

### JDC SHIPS PASSOVER FOOD

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) has shipped over 400,000 pounds of Passover supplies to small Jewish communities throughout the world, including shipments to the communities of Egypt and Lebanon, according to JDC President Donald M. Robinson.

Passover, which commemorates the exodus of the Jews from slavery in ancient Egypt and their wanderings through the desert for forty years before reaching the Promised Land, will begin this year on Monday evening, March 31st.

"The small Jewish communities, in their isolation, symbolize the need for all Jews to reach out to help one another to preserve Jewish tradition and to assure spiritual and physical survival. "This," said Mr. Robinson, "is the traditional role of the JDC as the arm of the American Jewish community concerned with the rescue, relief and reconstruc-

tion of Jews and Jewish communities the world over."

JDC Executive Vice President, Ralph I. Goldman, noted that for the past two years JDC has been providing the small Jewish community of Egypt with Passover matzah and supplies directly, rather than through the International Red Cross as was the case for the past 31 years.

Officials estimate that there are 400 Jews in Lebanon and an equal number in Egypt, divided between Alexandria with 250 and Cairo with 150.

Mr. Goldman noted that wherever possible, JDC provides matzah manufactured in Israel.

### THE FRENCH CAUSE PROBLEMS AGAIN

PARIS (WNS) -- The French government has for the first time officially called for the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Middle East peace talks. President Valéry Giscard

d'Estaing first called for PLO participation during a state dinner in Amman given him by King Hussein of Jordan.

He said the Palestinian problems is not one of refugees but of a people seeking self-determination. This statement, which was seen as supporting the establishment of a Palestinian state, was made throughout his nine-day tour of the Persian Gulf States, Saudi Arabia and then in Jordan.

In Amman, the French President added that any solution should preserve the right of all countries in the region to safe, recognized and guaranteed borders. However he did not mention Israel by name.

But after he reported on his trip to his Cabinet, the French government issued a communique giving its views on the Mideast situation. The communique called on all parties in the Mideast to recognize that a lasting settlement "must be based on two universal and complementary principles which are for each state the right to security and for each people the right to self-determination."

The communique declared that "Each state in the region, in particular the State of Israel whose pre-occupations in this field are legitimate, should be able to live in peace within sure, recognized and guaranteed borders, which implies Israeli withdrawal from Arab

territories occupied since 1967. The Palestinian people, whose aspirations to exist and organize itself as such, should be able to exercise its right to self-determination within the framework of a peace settlement. All parties should on this basis be associated with the negotiations and notably the Palestinian people and this implies the Palestine Liberation Organization."

### IMMIGRANTS FLOCK TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Israel will get 200,000 to 300,000 new immigrants within the next five years, Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, predicted to a meeting of the WZO Executive.

He said the WZO must establish 80 new settlements and raise \$3 billion overseas to take care of the new immigrants. Raanan Weitz, co-chairman of the WZO settlement department, said some settlements were in danger of extinction because of the lack of proper housing.

He suggested building new immigrant moshavim at the rate of three a year. The other settlements department chairman, Matityahu Drobless, said existing settlements require an additional 6000 housing units at a cost of IL 15 million.

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