up with the Israelis first. Coincidentally, Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin was due to meet with Secretary of State William F. Rogers late this afternoon at Rogers' request. Meanwhile, Bergus is conferring with State Department officials prior to returning to Cairo. (In Savannah, Dr. William A. Wexler said yesterday that Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco had advised him that Bergus had "acted on his own" without State Department authorization. The president of B'nai B'rith and chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said that according to Sisco, the State Department had informed Cairo "immediately" that Bergus' memo did not reflect U.S. policy.)

Pincus Assails CCAR Rabbis For Criticisms Of Israel, American Jewry

JERUSALEM, June 29 (JTA)--Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, bitterly assailed today two prominent American Reform rabbis who last week denounced Zionist bodies which they said "openly and officially embrace America's most reactionary politicians who would betray Israel overnight if it suited their purposes." In lashing out at Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, immediate past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and Rabbi David Polish, his successor, Pincus in effect argued that whatever means were used to ensure Israel's survival were justified by the ends. Rabbis Gittelsohn and Polish voiced their criticism of the Zionist leadership and certain aspects of the American Jewish establishment in a joint message to the 82nd annual convention of the CCAR in St. Louis last week. Pincus, obviously stung, quoted the rabbis' remarks from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's bulletin published in New York June 23. He noted that the CCAR leaders had leveled the charge that the American Jewish community, re-enforced by its "Israel-oriented establishment, was the greatest culprit" in suppressing dissent. He also quoted the rabbis as saying that while the American Jewish community has amply demonstrated its impassioned concern for Israel, this concern rarely rises above the adulation for Israel's power" which by itself "can result in a Jewry which is dangerously self-deceived, arrogant, desensitized and ultimately a danger to Israel itself."

Pincus angrily rejected the charge that Israel stifled dissent. "If the (pro-Moscow Rakach) Communists and Haolam Hazeh members sit in the Israeli Parliament, don't come and teach the Israelis what the right of dissent is," he said at a plenary meeting of the Zionist General Council today. Pincus said, "Because the leaders of Israel and the Presidents' Conference (Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations) have said that we must at least have the kind of weapon that will give us a fair chance to come out victorious...that is designated as Zionist bodies only and officially embracing reactionary politicians." He said, "Without mentioning names, I want to quote what a gentleman from the same group (as that of Rabbis Gittelsohn and Polish) said in a private conversation to the Prime Minister: 'We do not like your friends. We are left of center.' So, he was asked, 'who are your friends?' He said, 'the liberals,' to which the Prime Minister replied, 'have you any liberals who can supply us with Phantoms? My business as Prime Minister is to ensure that we have Phantoms and that we have the answers to missiles and that if we are going to lose lives in the next war we have a chance to win.'" Pincus claimed that Zionists must accept such priorities for Israel's sake. He said Zionist leaders who felt ideological doubts should voice them at meetings of the Executive. "But once the chips are down on this issue of the physical survival of Israel upon which the continuity and spirit of Jewry depend according to our Zionist outlook, then Zionists must accept it," he declared.

Tempo Of Border Incidents Rising; Another Arab Killed In Gaza Strip

TEL AVIV, June 29 (JTA)--An Israeli soldier was wounded this morning when a patrol clashed with a terrorist gang near Misgav Am in Upper Galilee close to the Lebanese border. An Arab man and two children were injured this morning when a grenade exploded at Beth Hanoun in the Gaza Strip. Police are investigating the fatal shooting inside a Gaza hospital of a man who had just been brought in for treatment for injuries suffered in a beating. A nurse and a hospital employe have been questioned. Police believe the murder may have been another in the series of interfractional slayings sweeping the Gaza Strip. Some of the cases have been attributed to the extortion of money for terrorist groups. Several dozen Arabs were detained for questioning in the Nablus area today following the discovery of arms caches in several villages. Ten persons from Birriya village near Tulkarem have been charged with setting up an underground cell to carry out a civil disobedience campaign.

Israeli settlements near the Gaza Strip have decided to restore their barbed wire fences because of increased incidents of infiltration and mine laying. The fences are intended to insure the safety of field workers. Security officials reported 21 border incidents last week, up from 11 the previous week. Six occurred on the Jordanian border, three each on the Lebanese and Syrian borders and nine in the Gaza Strip. The Suez front remained quiet except for two overflights by Egyptian aircraft last week compared with three the previous week. Egyptian soldiers were seen swimming and fishing on their side of the canal but the Egyptians were also continuing to work on their fortifications. The Egyptians continued to broadcast propaganda to Israeli troops over loudspeakers. They mentioned the names of two Israeli soldiers who they asserted had defected to Lebanon.

Presidents' Conference Urges Congress To Act On Plane Deliveries To Israel

NEW YORK, June 29 (JTA)--The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations urged all members of Congress today to support "prompt resumption of continuous and regular plane deliveries to maintain Israel's deterrent capacity as she strives for a final durable Middle East peace." The appeal was contained in letters sent to every member of the Senate and House of Representatives by Dr. William A. Wexler, chairman of the Presidents Conference. Dr. Wexler warned that "any indication that the United States may be withholding arms for Israel is taken as a sign of American weakness and increases the risk of Soviet-Arab miscalculation and of a confrontation between the superpowers."

Soviets Forcing Jews To Pay For Academic Education Before Giving Exit Visas

TEL AVIV, June 29 (JTA)--While Russian Jewish immigrants continue to arrive in Israel, Soviet authorities are exacting a high price for allowing them to depart, according to a telephone report received from Moscow last night. The informant said that Jews holding academic degrees must pay sums of \$5,500-\$6,600 to compensate the Soviet government for the free education they received. Beginning next month, Jews leaving for Israel will not be able to take along their furniture or any single belonging valued at over \$275, according to the report. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned meanwhile that five Jewish academicians who participated in recent hunger strikes in Riga and Vienna demanding action on their applications for exit permits have been informed by Soviet authorities that they will not get visas. Their names were given as Lieberman, Goldberg, Brisky, Moreh and Fedder.

More than 50 recent arrivals from the USSR, staging a hunger strike here to protest the trial of nine Jews in Kishinev, said today that they would continue the demonstration until the trial ends. The group includes the sisters of David Shor, one of the Kishinev defendants. They were visited today by Mayor Yehoshua Rabinowitz of Tel Aviv and several city councilmen and yesterday by Tel Aviv's new Chief Rabbi, Shlomo Goren and a delegation of the Tel Aviv Religious Council. The demonstrators have also been visited by school children and teachers. They are demanding the immediate release of the Kishinev nine and permission for them to go to Israel. A report on the flow of arrivals was given by Immigration and Absorption Minister Nathan Peled, who said in a radio interview Friday that a "fair" number of Jews have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union so far this year compared to previous years and expressed hope that the flow would continue. Israel has refused to disclose the exact number of Jews arriving from the USSR but unofficial estimates place it at well over 6,000 since the first of the year. Peled said Israel expected 11,000 immigrants from the United States this year compared to 9,000 last year. He said the fact that Israel managed to overcome the effects of the French arms embargo was due in large measure to the professional skills of new immigrants.

Three-Day 'Speak-Out For Soviet Jewry' Started At Isaiah Wall

NEW YORK, June 29 (JTA)--A three-day "Speak-out for Soviet Jewry" got under way today at the Isaiah Wall, opposite United Nations headquarters, under the auspices of the Center for Russian Jewry and its youth affiliate, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Seventy persons attended. The four speakers this afternoon condemned the treatment of Soviet Jews; the refusal of the Voice of America to broadcast to Russian Jews in Yiddish and Hebrew, and the alleged apathy of Britain, France, Pope Paul VI and Secretary General Thant. The speakers were Mrs. Rivka Aleksandrovich, whose daughter, Ruth, is serving time in Riga for alleged "anti-Soviet activities"; Robert F. Leonard, the District Attorney of Genesee County, Mich., who recently visited Russia; Rabbi Avraham Weiss of Congregation B'nai Jehshurun, Monsey, N.Y., and Aleksander Gittelsohn, a recent Soviet emigre now resident in Israel. The three-day length of the "Speak-out" was decided on because it is the average length of the trials of Soviet Jews, explained organizer Stanley Gruen. "If these Jews' guilt can be proven to a Soviet court in three days," he said, "then surely we can prove their innocence in the same amount of time."

(In Washington, it was reported that sentiment among delegates to the annual plenary meeting of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, which ended Sunday night in Atlanta, was overwhelmingly opposed to the Koch bill for 30,000 emergency visas to Soviet Jews to enter the United States. NJCRAC officials in Washington said it was felt that any Soviet Jews who wanted to be admitted to the United States could be without that legislation and that the bill was irrelevant because most Soviet Jews seeking to leave Russia want to go to Israel. However, the officials said, the plenary decided not to record any official opposition to the Koch bill nor to work against its adoption by Congress out of fear that defeat of the measure could be misinterpreted.)

Agnew To Visit Saudi Arabia, Kuwait But By-Passing Israel On Tour

WASHINGTON, June 29 (JTA)--Vice President Spiro Agnew will not visit Israel on his way back from Korea, though he plans to stop for two days in Saudi Arabia and two in Kuwait. The State Department characterized his visit to those Arab countries as an "official" one but declined to comment on reasons why Israel was being skipped. The Vice Presidential office in Washington said that it could not preclude last minute changes in the itinerary which was being arranged from the Vice Presidential traveling headquarters in the Far East. The office explained that the stops in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were "good will" stops to give Agnew an opportunity to personally convey the regards of President Nixon to the heads of state. Published reports attribute the Agnew visit to Saudi Arabia to the recent visit to Washington of King Faisal and his invitation for a high American official to return the call. Israeli Embassy officials here said that the Vice President was extended an open invitation during his talks with Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin about six months ago to visit Israel, but that no reply or further inquiries had been received.

NEWSBRIEFS

BONN, June 29 (JTA)--Prison authorities in Dusseldorf said today that an autopsy would be performed to determine the cause of death of Franz Stangl, 43, a convicted Nazi war criminal, who was found dead in his cell yesterday. Stangl, a one-time Austrian policeman who was commandant of the Treblinka death camp in 1942-43, was sentenced to life imprisonment last Dec. for supervising the mass murder of at least 400,000 Jews. The cause of death was listed as a heart attack pending the autopsy report.

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BUENOS AIRES, June 29 (JTA)--A pamphlet presenting the official Soviet version of the situation of Jews in the USSR is being circulated here by a Communist front organization. An introduction states that the purpose of the pamphlet is "to rebut the slanderous reports against the Soviet Union by those who purport to defend Soviet Jews." The pamphlet contains a long article by J. Schwartz titled "Jews in the Lenin Centenary." It also repeats Soviet figures on the number of Jews in the arts and sciences and denies the existence of a Jewish problem in the Soviet Union.

