

Friday, May 13, 1949

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*ISRAEL FLAG OFFICIALLY HOISTED AT U.N. HEADQUARTERS; SHARETT ATTENDS CEREMONY

LAKE SUCCESS, May 12. (JTA) -- The blue-white flag of Israel, 59th state to be admitted to membership in the United Nations, was hoisted for the first time today in the semicircle of flags on the lawn of U.N. headquarters here.

A cheering throng of 1,000 sang *Hatikvah* as the flag was hoisted into place between the emblems of Iraq and Lebanon by Fred Mott, a U.N. guard who saw service in Palestine as a member of the U.N. force there.

Many delegates emerged from committee sessions to witness the ceremony, among them Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt who was, however, unable to press through the crowd to greet Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett. "It is always a historic moment when a new flag is hoisted," Mrs. Roosevelt said.

Sharett declared at the flag-raising ceremony that the hoisting of Israel's flag was a message to the world that the Jews who died on the battlefield had not died in vain. U.N. guards struggled with a straining crowd which wanted to reach Sharett. Many shook hands with the Israeli Foreign Minister, who, after the ceremony, promptly proceed to the Political Committee room and took his seat at the table.

The full text of Sharett's speech at the ceremony reads:

"This Star of David, which has been carried with us in the thousands of years of our exile, dispersion and martyrdom; this Star of David which has been used by our oppressors as a badge of shame; this Star of David which has been our lodestar in all our wanderings; this white-and-blue flag which we have carried with us in our trials and tribulations in the land of Israel, which accompanied our pioneers when they broke new ground in the wilderness, which was raised by our fighters for freedom in the last World War on all battlefields, which was hoisted over the walls of the Ghetto of Warsaw in that desperate rebellion; this flag which has been a rallying point for the forces of the Jewish people struggling to achieve liberation in our ancestral home--is now marking our full emancipation and has now been raised proudly as the 59th flag in this great circle symbolizing the aspirations and unity of mankind.

"It is a great event. I can only pray that we may prove worthy of the dignity this restores to us, that we may prove equal to the responsibilities which this new status imposes on us. My heart goes out to all those who fell struggling for a new and better future, whose supreme sacrifice has brought us to this stage. May those who lost their dear ones in this momentous struggle find comfort by the thought that the sacrifice has not been in vain, that they died to achieve life, liberty and equality in the family of nations and full creative opportunity for the national souls of their people."

EBAN OPPOSES ITALIAN COLONIES IN FIRST POLICY STATEMENT

LAKE SUCCESS, May 12. (JTA) -- In his first policy statement before the 59th session Political Committee which is now discussing the fate of the Italian colonies, Israel's representative Aubrey S. Eban today said that the Jewish state opposes

British trusteeship over Cyrenaica. It was Eban's maiden speech about 18 hours after Israel was admitted as a member of the United Nations.

Without presuming to make definite conclusions on a complicated issue which Israel has not yet fully studied, Eban said that Israel's guiding principles in dealing with the future of the former Italian colonies would be swift and earliest independence, if possible, and a broad international trusteeship with provisions for "speedy and swift" evolution to freedom. Israel, he said, will judge the nature of any trusteeship on the basis of the least possible privilege to the trust power. Experience, Eban said, has unfortunately shown that British interests in these areas are more closely linked to strategic interests rather than the welfare of the people.

As for Ethiopia's claims in the colonies, Eban declared, Israeli troops had helped liberate the area and Israeli technicians are now aiding in the growth of Ethiopia. Therefore, Israel will look with sympathy to Ethiopia's claim for an outlet to the sea. Ethiopia, in last night's balloting on Israel's membership application, cast a negative vote.

With regard to the Italian claims, Eban stated that there must be a distinction between colonialism for control and colonialism for settlement. It would be unjust, he declared, to confuse pre-war interests of Italy with the aspirations of the country today. Meanwhile, he added, Israel will reserve her right to give a final opinion on Italy's claims.

Dr. Maurice Perlzweig of the World Jewish Congress, who appeared today at the Political Committee as an accredited representative of the Jewish community of Tripolitania, told the Committee that the Jews in Tripolitania would prefer a U.N. trusteeship over the former Italian colonies.

Dr. Perlzweig gave his reaction to a sub-committee proposal for the retention of Tripolitania under British rule until 1951. It was his second declaration before the Political Committee now debating the disposal of the former Italian colonies.

ABDULLAH CONFERS WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS ON JERUSALEM; U.N. PROTOCOL SIGNED AT LAUSANNE

LAUSANNE, May 12. (JTA) -- The U.N. Conciliation Commission received information today that King Abdullah of Transjordan privately met with representatives of the Israeli Government this week to confer on the Jerusalem issue. The Commission was greatly encouraged by this report.

(A Jerusalem dispatch to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported that after two weeks of inactivity, the special Israeli-Transjordan committee for Jerusalem met today for three hours. Although the discussions were kept top-secret, a rumor spread that progress was made regarding accessibility to the Wailing Wall and opening of the road to the Mt. Scopus area.)

The U.N. Commission adjourned its deliberations until Saturday after conferring today privately, first with the Israeli delegation and later with the combined Egyptian-Syrian-Transjordan-Lebanese delegations. An official communique issued by the U.N. body following these meetings revealed that the four Arab states and Israel immediately signed a "protocol which is to become the working basis for future talks." The text of the protocol, however, is being kept secret.

After today's conferences, the Israeli delegation here announced that a committee will be established immediately to initiate frontier negotiations between the Jewish state and her neighbors.

PRESIDENT WEIZMANN LAUDS NATIONS WHICH SUPPORTED ADMISSION OF ISRAEL TO U.N.

PARIS, May 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of Israel, today hailed the admission of Israel to the United Nations and pledged that the people of Israel could justify the confidence of the nations that supported their admission.

"The vote of the United Nations General Assembly sanctions the place of the state of Israel among the nations bound by common ideals of peace and progress," Dr. Weizmann declared here. "Those who voted in favor of admission expressed confidence in the people of Israel and their government.

"In expressing their faith in the ideas of peace, the people of the Book will be worthy of the confidence of the nations. I am proud that the great republic of France voted with those favoring the admission of our young republic. I offer my deep gratitude and that of the Government of Israel."

RE JERUSALEM CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO SHARETT AND EBAN ON ISRAEL'S ADMISSION TO U.N.

TEL AVIV, May 12. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion today sent a congratulatory cable to Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and chief of the Israeli delegation to the U.N., Aubrey S. Eban, lauding them for the role they played in bringing about the Jewish state's admission to the United Nations. The cable reads:

"Greetings from the government and myself to you on the occasion of the admission of Israel to membership in the U.N. The names of both of you will always be associated with this event which set the seal of supreme human authority on the independence and equality of Israel. Our membership in the U.N. can hasten the arrival of peace in the East and promote the establishment of relations of friendship and equality with the Arab countries. It raises Israel's prestige in the world. Be strong and of good courage."

VICE-PRESIDENT BARKLEY SAYS ISRAEL CAN BECOME LEADING NATION IN MIDDLE EAST

WASHINGTON, May 12. (JTA) -- Confidence that Israel can and will become the leader of nations in its part of the world was expressed last night by Vice-President Allen U. Barkley, who hailed Israel's admission to the United Nations in a speech at an Israeli independence rally at Constitution Hall.

The Vice-President said: "All men will recognize the righteousness of the United Nations in taking Israel to their bosom for consultation and guidance." He suggested the valley of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Iraq as a possible location for Arab refugees from Israel.

Some 3,000 persons heard him pay tribute to "the new star in the firmament." He coupled the birth of Israel to the founding of the United States. Speaking of Israel's dealings with the Arabs, he said: "I think I know that people who for nineteen centuries were victims of persecution will not visit that wicked thing on those among whom they live."

Ambassador Eliahu Elath, addressing the meeting, expressed thanks for the support of the United States at Lake Success. Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, spoke of the necessity for investment and industrial development in Israel.

(See additional statements on Israel's admission to the United Nations on

OVER 3,000 HUNGARIAN JEWS FLED TO AUSTRIA DURING PAST TWO WEEKS, A.M.G. ADVISOR REVEALS

VIENNA, May 12. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 Hungarian Jews have fled via Czechoslovakia to Austria during the past two weeks, Harry Greenstein, advisor on Jewish affairs to the A.M.G. in Germany and Austria, declared here today. He attributed the flight of the refugees to "their desperate desire to get out of the country and go to Israel."

Greenstein conferred yesterday with American military authorities in Austria, but said he could not answer questions as to when the Jewish displaced persons camps in this country will be closed down, because of the movement of refugees from the East. The American Military Government advisor revealed that he will soon call a meeting in Vienna of all European Jewish organizations to formulate a unified program of action on restitution problems.

Greenstein asserted today that housing conditions for Jewish refugees in Vienna are deplorable, with hundreds of DP's sleeping in cots in corridors in the Rothschild Hospital. Every available inch of space in the hospital is being used for this purpose, he said, adding that the same situation exists in the Arzberg School here, which is being utilized as a refugee center.

ATTACKS ON JEWISH RELIGION AND ZIONISM CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN MOSCOW PRESS

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- The New York Times continued today to report that the Jewish religion and Jewish cultural institutions, as well as Zionism, are singled out for attacks in the Soviet press, in the campaign against "cosmopolitanism" now being conducted in the Soviet Union.

Quoting the Vetchernaya Moskva, a Moscow evening newspaper, the Times published excerpts from an article which appeared in that paper attacking the Soviet writer Alexander Izbakh for his semi-autobiographical book, "Years of Life," and charging him with "glorification of the Jewish religion."

Stating that "Izbakh was the pseudonym for Isaac Bakrahk," the article, as quoted in the Times, says: "The entire book from the first to last page is saturated with religious cultism. We learn the smallest details of the Jewish ritual service and we may even read in Izbakh's book the text of the funeral prayer." The article claims that "Izbakh openly propagandizes for Zionism in his book" by telling of the influence which Zionism had on Jews. It notes that the book reproduces "the text of the Zionist hymn" and charges the author with devoting many pages "to describing the reading of the Talmud."

U.N. BODY STARTS DISCUSSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MINORITIES

LAKE SUCCESS, May 12. (JTA) -- The U.N. Commission on Human Rights today began examination of the terms of reference of the Sub-commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, working on the basis of a text prepared by a drafting committee, and aimed at clarifying and extending the scope of the present terms of reference.

Meanwhile, the British delegation asked the Sub-commission that a U.N. study of the protection of minorities be postponed until the next session. The Sub-commission now has on its agenda a United States proposal which would empower the group to undertake studies and make recommendations concerning the prevention of discrimination of any kind relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms and the protection of racial, national, religious and cultural minorities.

J.D.C. CEASES OPERATIONS IN BULGARIA; REPORTS LIVES THAN 4,000 JEWS REMAIN IN COUNTRY

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee announced today that it has ceased operations in Bulgaria and closed its office in Sofia. Moses A. Leavitt, J.D.C. executive vice-chairman, reported that less than 4,000 Jews remain in Bulgaria at present out of a postwar population of 48,000, while all but 1,000 of those still remaining in the country plan to leave.

"By next year the Jewish community of Bulgaria," Leavitt declared, "which has existed for some 500 years, will have practically ceased to exist. Bulgaria is the first country in Eastern Europe where the J.D.C. has been able to end operations because the problem is solved," he added. The J.D.C. paid for the emigration of all the 41,000 Jews who left Bulgaria since last year, Leavitt revealed.

ACTING SECRETARY OF ARMY GETS REPORT ON RISING ANTI-SEMITISM IN GERMANY

WASHINGTON, May 12. (JTA) -- A rise in anti-Semitism in Germany was reported today to Acting Secretary of the Army Tracy S. Voorhies by Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, representative to the American Military Government in Germany of the Synagogue Council of America, who recently completed a year's appointment for religious liaison between A.M.G. and German Jewish communities.

Rabbi Kramer told Voorhies that the fundamental bias of the Germans has not been removed and that they still believe the Jews are to blame for the loss of the war and the failure of the Nazi regime. He emphasized that the processes of democratization will have to be watched carefully by the occupying powers.

He reported that the future of Jewish individuals and communities in Germany will depend on the degree of democracy attained in the next few years by the German people and the opportunity offered Jews "for making a living and continuing their lives as Jews in dignity and in freedom."

Between 20,000-30,000 Jews will remain in Germany when the DP camps are emptied, Rabbi Kramer said, stipulating that "these figures are maximal." The total includes a few thousand German Jews who were able to survive and East European Jews who have been able to integrate themselves in settled communities.

Rabbi Kramer recommended to the Army that "in order to safeguard the possibilities of the normal development of the Jewish community in Germany," the following points must be taken under careful consideration:

1. The law for restitution of Jewish property must be implemented in such a way as to enable not only individual Jews but Jewish communities to receive their properties and be given a chance to rebuild them. This restitution law should be extended to cover the British and French zones.
2. The Hitler laws of discrimination must be officially abrogated; safeguards must be provided in the new constitution of western Germany for the free development of all elements in the community, including the Jews; any avoidance of anti-Semitism should be completely stamped out.
3. A greater emphasis should be placed on influencing the educational system of Germany, especially the grade and high schools, for democracy and freedom.

JEWISH LEADERS ISSUE STATEMENTS HAILING ADMISSION OF ISRAEL TO U.N. MEMBERSHIP

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders and organizations today issued statements hailing the decision by the United Nations General Assembly to admit Israel to full-fledged membership.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America, said that the U.N.'s action "is a glorious consummation of more than half a century of Zionist effort and 2,000 years of struggle for national survival and rebirth. Israel has nobly merited the place it has now won. Her admission to the United Nations is as important to the international community as it is to Israel," he said.

In Philadelphia, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, predicted that the establishment of a "democratic government in the Near East will be a boon to the U.N. Increasingly, it is becoming clear that internationalization of Jerusalem would be hard to implement," he stated, adding that "the Holy Places of the Old City would be protected by allowing the new city of Jerusalem to be incorporated in the state of Israel."

Henry Morgenthau Jr., general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, asserted that the "hopes of mankind for the establishment of friendly relations among all nations have been greatly advanced through the admission of Israel to the United Nations." He said he was confident the new state's voice "would be heard clear and sharp in support of justice and the protection of human rights in all parts of the world."

Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee, in a telegram to Secretary of State Dean Acheson said that the Committee was "proud of the support rendered by our own country which culminated in admission of Israel to the United Nations. The U.S. was the first country to recognize the new state," the message emphasized. "We are confident that as a full-fledged member of the world family of nations, Israel will contribute to world peace and security and will be a great force for democracy in the Middle East."

Dr. David W. Petegorsky, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, expressed the view that "through this act of admission, the U.N. has carried to its logical conclusion its own recommendations and decisions and thus far strengthened the status and prestige of the world organization. No state in the world has a greater interest than Israel in the establishment of enduring peace, and no people has a lengthier tradition of justice than the Jewish people with its heritage of the prophetic teachings."

The National Council of Jewish Women, in a statement signed by Mrs. Joseph Wolf, president, termed Israel's admission to U.N. membership "an important contribution to peace in the Middle East." Messages of felicitation were dispatched to President Weizmann of Israel and U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie by the Council.

Argentine Deputies Pay Tribute to Israel on Her Admission to U.N.

BUENOS AIRES, May 12. (JTA) -- The Argentine Chamber of Deputies, acting on a motion proposed by the Peronist bloc, rose to pay tribute today to Israel on the occasion of the new state's acceptance by the United Nations as a full-fledged member.

A spokesman for the pro-government group noted the creation of the Jewish state as following on the heels of the Jewish people's wartime suffering. The Radical deputies, who form the major opposition group to the government party, joined in the tribute to Israel.