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5 MORE IRAQI JEWS ARRESTED

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA)--Five more Iraqi Jews--a woman and four men--were recently arrested in Iraq according to reports reaching student organizations here. According to student spokesmen, the latest arrests indicate a new wave of persecution directed against Iraq's remaining small Jewish community. Ten Jews were arrested in Baghdad last fall and according to reports still unconfirmed by the Baghdad government, some or all of them may have been executed recently.

FRENCH INVESTIGATING TEAM AT PLANE DISASTER SITE; ISRAEL WILL AID THEM

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA)--Three French aviation officials visited the site of the Libyan airliner disaster in the Sinai desert this morning. The three men--a chief captain, a flight control officer and a representative of the French Aviation Authority--constitute an investigating team that arrived here last night.

Israeli officials have promised them whatever assistance they may need in their investigation. The three men were met at Lod Airport by representatives of the Israeli Civil Aviation Authority, French Embassy officials and representatives of Air France, the French national airline which provided the downed Libyan airliner with its pilot and several French crew members.

The French investigators refused to talk to newsmen. They are expected to ask Israeli authorities for the radar track charts and other records of the Israeli fighter pilots up to the moment they shot down the Libyan plane. They are believed to have asked for a meeting with Gen. Mordechai Hod, Israel's Air Force Commander, and other Israeli military authorities.

Another body, that of a child, has been found in the wreckage of the plane, it was announced here last night. Seven survivors remain in Israeli hospitals. One of them, a French steward, took a turn for the worse yesterday and was put on the critical list at Beersheba Hospital.

The Libyan co-pilot, El Kidifi El Mahadi, was still in an oxygen tent at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem where he was reported to be slightly improved. His wife, a Greek national, has been given an adjacent room at the hospital so that she can be near her husband. Tuesday night she and a friend, the wife of a Greek Air Force officer, were dinner guests of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan.

EILBERG URGES NIXON TO RELEASE \$50 MILLION CONGRESS EARMARKED TO AID SOVIET JEWS EMIGRATING TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA)--Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D.Pa.) has telegraphed President Nixon to release "at the earliest possible date" \$50 million earmarked by Congress last year to aid Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel. According to a statement issued by Eilberg, an investigation conducted at his request by the General Accounting Office "revealed that the State Department has not asked for any of these funds and that the Office of Management and Budget has not released any to this Department or any other Department or agency."

The money was appropriated by Congress last year and the bill signed by the President on Oct.

26. According to Eilberg, "since that day, the Nixon Administration has apparently done nothing to implement the distribution of funds." He said that reports from the General Accounting Office indicated that the expenditure of the funds is "being considered in the context of the total foreign aid requirements of the Israel government."

Eilberg disputed that the allocation was intended as part of Israel's regular economic assistance. He said "this is completely contrary to the intent of Congress. This money was appropriated to help people who are leaving their homes virtually destitute and are going to a country with a society almost totally different from the one they have left."

MRS. MEIR; ISRAEL HAS FRIEND IN THE WHITE HOUSE; NO DEMANDS ON ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir told reporters today that there were no arguments during her visits with American officials here on matters of mutual interest between the United States and Israel. Mrs. Meir held a briefing for Israeli correspondents following her 90-minute meeting with President Nixon at the White House this morning. She told them, "I said in 1969 that we have a friend in the White House and I can repeat it now."

It was understood in Israeli circles here that during her meetings at the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon yesterday and today, no demands were made on Israel and Mrs. Meir was not asked to take any measures to open any new activities regarding Middle East affairs. The view in high level diplomatic circles here is that there has been no change in the positions of King Hussein of Jordan or President Anwar Sadat of Egypt.

One source said there might be a change in the tone of their discussion of Middle East problems but no difference in substance. It was understood that the White House conveyed the impression that the visits here within a period of a few weeks of Premier Meir, King Hussein and Hafez Ismail, President Sadat's personal envoy, were purely coincidental.

ISRAELI PREMIER RECEIVES STANDING OVATION FROM NEWSMEN AT PRESS CLUB

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir received a standing ovation at the National Press Club today after addressing 400 news media representatives and responding to a long series of questions on topics including last week's downing of a Libyan airliner by Israel, her country's future borders and her recent meeting in the Vatican with Pope Paul VI. The 74-year-old Israeli leader spoke extemporaneously and dwelt at length on Israel's yearning and quest for peace with its Arab neighbors.

Mrs. Meir arrived at the National Press Club after a 90-minute meeting with President Nixon at the White House in what was described as an atmosphere of cordiality. The President and Mrs. Meir posed for news photographers and engaged in light banter.

The Israeli Premier will attend a dinner at the White House this evening. About 100 people are expected to attend. Nixon told her, "Everybody wanted to come." The President had words of praise for Israel's outgoing Ambassador Gen.

Yitzhak Rabin, on the occasion of his 51st birthday today. Rabin and his successor, Ambassador Designate Simha Dinitz who is Mrs. Meir's political advisor, accompanied the Premier to the White House this morning. Dr. Henry Kissinger and his deputy Brent Scowcroft, were present with Nixon.

(See separate story P. 3.)

At the Press Club only one question was given to Mrs. Meir by Press Club president Donald R. Larrabee dealing with the Libyan airliner issue. His single question was a composite of what he said were several others submitted in writing to him from the audience, the standard Club practice. It had been expected that the plane incident would provoke sharp questions from the news representatives.

Saying she was "glad" to have the question, Mrs. Meir detailed the anxiety of the Israelis over the reports her government had received from international police organizations on the Black September gang's intention to send an explosive-laden plane into an Israeli urban area with a suicidal crew aboard, similar to the type of men who carried out the Lod Airport massacre. She said the failure of the airliner's pilot to distinguish between Soviet MIGs and American Phantoms and his refusal to land his craft despite receiving all "known international signals" to do so was partly to blame for the disaster. She said the plane did not explode until it hit the ground.

Referring to attacks on Israel over the incident, Mrs. Meir said "It's unjust to react to this tragedy as if it were almost exactly what we were waiting for." She added that "everything is at the disposition" of an international body to investigate the tragedy but she decried being "condemned and then investigated." Israel, Mrs. Meir stated, "can't be investigated as if we did it with joy."

Retention Of Sharm el-Sheikh Indicated

Responding to a question on Israel's borders, the Israeli Premier seemed to indicate that Sharm el-Sheikh will remain under Israel's permanent control. "Egypt must understand Israeli control of Sharm el-Sheikh is to protect Israeli shipping" through the Straits of Tiran to the Far East and East Africa, she said. Mrs. Meir noted that Sharm el-Sheikh, which is at the southeastern tip of the Sinai Peninsula, "was never used by Egypt except to place guns there" not to allow Israeli shipping through. She described the Straits as "a lifeline for us."

Mrs. Meir also reiterated Israel's need to control the Golan Heights from which, she said, Syrians had poured gunfire and rockets for 19 years on Israeli settlements below. The Suez Canal, she said, is open for Egypt to use at present. "We understand Egypt's need for it." Withdrawal from the Suez area would not be "a final line," she said, since that "should be negotiated through a peace treaty."

Reporting on her recent visit with Pope Paul at the Vatican which aroused some acrimony both in Rome and Jerusalem, Mrs. Meir said the "Pope was very, very gracious--very kind. I was glad the Pope said that this was a historic moment...I felt it." She said they had long and frank discussions "of various problems." The Pope, she said, "appreciated" Israel's care of Christian Holy Places since the Six-Day War. "The Pope's final sentence," she said was, "this dialogue must continue. I look forward to its continuation in the spirit in which we had spoken," she said.

ISMAIL INDICATES EGYPT WANTS EARLY MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

BONN, March 1 (JTA)--Hafez Ismail, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's special envoy, completed talks today in Bonn with West German government officials. He outlined Cairo's views on the Middle East situation. Government sources said Ismail had been "encouraged" by his consultations in London, Moscow and Washington and that Egypt appeared to want an early settlement to the Middle East conflict.

Chancellor Willy Brandt told Ismail that Bonn considered the present phase favorable for a settlement. As a European nation, West Germany is interested in a Middle East detente which would augment a detente in other parts of the world. Brandt said West Germany did not seek a mediatory role in the Middle East but was interested in helping where it could to find a just settlement to the conflict.

SOUTH AFRICAN PARTY LEADER OUSTED FOR ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS

JOHANNESBURG, March 1 (JTA)--The United Party, South Africa's chief opposition party, has expelled a member of its Transvaal Head Committee who has been campaigning against the party's recently elected Transvaal leader, Harry Schwarz, because he is a Jew.

The ouster of Jack Dormehl became official last week when the Head Committee accepted a recommendation from the party's Transvaal Executive to that effect. The official reason given was that Dormehl engaged in "hostile activities within the party." Beginning with Schwarz's nomination and following his election as chairman of the Transvaal Head Committee, Dormehl constantly attacked him at party forums and elsewhere on grounds that a Jew should not hold that office. He accused Schwarz of "trying to push Jews into leading positions."

Dormehl claims he is not anti-Semitic. He said in an interview in the Sunday Express last month, "I wish publicly to apologize if the impression was created that I was anti-Semitic. I am not. Some of my best friends are Jews."

U.S. ICAO REPRESENTATIVE VOTED 'RELUCTANTLY' FOR RESOLUTION

UNITED NATIONS, March 1 (JTA)--Mrs. Betty C. Dillon, U.S. representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) said last night that the U.S. had voted only "reluctantly" for an Egyptian-proposed resolution condemning Israel for downing a Libyan airliner.

In a statement following the voting, Mrs. Dillon said the U.S. was opposed to the condemnatory language of the resolution and wanted to make it clear that it does not interpret the document "as prejudging the outcome" of an investigation of the disaster. "We nevertheless reluctantly voted for the resolution as a whole because we wish to join with others in calling for an investigation of this tragic incident and because of our concern for the safety of aviation around the world," she said.

ARON NEUMAN, EDITOR, DEAD AT 65

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 1 (JTA)--Aron Neuman, editor of the Jewish Portuguese weekly "Aonde Vamos," died here of a heart attack at the age of 65. He arrived in Rio over 40 years ago and began to publish the weekly during the 1930s when Yiddish-language newspapers were proscribed by the government of Brazil. Mr. Neuman was born near Poznan.

NIXON ASSURES MRS. MEIR OF CONTINUING U.S. SUPPORT

WASHINGTON, March 1 (JTA)--White House Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler told reporters this afternoon that President Nixon "assured" Premier Golda Meir "of continuing U.S. support" for Israel during their 90-minute talk at the White House this morning. Ziegler said "The President felt today's meeting was very constructive." He added: "The talks were conducted in a friendly atmosphere which is the usual atmosphere when the Prime Minister and the President hold discussions."

Ziegler, noting that the President has met recently with King Hussein of Jordan and Hafez Ismail, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's personal envoy, warned, "There has been a period of long contention in the Middle East and we should not expect immediate solutions. But as we have said before, we are interested in doing what we can to contribute to a peaceful solution of the situation in that area."

The White House spokesman stressed that it would be "inadvisable to expect an easy or instant or immediate results. The question, however, remains one of what we can contribute to moving toward peace in the area," he said. Asked what the next step would be, Ziegler replied, "There have been very strong and constant discussion on the situation and these contacts will continue."

HADASSAH SEEKS \$1M IN LINENS FOR REOPENING OF MT. SCOPUS HOSPITAL

NEW YORK, March 1 (JTA)--For the first time--since the emergency of the Six-Day War--Hadassah is seeking goods in addition to money. Mrs. Faye L. Schenk, Hadassah Medical Organization chairman, announced today at the closing session of Hadassah's Mid-Winter Conference which has been meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel since Monday. The 200 national leaders attending the conference voted to conduct a campaign to collect \$1 million in linen supplies by the end of 1974 to equip the Hadassah Hospital scheduled to reopen on Mount Scopus.

"This is a departure for Hadassah," Mrs. Schenk explained. "Traditionally, we concentrate on raising funds to maintain our medical and educational institutions in Israel. However, the equipment of a fully new hospital facility is of such magnitude--and costs have escalated 30 percent since we undertook to rebuild this hospital which we regained in the Six-Day War in 1967--that we are now seeking contributions of linens." Hadassah President Rose E. Matzkin announced that Mrs. Max Meth of New York will head the national campaign.

The 200 national board members adopted statements in support of the Jackson, Mills-Vank amendment; on terrorism; Jews in Syria, Iraq and the Soviet Union; and peace in the Middle East. On the issue of terrorism, Hadassah called upon the United States to continue to urge the United Nations General Assembly to make the Declaration Against Acts of Terrorism a priority agenda matter, and to withhold economic assistance to countries supporting or sheltering terrorists. Hadassah also called for public action to demand that airlines institute effective preventive and protective measures in the airports and in flight and to influence pilots associations to refuse to land at airports whose governments support and protect terrorists.

On peace in the Middle East, Hadassah urged the U.S. government to continue its efforts to

bring Israel and the Arab states into direct negotiations without pre-conditions and to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem as evidence of support for a unified Jerusalem.

A resolution on Jews in Syria and Iraq called upon President Nixon and UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to exert every possible pressure on the governments of Syria and Iraq to protect the human rights and dignity of the Jews living in those countries and to facilitate their emigration to Israel or other countries where they may live in freedom.

A resolution on Soviet Jewry called upon the Soviet government to rescind the diploma tax and grant exit permits to those who request them; free the Jewish prisoners of conscience; grant Jews the right guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution to pursue their national culture; grant facilities to practice their religion and to establish contacts with Jewish communities in other countries; and call a halt to the intensified vicious anti-Semitic propaganda campaign in books, newspaper articles and broadcasts.

The resolution declared: "We call upon our own government to deny most favored nation status and credit privileges to the government of the USSR so long as that government persists in a policy that violates fundamental human rights. To this end we urge support of the amendment to the East-West Trade Bill introduced by Senator (Henry M.) Jackson and Reps. (Wilbur) Mills and (Charles A.) Vanik."

NRP CONCLUDE HAMMERS OUT PLATFORM

TEL AVIV, March 1 (JTA)--Moderates and hard-liners engaged in heated debates behind the scenes at the National Religious Party convention today in attempts to hammer out a platform that would mollify right-wing Orthodox elements without excluding the NRP from participation in any future coalition government. The main issues concern the future of the administered territories and an amendment to Israel's Law of Return specifying that conversions to Judaism must be in accordance with halacha.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon cautioned the NRP that Israel's future borders are political and security issues, not matters of halacha. The party's youth circles, headed by Deputy Minister of Education Zevulun Hammer, demanded a clear cut resolution that would prevent the NRP from joining any coalition government that does not adopt a policy of "Greater Israel," making the Jordan River Israel's permanent boundary, and does not press for the amendment to the Law of Return.

The youth group won its point on the "Who is a Jew?" issue in a resolution adopted by a majority of the committee on religious and rabbinical problems which defined a Jew as one born of a Jewish mother or converted according to halacha. The religious kibbutz movement and the Lamifneh faction, headed by Interior Minister Yosef Burg, suggested a more moderate resolution though they too demanded amendment of the law of return.

According to an agreement reached last night, the new party center will consist of 15 members of the Lamifneh faction, 12 from Raphael's group and 10 from the youth circles. The central list headed by Religious Affairs Minister Zerach Warhaftig gets seven seats, the moshavim five and the religious kibbutzim and Sephardi groups one each.

The Bulgarian government gave awards to Robert Nissim Beraha and Salomon Bouco Fatchev for their "fight against fascism and building of socialism."

