

Sunday, April 10, 1949

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

Published by JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP BID PLACED ON U.N. AGENDA; POSSIBILITY OF SPEEDY ADMISSION SEEN

LAKE SUCCESS, April 8. (JTA) -- The 14-nation United Nations General Committee today recommended Israel's application for admission to the General Assembly and opened the door to the possibility that it may be acted upon without prior processing in committee.

By a vote of 10 to 3, with Belgium abstaining, the Committee passed a Mexican proposal recommending Assembly consideration of the Security Council endorsement of the application, but leaving it to the Assembly itself to decide whether it should be subjected first to discussion in committee. Had the General Committee followed its normal procedure it would have recommended to the Assembly what organ should process the application. In taking the action it did the committee snubbed a British-Lebanese proposal to send it direct to the Political Committee where it would have been subjected to severe pressure on the issues of the Palestine Arab refugees and the future of Jerusalem.

Those who voted against the Mexican resolution were Britain, Iran and Lebanon. But even Britain and Iran were willing that the application be placed on the agenda, providing it filtered through the Political Committee. And later in the debate Dr. Charles Malik of Lebanon, who at first asked for postponement of any action, said he would be willing to have it go through the Political Committee as the first step to Assembly balloting.

U.S., Soviets Favor Speedy Action on Israeli Application

The United States representative, Warren R. Austin, supported the Mexican suggestion--offered by Padilla Nervo, permanent Mexican representative to the U.N. opposing Lebanese arguments that the U.N. act slowly on the Israeli membership bid, Austin insisted that the reasons advanced were "not proper." However, in reply to Britain, he asserted that the U.S. "was not greatly concerned if it (the application) goes to committee," implying that he expected that the result would be the same--acceptance. Yaacov Malik of the Soviet Union also favored letting the General Assembly itself decide on the procedure to be followed in considering the Israeli application.

Barring an Arab-British filibuster in the Assembly next Tuesday when the Committee's recommendation will probably be taken up, the Israeli delegation may be seated in a day or less. If a British-led bloc attempts to stall the vote and succeeds in sidetracking the issue into committee, it may be weeks before the application is acted upon. It is considered assured here that even if a delay occurs, the final action will be favorable.

It is expected that the British-Arab group will attempt to bloc an immediate vote next week in the Assembly. Their line--indicated during today's debate--will probably be to obtain a report from the Palestine Conciliation Commission in Jerusalem on the Israeli record of cooperation with it. They may even call for a report the recent talks in Tel Aviv between Israeli Premier David Ben Gurion and members of the Commission.

ISRAELI-SYRIAN ARMISTICE TALKS POSTPONED TO TUESDAY; ARABS SAY THEY ARE TOO TIRED

ON THE SYRIAN-ISRAELI FRONTIER, April 8. (JTA) -- The scheduled resumption today of armistice talks between Israel and Syria was called off at the 11th hour when the Damascus envoys sent word to the Jews' tent here that they were "too tired" to continue negotiations. The next meeting will be held Tuesday.

The Israeli armistice delegation members -- headed by Lt. Col. Mordecai Makleff -- were gathered in their tent at 10 A.M. when the renewed talks were scheduled to start. With them were United Nations representatives, including Henri Vigier, civilian advisor to Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, U.N. acting mediator, and Brig. Gen. William Riley, military aide to Bunche.

(The New York Times, in a Beirut dispatch, reported today that Israeli authorities have "promised to withdraw immediately from the position seized Tuesday in Syrian territory." The dispatch said the Jews decided to recall their small unit following a protest note received from Dr. Bunche, who left the Lebanese capital today for Rhodes en route home to the United States.)

ISRAEL EXPECTED TO ACCEPT U.N. INVITATION TO ATTEND CONFERENCE WITH ARABS IN EUROPE

JERUSALEM, April 8. (JTA) -- The Israeli reply to the proposed meeting with Arab representatives and members of the U.N. Conciliation Commission at some neutral site in Europe, probably Geneva, is expected to be in the affirmative. Announcement of acceptance of the invitation will probably be made Tuesday, a Commission spokesman asserted here today.

An informed source, however, stated that considerable pessimism exists among Commission members over any solution arising from an Arab-Israeli meeting insofar as internationalization of the Holy City is concerned. The informant pointed out that Israel had "accepted neither the letter nor the spirit of the United Nations decision" and had rejected internationalization for the new city of Jerusalem in any form.

DR. SCHWARTZ, J.D.C. EUROPEAN HEAD, CONFERS WITH AGENCY OFFICIALS ON AID TO IMMIGRANTS

TEL AVIV, April 8. (JTA) -- Conferences between Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee, and the Jewish Agency on a program of continued aid by the J.D.C. to immigrants after their arrival in Israel opened here today.

Viscount Samuel, first High Commissioner for Palestine after the establishment of the British Mandate, arrived today at Lydda Airport on his first visit to Israel.

A total of 200 Jewish immigrants from Turkey arrived in Haifa today aboard a small Turkish vessel.

MEXICO RECOGNIZES ISRAEL; U.N. DELEGATION ORDERED TO SUPPORT ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP BID

MEXICO CITY, April 8. (JTA) -- The Mexican Government announced last night that it has extended recognition to the state of Israel. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Mexican delegation to the United Nations has been instructed to vote in favor of the Jewish state's admission to the world organization. Mexico's recognition of the Jewish state makes her the 51st nation to have granted acknowledgment to Israel.

ISRAELI CONSULATE IN LONDON ISSUING 30-40 VISAS DAILY; MANY GO TO BRITISH BUSINESSMEN

LONDON, April 8. (JTA) -- The Israeli Consulate here is now issuing between 30 and 40 visas daily, many of them to British businessmen interested in potential markets in Israel that the pending British-Israeli trade talks may open.

About a quarter of the visas issued here are for persons wishing to settle permanently in Israel, part of whom are included in the 1,000 Cholutsim who will proceed to Israel under an "assisted immigration scheme" over a three-month period.

500 OF 900 JEWS LEFT IN TIENTSIN GIVEN ISRAELI VISAS; MUST GO TO SHANGHAI FOR THEM

SHANGHAI, April 8. (JTA) -- Five hundred of the remaining 900 Jews in Tientsin, now under Chinese Communist control, have been granted Israeli visas which are awaiting them here, officials of the International Refugee Organization and the Joint Distribution Committee disclosed today.

They said that a transport probably would be chartered for these Jews for their passage to Israel as soon as they can make their way here. Reports from the Jewish community at Tientsin state that the situation there has returned to normal, following the city's capture by the Communists.

DUTCH CHIEF RABBI APPEALS TO GOVERNMENT TO ACT IN "APPALLING SITUATION" OF WAR ORPHANS

AMSTERDAM, April 8. (JTA) -- Netherlands Chief Rabbi J. Tal today appealed to the Ministry of Justice to take action immediately to "remedy the appalling situation regarding the guardianship for war orphans which is leading in many cases to the estrangement of Jewish children from their parental faith and baptism."

Rabbi Tal's message pointed out that the "legal principle of procuring guardianship for each child in accordance with the religion of the parents is being increasingly ignored by the War Orphans Commission in the case of Jewish children." The appeal added that the "situation calls for the repeal of present legislation which permits totally incompetent persons to decide the fate of children."

The Netherlands Chief Rabbi urged the formation of a new commission on which Jews would be represented. The wire to the Justice Ministry also made a special request that "utmost efforts be made to find the kidnapped Jewish girls, Betty Melhado and Adele Beckman."

1,000 JEWISH REFUGEES FROM AUSTRIA SAIL FROM ITALY FOR ISRAEL; 300 DP'S LEFT EARLIER

ROME, April 8. (JTA) -- The S.S. Galila sailed for Israel today from Bari carrying 1,000 Jewish refugees from Austria. Earlier, it was reported that a group of 300 Israel-bound Jewish refugees from Tripoli, Shanghai and DP camps in Bari sailed aboard the S.S. Eilat for Haifa.

Israel is participating in the International Cattle Breeding Congress which is being held here this week. The Israeli delegate is M. Finzi.

RUMORS OF "RITUAL MURDER" CIRCULATING IN GERMAN TOWN OF HEIDENHEIM; A.M.G. NOTIFIED

MUNICH, April 8. (JTA) -- Rumors of "ritual murder" are circulating in the town of Heidenheim, the Jewish Committee of that town has informed the Central Committee of Liberated Jews here. American Military Government authorities and the office of the advisor on Jewish affairs to A.M.G. have been apprised of the reports by the Central Committee.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS DEMAND EXCLUSION OF NAZIS FROM GERMAN INDUSTRIAL FAIR IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- Jewish organizations--on the eve of the opening here of the German Industries Fair at the Museum of Science and Industry--have demanded that Nazis be removed from German industry and protested against the fact that some Nazis have been involved in the forthcoming exposition. The Fair opens tomorrow.

The National Community Relations Advisory Council urged that "Nazis be carefully screened out of German industry to foreclose the possibility of another alliance between a revived Nazi Germany and a totalitarian Russia." The Council, in a statement issued in behalf of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans and Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said that it had no intention of picketing the exhibit.

Dr. Robert S. Marcus, political director of the World Jewish Congress, urged that the fair be cancelled "because it was the opening wedge for Nazi penetration into the United States." Addressing a Congress meeting at the Hotel New Yorker, he said that "such events as the exhibition should be postponed until German industry was controlled by democratic elements."

The Joint Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism--defense agency of the American Jewish Labor Council and the Jewish People's Fraternal Order--set up what it called a "token picket of 20" persons today outside the building where a preview of the exhibit was shown today. The Joint Committee announced that a "giant demonstration" will take place tomorrow "in protest against the Nazi participants" in the exposition.

AMERICAN CONSUL IN CASABLANCA PROTESTS WITHHOLDING OF MATZOES FROM MOROCCAN JEWS

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The American consul general in Casablanca has protested the withholding of 500 pounds of matzohe consigned to Casablanca Jews, it was learned here today.

The report of the Matzoh issue first came from an American Legion post in Casablanca which also complained on other instances of "discrimination" by the port control officer. The matzohe were a free gift to the Moroccan Jews.

DEADLINE ANNOUNCED ON CLAIMS FOR RECOVERY OF PROPERTY BY VICTIMS OF NAZIS

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- The deadline on claims for the return of property vested during the war with the Office of Alien Property is April 30, 1949, except where less than two years have elapsed since the vesting, the American Jewish Committee was advised by the Department of Justice today. In cases where the period since the vesting is less than two years, the expiration date for the filing of claims is two years from that date.

Section 33 of the Trading With the Enemy Act, which was amended by Public Law 874 of the 80th Congress, fixes April 30, 1949, or two years from the date of vesting, whichever is later, as the date after which claims for the recovery of property by victims of Nazi persecution will be barred. In computing the two-year period, any time during which the claim for return was pending is excluded, according to Assistant Attorney General David L. Bazelon, director of the Office of Alien Property.

LONG ISLAND REGION ENDORSES CANDIDACY OF RABBI IRVING MILLER FOR PRESIDENCY OF Z.O.A.

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the Long Island region of the Zionist Organization of America, at a meeting at the Hotel Statler here last night, endorsed the candidacy of Rabbi Irving Miller for the presidency of the Z.O.A. Only one dissenting vote was cast.

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT PURCHASES 10,000 TONS OF CANADIAN WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT THIS MONTH

MONTREAL, April 8. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government has just purchased 10,000 tons of hard spring wheat in Canada for shipment to the Jewish state, it was revealed here today by the Zionist Organization of Canada. Three thousand tons will be shipped from Quebec this month, while the remaining 7,000 tons will be dispatched from Vancouver on April 20.

NATIONAL DP PARLEY RECOMMENDS SIMPLIFICATION OF IMMIGRANT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

CHICAGO, April 8. (JTA) -- A three-day conference of DP state commissioners throughout the country sponsored by the U.S. Displaced Persons Commission concluded here yesterday after adopting recommendations for the simplification of administrative machinery for the handling of DP's desiring to enter this country. Representatives of HIAS and USNA attended the parley.

Specifically, the conference recommended: Simplification of proceedings on "assurances," which are the guarantees given by private individuals that a DP will have transportation, a job and a home in this country, development of uniform procedures, evaluation of available resources to care for DP's, and development of whatever new types of social services may be needed.

POTOFSKY AND CURRAN TO VISIT ISRAEL AS C.I.O. DELEGATES AT INVITATION OF HISTADRUT

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- C.I.O. president Philip Murray has announced acceptance of an invitation from the Histadrut to send a committee of union leaders to Israel to study conditions there. The C.I.O. named Jacob Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Joseph Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, and O.A. Knight, president of the Oil Workers International Union.

Knight will be unable to go because of forthcoming negotiations on the West Coast, a spokesman for the C.I.O. said. Curran will leave New York April 19 and Potofsky will depart on the following day. They will first visit union leaders in England, France, and Italy, proceeding to Israel in time to be present for the first anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish state. Murray said that the "C.I.O. is gratified by this opportunity to develop still further our close fraternal relationship with Histadrut and with all the people of the democratic Jewish state."

ALL CYPRUS INTERNEES SETTLED IN ISRAEL DESPITE GREAT OBSTACLES, J.D.C. AIDE REVEALS

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- Despite the intense housing shortage in Israel--so great at present that 40,000 men, women and children must live in transit camps--the 11,800 Jewish DP's who arrived from the internment camps of Cyprus in February have already been successfully settled, receiving top housing priority, it was revealed here yesterday by Morris Laub who has just returned to this country after serving two-and-a-half years on Cyprus where he supervised the relief and rehabilitation program of the Joint Distribution Committee. He spoke at a press conference.

"The feat of settling the Cyprus refugees can be appreciated all the more," Laub declared, "when one knows that in the last three weeks alone the number of persons living in Israel transit camps jumped by 12,000, because of the great lack of dwelling space." Despite the "horrible physical facilities" of the Cyprus DP camps, they became the most effective possible staging area for Jewish DP's going to Israel," he added. "The emigrants who left Mr. Bevin's camps after long months of internment were fully prepared to live in Israel by virtue of the extensive health, educational and vocational training program which the Joint Distribution Committee sponsored for them on Cyprus."

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION