

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

GENEVA -- A steady influx of Jews from Arab countries into France, unprecedented since the exodus from Algeria in 1962, was revealed in a report made available by the Fonds Social Juif Unifié, the central Jewish welfare agency in France, to the overseas headquarters of the American Joint Distribution Committee.

JERUSALEM (WNS) Israel has made no general decision with respect to establishing settlements in the occupied west bank area. The Israel Foreign Office conveyed this information to the American charge d'affaires William Dale when he sought clarification on instruction from Washington regarding Israel's policy in those areas. Triggering the inquiry was Israel's settlement of Kfar Etzion, between Hebron and Bethlehem, which was part of a complex of four Jewish settlements that were overrun and destroyed by Jordan in 1948.

TEL AVIV (WNS) Questioning of several hundred captured members of the El Fatah terrorist gang and enrollees in the Palestine Liberation Front has established beyond doubt that those marauders, saboteurs and troublemakers were trained and equipped with arms and uniforms by Syria, it was reported here by a military spokesman who said Syria can not disclaim responsibility for the underground activities in the occupied areas.

JERUSALEM (WNS) The police here is leaning to the view that the three grenades found near the home of Premier Levi Eshkol were placed by pranksters. However the investigation for the perpetrators is going on.

CHICAGO (WNS) No one "has the right to demand or expect that Israel should accept political humiliation or any settlement which invites renewed attacks upon her, or that Israel should admit, however indirectly, the legitimacy of efforts to destroy her," it was declared here by Associates Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas at the 19th biennial convention of the Women's American Ort.

WASHINGTON (WNS) The training of military officers from Arab countries which broke diplomatic relations with the United States has been "terminated" and the government is "sending them back." This development was disclosed by Assistant Secretary of Defense Townsend Hooper in reply to an inquiry by Stanley H. Lowell, co-chairman of the American Jewish Congress Commission on International Affairs. The U.S. will however continue to offer military instruction to personnel from "moderate" Arab states as "an alternative to the pressures and temptations of radical pan-Arabism as exemplified by Nasser." The American Jewish Congress had vigorously protested against the military training of Arabs in the U.S.

WASHINGTON (WNS) Rumored reports of talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko curtailing shipment of arms to the Middle East were denied here by the State Department. Carl Barth, a spokesman for the department, said the reports are "misleading and quite premature."

STRASSBOURG, France (WNS) Abba Eban, Israeli Foreign Minister, declared here at a press conference that Israel would be willing to form an economic union with Jordan and Lebanon, share the ports of Haifa and Aqaba-Elath with Jordan, demilitarize the Sinai Peninsula and open frontiers while the sovereignty of the three nations was respected.

TEL AVIV (WNS) Former Premier David Ben Gurion, who bolted the Mapai Party in a running dispute with Premier Levi Eshkol, declared here he would under no circumstances join a proposed united Labor Party which would include Mapai, Achdut Avodah and his own Rafi Party.

JERUSALEM (WNS) The "real challenge facing the Jewish people today is the upbuilding and the strengthening of Israel," Premier Levi Eshkol declared here at a convention of volunteers from abroad who came to help Israel in its recent crisis.

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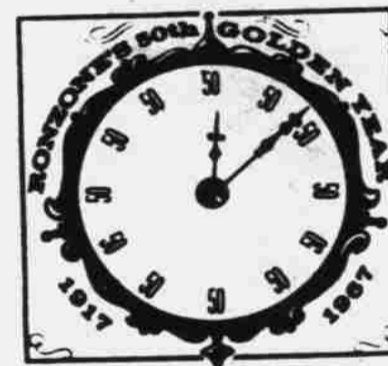
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