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BANKERS TRUST CHAIRMAN DENIES IT IS ENGAGED IN BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA)--Alfred Brittain III, chairman of the board of Bankers Trust Co. denied, in a letter to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, that Bankers Trust is engaged in a boycott of Israel, or that the company discriminates in its employment "on any basis against any group." The letter also denied that commercial banks are responsible for the "terms and conditions" contained in letters of credit.

Bankers Trust was one of 25 major American commercial banks named by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League on March 11, along with "more than 200 U.S. corporations," as "waging economic war against Israel in collaboration with the Arabs." On March 16, Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, criticized commercial banks generally, without naming any, for participating in letters of credit that contain boycott compliance clauses. Hertzberg pointed out at the time that Federal Reserve Board chairman Arthur Burns had urged commercial banks "to refuse participation" in such letters of credit.

Brittain referred in his letter to statements issued by "a number of organizations and a sub-committee of the New York State Legislature" concerning the Arab boycott of Israel and observed that "Certain practices of more than 200 corporations and banks have been described as being in support of the boycott." In that connection, he wrote, "a misunderstanding may have developed on the position of Bankers Trust Company with respect to our business with Israel."

Describes Letters Of Credit

The bank chairman's letter went on to say: "First, Bankers Trust Company is not engaged in a boycott of Israel. To the contrary, the bank has done business with Israel since the country's founding 28 years ago. We maintain relationships with all of the country's major banks and have millions of dollars of loans outstanding in Israel."

Brittain described letters of credit as "a service provided by banks to businesses engaged in foreign trade." He said the "terms and conditions" governing overseas sales by exporters which are paid through letters of credit "are negotiated and agreed to by the exporter and importer in a separate sales contract prior to any involvement by a commercial bank. The role of the commercial bank is to issue an advice of the opening of a letter of credit, to process the previously agreed to trade documents and to pay the exporter."

"Finally," Brittain wrote, "Bankers Trust Company does not discriminate in its employment practices on any basis, against any group. Persons of various ethnic and religious backgrounds, including the Jewish faith, are at all levels of our organization--first vice-president, senior vice-president, the Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors."

PERES SAYS ISRAELI ACTION IN LEBANON WOULD BE SEEN AS SUPPORT FOR PLO

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA)--Defense Minister

Shimon Peres said today that if Israel were to intervene in the Lebanese situation it could be interpreted as Israeli support of PLO chief Yasser Arafat "and this is something we do not want." He explained that such an interpretation was possible because of the Syrian turn-about. Originally, Syria intervened in Lebanon to strengthen the PLO and the Moslem community, but it recently has been supporting the Christian faction in the civil war, for whatever reasons, Peres said.

The Defense Minister, speaking at Tel Aviv University, said that up to now Israel does not face any danger from Lebanon that would oblige it to cross the border. He added, however, that Israel was aware of the "fluid" situation in Lebanon. Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said in the Knesset yesterday that Israel reserves the right to take necessary measures if and when the Lebanese situation conflicts with Israel's security interests.

The official line here has been to play down the Syrian presence in Lebanon. Peres described it as an effort to achieve a "cease-fire" rather than an attempted take-over of that country. But senior sources stress that Israel will continue to maintain a close watch on developments across its northern border. The new Syrian penetration into Lebanon does not change the basic situation, the sources said. What Israel calls the "Red Line"--the point at which Syrian intervention would engender an Israeli response--appears to be flexible. Israeli circles say it depends not only on the scope of Syrian military involvement but on the deployment of Syrian forces and their ultimate intentions. Israel has maintained that its primary interest is the safety of its northern borders. It is assumed, therefore, that if the Syrians concentrate their activities north of the Litani River, there would be no cause for any Israeli action. (By Gil Sedan)

MAINE UNIVERSITY HOST TO ARAB BUSINESS PARLEY

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 2 (JTA)--The University of Maine with the cooperation of the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce has sponsored a joint four-day Middle East-American business conference at its Orono campus Aug. 2-6, the university has disclosed. Acceptances have been received by the university from nine countries but Israel is not among them, according to the university's promotional material made available today to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here.

More than 200 persons are expected from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman. The United States does not have diplomatic relations with Iraq but maintains an "interests" section in Baghdad and commerce is conducted between the two countries. The U.S. Arab Chamber of Commerce is co-sponsor of the conference.

A Saudi Arabian, Abdul Wahabe, a director of the UBAF Arab American Bank in New York, will brief American businessmen on the legal aspects of doing business in the Arab world. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger was quoted as saying this will be "the first large-scale conference held in the United States where Arab and Iranian bus-

businessmen will have the opportunity for face-to-face discussions with pre-selected American businessmen regarding specific products for sale and manufacture."

A recent trade mission of Maine businessmen sponsored by the U.S. Departments visited Iran and Saudi Arabia. John R. Brown Jr., conference director, said the Mideastern businessmen coming to the conference are "paying their own way over from the Middle East." He said "We did not dream they would be so eager to come, I have had to put a limit of 200 on the number coming."

DINITZ URGES PATIENCE WITH SLOW PROGRESS TOWARD MIDEAST PEACE

BOSTON, June 2 (JTA)--Simcha Dinitz, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, has urged the world not to grow impatient with the slow progress toward peace in the Middle East. "Shortcuts are dangerous in politics, just as in traffic," he told the delegates to the 78th annual meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service here yesterday. "Israel must build a nation while protecting a State," Dinitz stressed, "and if we grow impatient, peace and security are endangered."

The Israeli envoy declared that the main obstacle to peace is the refusal of the Islamic world to recognize the independent Jewish State of Israel. This is in keeping with the Islamic world's historic rejection of a non-Islamic community in its midst, Dinitz said. He pointed to the current situation in Lebanon as the inevitable outcome of this attitude. He said that because the Arabs are not prepared for peace "the Arab-Israel dispute cannot be settled by instant solution," and wishing it does not create a new reality."

Addressing an earlier session of the meeting, Rabbi Joseph B. Soleveitchik of Boston, a leading Orthodox scholar and professor of Talmud and Jewish philosophy at Yeshiva University, stressed that Jewish law emphasizes and harmonizes the dual nature of man "as an individual and part of a collective." Forming a community is not enough. "To be a member of the community is to assume responsibility for others," Rabbi Soleveitchik said. He also observed that "prayer must find its full realization in action. A prayerful community rises to a charitable community where prayer is translated into action."

William Kahn, executive vice-president of the Jewish Community Centers Association of St. Louis, was elected president of the NCJCS.

ISRAEL REJECTS UN PALESTINE COMMITTEE REPORT, CALLS IT PLO SOLUTION

UNITED NATIONS, June 2 (JTA)--Israel today completely rejected the report by the special Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which in effect recommended that the Security Council adopt the Palestine Liberation Organization's program for a Middle East settlement. "Israel rejects outright the report of the so-called 'Palestine Committee'--just as it rejected General Assembly Resolution 3376 which created it," Israeli Ambassador Chaim Herzog said in a statement this afternoon. "Alongside Israel, the free countries also did not support the resolution because it was considered wholly one-sided, unbalanced and biased," Herzog declared.

He noted that the 20-member committee included 18 countries that "do not have diplomatic relations with Israel and some even deny to this day Israel's right to exist. Moreover, not a single

free country of standing agreed to take part in the work of the committee, so utterly prejudiced was it considered to be," Herzog said. The Israeli envoy charged that "The PLO was dominant in the drafting of the committee's report and in keeping with the PLO's declared aim. The committee's recommendations are in effect a calculated formula for the destruction of the State of Israel. There can be no doubt about this end, even if it is designed to be achieved in stages. Accordingly, neither Israel --nor any free country--will have anything to do with it or anything which flows from it."

The committee's report, which will go to the Security Council for debate sometime this month, calls for Israel to withdraw unconditionally from the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem within one year. Palestinians would then return to these areas under United Nations jurisdiction to be followed by a PLO takeover of the area from the UN and the creation of "an independent Palestinian entity."

MRS. MEIR DENIES ISRAEL'S 'LOVE' OF TERRITORIES IS OBSTACLE TO MIDEAST PEACE

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA)--Former Premier Golda Meir said today that most Israelis will be prepared to compromise on the West Bank in return for peace with Jordan. But, she said, the Israeli settlements along the Jordan River are a security line for Israel in case of a Jordanian attack. Addressing an enthusiastic gathering of about 1000 United Jewish Appeal community leaders at a luncheon at the Pierre Hotel, Mrs. Meir declared "the greatest lie in the world is that there is no peace in the Middle East because we fell in love with the territories."

She reiterated the Israeli contention that the Arabs were not willing to reconcile themselves to Israel's existence even before the June 1967 war when Israel did not control the West Bank, the Gaza Strip or parts of the Golan Heights and Sinai. The former Premier, whose speech today marked the end of her current American speaking tour, said that the Palestinian problem should be resolved through negotiations between Israel and Jordan. She noted that most Palestinians are Jordanian citizens and that there is no room for a third state between Israel and Jordan.

Mrs. Meir castigated the United Nations for treating Israel "as a culprit of the world." She noted that while a "terrible tragedy" is taking place in Lebanon, nobody is concerned about it. "Pretty soon they will blame Israel for the Lebanese tragedy," she remarked with obvious sarcasm. Mrs. Meir reiterated that the future of Israel and the Jewish people is in the hands of the Jewish people themselves and that therefore Israel will never be destroyed.

Frank Lautenberg, general chairman of the UJA, announced that the 1976 campaign has reached a total of \$500 million to date. He said that pledges have come from 800 Jewish communities across the country. A check for \$12 million raised by 92 communities for Israel was presented to Ambassador Chaim Herzog, Israel's envoy to the United Nations.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Central Bureau of Statistics reported a sharp rise in the number of cars bought by Israelis so far this year compared to 1975 and increased sales of durable goods such as washing machines and television sets.

AIRPORT BOMB FIGURE STILL UNIDENTIFIED

TEL AVIV, June 2 (JTA)--Israeli investigators have not yet been able to establish the identity of a man whose suitcase blew up at Ben Gurion Airport last Wednesday, taking his own life and killing an Israeli woman security officer. Nine other persons were injured in the blast.

The mystery man, who had come off a flight from Vienna, was badly mangled by the explosion. Israeli police experts have managed to prepare a reasonable likeness of his face and have sent photographs along with fingerprints to Interpol and several European police headquarters. The man was carrying a Dutch passport in the name of Hugo Mueller but according to information from Dutch authorities, the passport was either a forgery or stolen. The likeness in the passport was not that of the bearer. (Meanwhile, reports from West Germany said that authorities there identified the dead man as a 25-year-old West German, Ternd Hausmann.)

MK PROPOSES 6 ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES MERGE

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA)--Avraham Katz, chairman of the Knesset's education committee, proposed today that Israel's six institutions of higher learning be merged into a single large University of Israel in order to solve the financial problems affecting all of them. The idea was promptly rejected by Education Minister Aharon Yadin and Dr. Yehoshua Rotenstreich, chairman of the Council of Higher Education.

Katz, a Likud MK, said the existing six campuses should serve as branches of a single State University to eliminate waste and duplication. Rotenstreich claimed, however, that a State University would be unable to raise funds in the U.S. because of the heavy taxes imposed on contributions to national universities. He argued, furthermore, that a national institution would not enjoy ties established with diaspora Jewry by each of the six separate institutions through their boards of governors. Yadin observed that the existing universities find it difficult to manage large campuses and he failed to see how one giant campus would increase efficiency.

BUS CO-OP BALKS AT ORDERS TO GIVE FREE RIDES TO SOLDIERS

TEL AVIV, June 2 (JTA)--The Egged bus cooperative is embroiled with the government over orders that it carry uniformed soldiers free of charge. The free rides went into effect yesterday. Egged said it could not cope with the added traffic. Buses filled with soldiers by-passed regular bus stops, leaving civilian passengers to wait.

Egged is Israel's inter-city carrier and enjoys a monopoly throughout the country except in Tel Aviv and environs which are served by the Dan bus cooperative. The Knesset economic committee decided recently that Egged buses should carry soldiers free of charge because of the hazards of hitch-hiking. Two soldiers were killed last year, apparently by terrorists who offered them a ride. Other soldiers were involved in highway accidents caused by irresponsible drivers. These incidents prompted numerous complaints from 'soldiers' families concerned with their safety.

Egged originally balked at the free rides but agreed when the government promised to compensate it at a rate of 80 percent of the fares normally paid by soldiers. It will receive IL 1.2 million a month until final calculations are made. But the bus co-op, long in financial difficulties, wants a government guarantee of some IL 20 million. The

Treasury agrees. If co-op members take a salary cut of IL 300 a month. This was unacceptable to Egged which has appealed to the Supreme Court and in the meantime reversed its agreement to carry soldiers free.

HEAVY ISRAELI DEMAND FOR U.S. TOURIST VISAS SCRUTINIZED

TEL AVIV, June 2 (JTA)--U.S. Consular officials are giving special scrutiny to the flood of applications from Israelis seeking tourist visas to visit the United States. The reason is that in the past, too many of the "tourists" decided to remain. Immigrants from the Soviet Union who apply for American visas receive the most careful checks as it is suspected by U.S. officials that many of them do not intend to return.

An estimated 40,000 Israelis are expected to visit the U.S. this summer despite serious economic difficulties. The American Consular Offices have been jammed for weeks. Clerks are dealing with as many as 200 applicants a day which is an unusually large number. According to John Peters, First Secretary in charge of Consular operations, only five percent of the applicants are rejected. But most of the others have a long wait because of the work load and tighter checking processes.

AUSTRALIAN UNIT TO JOIN UNSINAI FORCE
By Sam Lipski

MELBOURNE, June 2 (JTA)--Australia will provide a helicopter contingent to serve with United Nations forces supervising the Israeli-Egyptian interim agreement in Sinai, it was learned today. The unit will consist of four "Iroquois" helicopters and 45 air crew and maintenance personnel. The helicopters will be on duty in Sinai for at least two years. Foreign Affairs Minister Andrew Peacock made the arrangements for the contingent in discussions with United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in New York last month.

LIKUD LEADER SEES ISRAELI ELECTIONS NEXT SPRING

JERUSALEM, June 2 (JTA)--Likud leader Menachem Begin advised the faction's executive committee yesterday to prepare for national elections early next year. Begin said he had it from "senior sources" that the Labor Alignment wants to hold elections next spring rather than late in 1977.

The Likud Executive decided to set up election headquarters and branches all over the country. Gen. (Res.) Ezer Weizman, who recently re-entered the political scene, has been mentioned as a possible campaign chairman. Shmuel Tamir, of Likud's Free Center faction, proposed the immediate merger of all Likud factions in preparation for the elections but the suggestion was voted down. * * *

JERUSALEM (JTA)--A recent study by the Bank of Israel warned that large-scale redemption of cost-of-living linked government bonds could lead to a rate of inflation reminiscent of certain South American countries. The value of the bonds is linked to the constantly rising cost-of-living index although the rate of interest they pay is not. According to the Bank of Israel, the government will redeem IL 8.5 billion worth of bonds this year and IL 12.7 billion next year. The redemption rate will soar to IL 20.6 billion in 1978 and decline to IL 15.6 billion in 1979.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES EXPERTS NOTE SOME BRIGHT SPOTS IN DIM CAREER PICTURE FOR JEWS

By Ben Gallo

(Second Part of Two-Part Series)

NEW YORK, June 2 (JTA)--Prospects for professional careers for Jewish college students are poor and likely to remain so for some time but there are a few bright spots in a generally dismal picture, in the view of three Jewish career experts here.

For example, while Dr. Walter Duckat, director of the guidance division of Federation Employment and Guidance Service, said public school teaching "is currently not recommended for Jewish youth," he added that openings continued to develop to some degree in teaching learning-disabled children and in vocational courses. In the latter field, he added, an applicant might have to wait some time for an appointment.

Elias Kagan, executive director of the New York B'nai B'rith Career Counseling Service office, said there are and will be public school jobs for persons qualified to teach industrial arts and business courses. He said persons qualified for early childhood teaching, particularly in day care centers, could count on openings if President Ford's veto of funds for government-supported centers is reversed. He suggested that in the 1980s there may be a general shortage of public school teachers because so few are being trained now.

Better Job Chances Away From Cities

Declaring that there are job openings for podiatrists, chiropractors and veterinarians, Duckat said there also are openings in medically-related fields. American Dietetic Association-certified dietitians with a BA or Bachelor of Science degree are being placed, despite severe competition. BA holders with certification in medical technology, involving four years of study, also can get placement. So can physical and occupational therapists with a four-year BS plus accreditation.

Dr. Alan Groveman, supervising counselor in the B'nai B'rith office, said many Jewish students are switching into business-related fields, including accounting, business administration and personnel work. Kagan said there are jobs based on mathematics training, including openings in some fields of engineering, accounting, architecture and actuarial work. Duckat said there even was a shortage of accountants in New York State. Kagan said opportunities for the few professional fields in which there still were jobs were better outside the larger cities and that, in response, a growing number of Jewish graduates are becoming more mobile, willing to leave their cities of birth and education to look for jobs elsewhere.

Long-Range Outlook

On the critical issue of whether the current gloomy outlook in the professional fields was transient or likely to endure, the three experts hedged. Duckat noted that some personnel experts have urged young people to re-direct their career expectations. He said the vocational fields were not crowded and generally required a smaller investment of time and funds for training but, he added, for many young Jews and especially their parents, such a shift in job goals and expectations had dramatic implications. Duckat declined long-range predictions but said that if there was no dramatic improvement in the American economy soon, it

was safe to predict that professional career prospects for middle-class youth, particularly Jews, would remain grim.

Kagan said there may be a fundamental change in the capacity of the American economy to provide rewarding work for professionals and that major--and painful--changes in outlook may be required among American Jews to respond effectively. He predicted that in the 1980s the situation for white collar professionals would be very competitive while persons with technical skills would be in short supply.

Kagan agreed it was difficult to determine which professional category in which there is now oversupply reflects the recession and which reflects basic changes in the economy. He cited the decline in the American birthrate as a factor in the decline in the need for public school teachers. But, he said, the birthrate curve might turn up again. In general, he said, he was wary about hard and fast career generalizations about the future, declaring that basic conditions change and often change very rapidly.

VORSTER SEES ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA COOPERATING DESPITE DIFFERENCES

JOHANNESBURG, June 2 (JTA)--Prime Minister John Vorster said with respect to his recent visit to Israel, that despite differences, the two countries could work together and pool resources and know-how for the mutual benefit of both. Working together would not preclude Israel from working with people "who do not like me or do not like us," Vorster told some 300 guests at a banquet tendered in his honor in Cape Town by the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the South African Zionist Federation.

The banquet, attended by cabinet ministers and other South African dignitaries as well as Jewish community leaders, marked the Prime Minister's return from his first visit to Israel. "In Israel," he said, "I found dedicated men and women, men and women who are at all times prepared to serve their country. That impressed me very, very much. I found idealism and the will to work. I did not only find the will to work but also saw people working with a will," Vorster said. He also spoke of the "unforgettable experience" as a Christian visiting the "Land of the Bible" and seeing the holy places he had known of since childhood.

Vorster said economic policies could be worked out and trade between South Africa and Israel could be increased. The exchange of "know-how" and raw materials could be of benefit to individuals of both countries and raise living standards. He observed that research today was costly, and the big powers were able to do this because they have the money and resources. "I believe the time has come for the middle powers to pool their resources and stand together," he said.

Vorster claimed that the main division in the world today was between the Communist world and the free world. Citing the "lesson" of Czechoslovakia, he said that in the Communist world, not even one's own brand of Communism is allowed. In the free world, nations can evolve their own policies and have their own outlook. "Israel and South Africa both belong to the free world," he said. Vorster also observed that it was unproductive when heads of state got together to discuss only their differences. It is much more productive to accept differences and seek common ground. "That is what my colleagues (in Israel) and I did," he said.