

# JTA Daily News Bulletin

## U.N. MEDIATOR DISCUSSES PALESTINE SITUATION WITH TRUMAN; DECLINES STATE DEPT. POST

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, U.N. acting mediator for Palestine, told President Truman today that he has decided to decline an appointment as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and African Affairs.

Dr. Bunche, who called at the White House this afternoon, said that he discussed the Palestine situation with the President. He declared that the Israeli-Syrian armistice negotiations are "making only slow progress" and added that he was working on conclusion of the armistice "from this end" with Israeli and Syrian representatives. He indicated that he plans to ask to be relieved of his post as U.N. mediator after the final Israeli-Syrian terms are signed.

## U.S. PROPOSAL TO BRING ARABS AND JEWS TOGETHER FOR DIRECT TALKS DEFEATED AT LAUSANNE

LAUSANNE, May 25. (JTA) -- Serious differences over policy in the ranks of the Conciliation Commission were climaxed today in a turbulent session in which the French and Turkish members voted down the United States proposal to bring the Israeli and Arab delegations here together for direct negotiations. This would seem to be the culmination of the long-smouldering dissension within the Commission.

Mark Ethridge, U.S. member of the three-nation body, asked why the Commission's latest memorandum to the Israeli delegation here had taken five days for the journey from Room 5 to Room 300 of the Beau Rivage Hotel and its work consequently delayed. From subsequent recrimination, it emerged that the French representative, Claude de Boisanger, present chairman of the Commission, had spent the week-end in Paris and had instructed the Commission's secretariat here not to commit any transactions in his absence.

Simultaneously, Hussein Yahid Yaltchin, the Turkish member, announced that he was going to England immediately for ten days discussions with the Turkish Parliamentary party. Mr. Ethridge then inquired whether there were so few Turkish diplomats available that Mr. Yaltchin had to leave the work of the Commission for what was, in his view, little more than a glorified pleasure trip.

These and other developments have lowered the prestige of the Conciliation Commission to a point on which even the disputing Arab and Israeli delegations are agreed. Mulki Pasha, Transjordan Minister of Defense, who is one of his country's delegates, charged that the Commission had failed completely to fulfill its functions. It had not once seized the initiative, he said, as Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, U.N. acting mediator for Palestine, had done. It had proposed nothing, he charged, and had done nothing to bring the parties together. Mulki Pasha added that he had today booked passage for home.

With these views of the Amman delegate, an Israeli spokesman today expressed wholehearted agreement. But he added that the Israelis are staying on at Lausanne to see what could still be salvaged.

## U.N. Commission Did Not Receive Israeli-Transjordan Plan for Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- James Barco, political adviser to Mr. Ethridge, today told a press conference here that "the Conciliation Commission plan for internationalization of Jerusalem is still in its infant stages." He denied that the U.N. had ever received a joint Israel-Transjordan proposal for dividing the city between the two countries.

23 JEWS RESCUED FROM SEA BROUGHT TO HAIFA; PUT OFF TURKISH VESSEL BY CAPTAIN

HAIFA, May 25. (JTA) -- Twenty-three Turkish Jews were yesterday rescued from the Mediterranean sea by a small sailing boat and were landed here. The survivors told a harrowing story of drifting on a life raft and finally being forced to swim for hours after it sank. They said that at least four or five companions had been drowned.

The survivors stated that they had boarded the vessel Barul at a Turkish port. The captain of the Barul raised the price of their passage several times until their ability to pay was exceeded. Then he put them aboard the life raft. When the raft sank, they floated and swam until they were rescued.

ISRAEL WILL ABSORB 200,000 IMMIGRANTS ANNUALLY, PREMIER BEN GURION PREDICTS

TEL AVIV, May 25. (JTA) -- The annual absorption of an expected 200,000 immigrants was predicted last night by Premier David Ben Gurion, addressing the seventh Histadrut convention.

The Israeli Premier estimated that it would cost half a billion dollars to bring in and absorb 200,000 newcomers and provide at least 60,000 to 70,000 housing units and 12 to 15 thousand agricultural units needed for them annually.

The Premier said that exports now reached only 3,000,000 pounds (about \$12,000,000) annually. He called for a radical increase, adding that otherwise Israel's economic independence was endangered. He also urged an increase in the productivity of labor and the use of modern production methods.

Israel's main aims were gathering in the exiles and carrying out the Socialist ideal which "is up to our generation to accomplish," he stated. He called for a great pioneering movement all over the world, especially in the United States and said that all Israeli youths were obliged to spend part of their youth in agricultural work and that every child should be taught a useful trade. Israel's tribulations had not yet passed, he went on, warning against too early complacency and self-confidence.

The Histadrut convention is being attended by 500 delegates from all over the country and many visitors and representatives from abroad.

MOSCOW PAPER SAYS "AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS" SEEK TO CONTROL ISRAEL'S POLICIES

MOSCOW, May 25. (JTA) -- The current issue of the Soviet review, "New Times," renews the charge today of an Anglo-American "conspiracy" in the Middle East designed to create a "strategic springboard aimed against the Soviet Union."

The publication asserts that "American imperialists, through their agents in Zionist circles, are attempting to take into their hands the economy and policies of the state of Israel through dollar loans and other means."

At the same time, the publication charges, their "English partner" is "using its old ties in the circles of the Jewish bourgeoisie and is trying, through its Transjordan puppet, King Abdullah, to seize that part of Palestine in which a national Arab state was to have been founded on the basis of the United Nations partition decision."

RUMANIA PERMITS 142 JEWS TO LEAVE FOR JEWISH STATE; AGED SOVIET WOMAN SAILS FOR ISRAEL

BUCHAREST, May 25. (JTA) -- A group of 179 Jewish emigrants - the largest group to receive Rumanian exit visas this year - will sail for Israel tomorrow aboard the Rumanian liner Transylvania.

The group includes 142 Rumanian nationals and 29 others, one of them a 68-year-old woman of Soviet nationality sailing to join her children in the Kfar Gileadi settlement.

OFFICIAL CEREMONY MARKS OPENING OF HADERA-AFULA ROAD; ARAB WITHDRAWAL COMPLETED

TEL AVIV, May 25. (JTA) -- Following completion of the Arab Legion's evacuation of the southern end of the so-called Arab triangle, the Wadi Araba road was officially opened today by ceremonial convoys that covered the distance between Hadera and Afula, travelling in both directions. The distance between these two points is now shortened by half, which will mean a substantial reduction in the cost of transporting agricultural produce between the two settlements.

ISRAEL AND SWITZERLAND REACH AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULATES

TEL AVIV, May 25. (JTA) -- Announcement was made today by the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the new state and Switzerland have decided to raise the rank of their respective diplomatic missions to that of consulate.

It was also disclosed that Samuel Tolkowsky would be appointed consul-general to Berne, which he is expected to reach by the end of this month. (Col. Yigal Yadin, Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army, who is now on a visit to Switzerland, was formally received today at the headquarters of the Swiss general staff.)

"PALESTINE POST" SUSPENDED FOR ONE DAY; CHARGED WITH CENSORSHIP INFRINGEMENT

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- For the first time in the paper's history the Palestine Post, Israel's only English-language daily, was suspended by censorship today for one day for an alleged censorship infringement, the nature of which was not disclosed.

The suspension is expected to intensify criticism of the censorship which has been expressed in many quarters in recent months. The censorship is military in nature. Critics charge that the censorship has become political. These charges will be aired in the Israeli Knesset soon in the course of a debate on censorship.

Gershon Agronsky, editor of the Palestine Post, has been appointed head of the government's information office which will function in the Premier's office. He will assume his new duties June 1.

HANDSHAKE ENDS WAR AGAINST BRITAIN "DECLARED" TEN YEARS AGO BY IRGUN IN PALESTINE

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- A handshake yesterday ended a war "declared" against Britain ten years ago by the Irgun Zvai Leumi, according to a report to the Daily Express here.

D. Woodward, British legation press officer, walked into the Tel Aviv offices of the morning newspaper Freedom, which has expressed the Irgun viewpoint, and performed the handshake ritual. "A year ago such a call would have been suicidal," the Express points out in its report.

BRITAIN CHARGES NAZI GENERAL WITH PARTICIPATING IN MASS MURDER OF JEWS IN RUSSIA

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- The British War Office announced today that former Field Marshal Fritz Erich von Manstein, German commander in the Russian campaign, will stand trial shortly in Hamburg on 17 charges of genocide and atrocities against civilians, including the charge that he participated in the program of mass extermination of Jews in Russia.

Von Manstein was found by medical examiners to be fit for trial. The War Office announcement said that the Nazi field marshal's program of extermination of Jews and Gypsies in Russia was carried out by means of "shooting, gassing and drowning" and was in line with the "Hitler Government's planned biological extermination of the Jewish race."

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH EDUCATION OPENS ANNUAL MEETING IN ATLANTIC CITY TODAY

ATLANTIC CITY, May 25. (JTA) -- The five-day annual meeting of the American Association for Jewish Education will open here tomorrow with 300 Jewish educators and community leaders from all sections of the U.S. in attendance. Educators from several Canadian provinces will also participate in the meeting.

The delegates will consider "progress and prospects in Jewish education" and will map plans for launching a campaign to stimulate interest in Jewish education in this country, as well as in raising the professional standards in this field.

MIZRACHI NATIONAL CONFERENCE OPENS IN ISRAEL; JERUSALEM SOUGHT AS ISRAELI CAPITAL

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- The nations of the world were called upon today to remember that "the redemption of Israel will not be complete until Jerusalem becomes Israel's capital." The call was made by Rabbi J.L. Maimon, Israeli Minister for Religion, addressing the opening session of a two-day national conference of the Mizrachi organization.

The Minister--a member of Mizrachi--told the 100 delegates and guests from the United States and Europe that Mizrachi did not seek to make Israel a theocratic state. "We won't dominate anyone," he declared, "but the state must be built on the foundations of the Torah and a way must be found to bring the State and the Torah into harmony.

"The adjustment should not be made by reforms," he declared, "but by rabbis who should consider the new ways of life and the interests of the state." He urged the establishment of a supreme cultural center in Israel but said it would be a "disaster" if the Hebrew University were to become that center. "I can understand a university for chemistry or medicine," he added, "but not for Judaism."

MEMORIAL MEETING HONORING DR. WISE HELD IN CARNEGIE HALL; JUSTICE DOUGLAS SPEAKS

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The memory of Dr. Stephen S. Wise was honored here tonight at a meeting at Carnegie Hall addressed by U.S. Supreme Justice William O. Douglas, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Irving Miller, Dr. Joachim Prinz and other Jewish and non-Jewish leaders.

The memorial meeting was held under the joint auspices of the American Jewish Congress and the World Jewish Congress. Rabbi Wise was president of both organizations. Justice Douglas emphasized that Rabbi Wise assumed a prominent place in the American community because "he threw himself into movements for civic and national improvement, for industrial justice, for social progress." His services to the Jewish people and the Zionist cause were stressed by Dr. Goldmann, Lipsky and other speakers.

RABBINICAL COUNCIL URGES U.S. JEWS TO RECOGNIZE ISRAELI RABBINATE AS CENTRAL AUTHORITY

ATLANTIC CITY, May 25 (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Council of America, at the closing session of its 13th annual convention here today, issued a call to American Jewry to recognize the Israeli Chief Rabbinate as the central religious authority for world Jewry. The call was issued in the form of a resolution adopted by the 150 delegates attending the convention. Rabbi Israel Tabak, of Baltimore, was unanimously reelected president.

Reviewing the relationship between the Council and American Jews with the Israeli Rabbinate, Rabbi Charles B. Chavel, of Edgemere, L.I., declared that "it is clearly understood that the relationship is purely voluntary and that therefore the Chief Rabbinate will act as a guiding light to all Jewish communities seeking religious instruction in the light of Torah and its oral traditions."

William B. Herlands, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, urged the immediate formation of a "League for United Orthodoxy" to include all principal Orthodox Jewish agencies in the U.S. He said that the proposed group would seek the financial support of American Jewry, but "should such support not be forthcoming through the media of existing Jewish community fund-raising agencies, the combined Orthodox group would be compelled to establish its own nationwide 'United Orthodox Jewish Appeal.'"

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE TESTIFIES ON NEED FOR FEDERAL F.E.P.C. LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Federal legislation to ensure fair employment practices is urgently needed to protect the employment opportunities of more than 50,000,000 Americans who at one time or another face job discrimination due to racial and religious prejudice, Irving M. Engel, chairman of the American Jewish Committee's executive committee, today told members of the House labor sub-committee considering the administration's Fair Employment Practices Bill.

"Most forward-looking businessmen are coming to the conclusion that Federal legislation for fair employment practices is needed," Mr. Engel said, adding that racial and religious prejudice is costing this nation \$2,000,000,000 yearly. "The reason behind such a statement is clear. Business consists of two sides of the coin. One is production; the other is consumption. Both suffer when discrimination in employment holds sway," Mr. Engel said.

Mr. Engel said that the American Jewish Committee considers the Powell Bill and its companion in the Senate, the McGrath Bill, the most preferable of the fair employment practices bills now pending in Congress. He asked, however, that their wording be amended to include "ancestry" within the definition of discriminatory practices which should be forbidden.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS APPEALS TO SUPREME COURT AGAINST BARRING NEGROES FROM LAW SCHOOL

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress announced today that it has filed a brief urging the U.S. Supreme Court to review the Texas courts' refusal to require the Texas State Law School to admit Negroes.

The action was started by Heman Sweatt who applied in 1946 for admission to the law school maintained by the State of Texas for white students only. Ultimately Texas offered Sweatt a legal education in a separate school for Negroes. Rejecting this proposal, Sweatt took his case to the Texas courts where he sought to prove that the proposed Negro school was not and could not be equal to the long-established white school. The highest court of Texas denied his plea on Oct. 27, 1948.

Stressing the importance of a review of that decision by the Supreme Court, the A.J.C.'s memorandum stated: "The issue here is not merely the admission of one man into one school but the admission of an entire people into a community."

ALLIANCE ISRAELITE CONSIDERING OPENING SCHOOLS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN ISRAELI CITIES

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The Alliance Israelite Universelle is contemplating opening schools of higher learning in major Israeli cities, Jules Braunschwig, vice-president of the Alliance, reported here today upon his arrival from Israel.

"Because of the long experience the Alliance has had in the field of education in North Africa and the Near East, its schools in Israel are particularly suited to facilitate the integration of immigrants from these areas into the life of the new state," Mr. Braunschwig said. While in Israel, he established a basis for an agreement with the Israeli Government regarding the Alliance's elementary schools in the Jewish state.

ARGENTINE JEWISH LEADER SAYS PERON SUPPRESSED ANTI-SEMITISM IN COUNTRY

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- Sucher Matrajt, president of the pro-Peron Argentine Jewish organization known as the "O.I.A.," said here today that anti-Semitism in Argentina, "which had previously been widespread," was completely suppressed after Gen. Juan Peron came to power. Mr. Matrajt arrived here for consultations with British Jewish leaders, following a visit to Israel where he presented President Weizmann with a personal message from Peron.

The O.I.A. leader maintained that the principle of "non-discrimination in public life and in commerce" in Argentina has been fully established. He lauded the achievements which the Israeli Government has performed and expressed confidence that "close and friendly relations will be established" between Israel and Argentina.

CSE WILL ESTABLISH SCHOOL FOR JEWISH NURSES IN ARGENTINA; OPENS OWN BUILDING

BUENOS AIRES, May 25. (JTA) -- The Argentine CSE has opened its own building here, at a ceremony attended by Dr. Leo Wulman, one of the leaders of the world CSE. A school for nurses will soon be established in the building.

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS WILL HOLD ITS CONVENTION IN CLEVELAND IN 1950

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The forty-first biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations will be held in Cleveland from November 12-15, 1950, it was announced today by Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union. Originally, it was planned to hold the convention in Los Angeles, but the impossibility of making proper arrangements caused the change, the announcement stated.

HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN, EDITOR OF AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, GETS AWARD OF APPRECIATION

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- Harry Schneiderman, editor of the American Jewish Year Book for the past 40 years, received an award of appreciation today for his "sincere devotion to Jewish literature" at the annual meeting of the Jewish Book Council of America, held at the Jewish Museum. The award was conferred on Mr. Schneiderman by Dr. Mordecai Soltes, executive director of Yeshiva University.

HARRY VECHSLER, MANAGING EDITOR OF CANADIAN JEWISH CHRONICLE, DIES IN MONTREAL AT 57

MONTREAL, May 25. (JTA) -- Harry Vechslor, managing editor of the Canadian Jewish Chronicle for the past 25 years, died here at the age of 57. Long active in local Jewish communal affairs, he was one of the founders of Habonim in this city.

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