

# JTA Daily News Bulletin

Wednesday, March 15, 1950

Published by the JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY - 106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N.Y.

## CRISIS IN ISRAEL CABINET RESOLVED; AGREEMENT REACHED ON EDUCATION IN IMMIGRANT CAMPS

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA)--The crisis which threatened the break-up of the Israel Cabinet over the issue of religious education in the immigrant camps was resolved today when an agreement was reached between the Mapai and the Orthodox Bloc.

No details of the agreement were announced. However, it was emphasized that all misunderstandings on the question of religious education have been cleared up.

## NEGOTIATIONS ON WIDENING OF ISRAEL CABINET FAIL; NO FURTHER TALKS EXPECTED

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA)--The negotiations between the Mapai and the Mapam on the latter's joining the Israel Cabinet are ended, it was announced here today following a meeting of the Mapai Council.

The announcement said that the Mapai Council sees no further purpose in continuing the talks with the Mapam in view of the latter's negative response to suggestions made by the Mapai. The Council decided to publish soon a detailed version of the various stages of the negotiations between the two Socialist groups.

Regional countrywide conferences will be held during this week-end by the Mapai Party to discuss the views and attitude of the Mapam in connection with the efforts of the Mapai to enlist the cooperation of the left-wing group in a wider coalition Cabinet. -

## U.N. CONCILIATION COMMISSION MAY PROCEED TO ISRAEL AND ARAB COUNTRIES TO TALK PEACE

GENEVA, March 14. (JTA)--Deadlocked in its attempt to bring together Israel and the Arab countries in peace talks here, the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission, which has been in session in Switzerland since January, today indicated that its members may proceed early next month to Israel and the Arab countries for on-the-spot discussions with the respective governments on the possibilities of peace.

The Conciliation Commission, which was established about a year ago at Lake Success, has made practically no progress in its work. Arab delegates here refused to sit at the same table with Israel representatives. Thus, the Commission was compelled to deal with the Arab and Israel representatives separately.

Some of the members of the Commission entertain the hope that a non-aggression pact between Transjordan and Israel may be signed before the end of this month. Anticipating such a possibility, the Commission has done practically nothing during the last two weeks, apparently believing that any pact reached directly between Israel and Transjordan will pave the way for conciliation with other Arab countries.

3/15/50

SIX JEWISH YOUTHS PERISH IN JERUSALEM EXPLOSION; BLAST OCCURRED IN DEMILITARIZED ZONE

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA)--The death toll in yesterday's mine explosion here reached six today as another of the 19 Jewish youths injured in the blast succumbed in Hadassah Hospital.

All the victims are youthful immigrants from Turkey who were attending the Jewish agricultural school in the demilitarized Government House zone here. The blast occurred some 30 yards from the House itself, which serves as headquarters for the U.N. staff in Jerusalem. Apparently the mine, an anti-tank variety, was overlooked when the area was swept for landmines.

It appears that the party of youths, accompanied by an older man, came across the mine and attempted to get rid of it. After the guide failed to set it off with revolver shots, he permitted one of the boys to pick it up and throw it to one side. The mine struck a rock and was detonated. After the blast, members of the U.N. staff transported the victims to Hadassah hospital in U.N. cars.

ISRAEL-BRITISH FINANCIAL TALKS NEARING COMPLETION; PROGRESS REPORTED "GOOD"

LONDON, March 14. (JTA)--The financial talks between Britain and Israel concerning the settlement of various claims arising from the termination of the British Mandate for Palestine are making good progress and are drawing to a close, it was indicated here today in authoritative quarters.

Although there have been no formal plenary meetings between the two delegations since the return to London of David Horowitz, head of the Israel group, from a visit to Washington, there have been frequent sub-committee sessions on pensions for former employees of the Mandate Government and the treatment of enemy property.

Although it has not been announced when the talks are scheduled to end, it is known that the Israel delegation and technical staff are returning home on Thursday. Israel sources admit that there are a number of differences which still have to be ironed out.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT APPOINTS DR. LOWDERMILK CONSULTANT ON SOIL CONSERVATION

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA)--Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, famed American soil conservationist and water resources control expert, has accepted a one year appointment, effective October 1, as consultant to the Israel Government, it was learned here today. Before his return to the United States Dr. Lowdermilk was received by Premier David Ben Gurion and Acting Premier and Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan.

John L. Savage, American engineer connected with the Tennessee Valley Authority and an expert on irrigation problems, arrived here today from the United States. Mr. Savage will remain for two months to advise the Israel Government on problems concerning irrigation and the harnessing of river waters.

ISRAEL AIRLINE DENIES CAIRO REPORT THAT "ZIONIST" PLANE CRASHED INTO RED SEA

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA)--The El Al Airlines here today denied a Cairo report that a "Zionist" plane carrying 25 passengers crashed into the Red Sea yesterday. "All scheduled airplanes safely reached the Lydda airport yesterday," the announcement said.

U.N. TO START DISCUSSION TODAY ON STATUS OF PERSONS MISSING AS RESULT OF PERSECUTION

LAKE SUCCESS, March 14. (JTA)--A conference of United Nations members will convene here tomorrow to discuss a draft convention on the declaration of the death of missing persons. So far, the world organization has been unable to conclude such an international instrument because of the great legal complexities involved in the issue.

The convention to be studied in the two-week conference is a draft prepared by Secretary-General Trygve Lie as revised last year by an ad hoc committee of the Economic and Social Council. It contains 19 articles applicable to declarations of death of persons whose last residence was in Europe, Asia or Africa and who disappeared during the years 1939-45 as a consequence of war or persecution.

The draft proposes the establishment of an International Bureau for Declarations of Death whose seat, composition, organization and method of operation would be determined by the U.N. Secretary-General. It also provides for tribunals empowered to issue declarations of death, and would give the same legal respect to such declarations as official death certificates, to be recognized by all parties to the convention.

PERON RECEIVES JEWISH REPRESENTATIVES; ASSURES THEM OF SUPPRESSION OF ANTI-SEMITISM

BUENOS AIRES, March 14. (JTA)--Assurances that anti-Jewish propaganda will not be tolerated in Argentina were given here today by President Juan Peron to a Jewish delegation composed of representatives of the pro-Peronist Organization Israelita Argentina and the DAIA, central representative Jewish body.

The clause in the Argentine constitution prohibiting racial discrimination will not be a "dead letter," President Peron told the Jewish leaders. He emphasized that anti-Jewish agitation in Argentina several years ago was a product of Nazi influence and has now disappeared.

Asserting that conservative elements in the country are behind the anti-Semitic Alianza Libertadora Nacionalista, President Peron stated that he had always fought the anti-Jewish elements within the administration, but has been doing it "tactfully." The President urged the Jews of Argentina not to isolate themselves from the country's political life.

Two Jewish candidates running on the Peronist ticket in the provincial elections in Entre Rios were this week elected by overwhelming majorities. They are Nisio Katznelson and Santiago Schoenfeld. The Peronist bloc, which won a preponderant majority of the votes in the provincial balloting, received substantial pluralities in the Jewish areas.

FORMER TURKISH JEWS MAY BE PERMITTED TO REVISIT COUNTRY AS TOURISTS

ISTANBUL, March 14. (JTA)--Jews who emigrated from Turkey, settled abroad and have since lost their Turkish citizenship will be permitted to return to this country as tourists under a new bill just introduced into the Parliament. In the past many Jews were prevented from visiting friends and relatives who had remained in Turkey.

3/15/50

DR. HARRIS J. LEVINE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF J.N.F. OF AMERICA; SUCCEEDS JUDGE ROTHENBERG

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Harris J. Levine, Zionist leader, was unanimously elected president of the Jewish National Fund of America today at the annual meeting of the J.N.F., held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. He succeeds Judge Morris Rothenberg who resigned to assume the national chairmanship of the United Palestine Appeal.

In a report reviewing his six years' incumbency, Judge Rothenberg, who presided at the annual meeting, declared that more than \$108,000,000 had been received by the Jewish National Fund of America in that period. Of that sum, \$93,000,000 represents income from the United Palestine Appeal -- United Jewish Appeal, while \$15,000,000 was raised in small collections contributed by Jews throughout the United States through the traditional collections of the Jewish National Fund.

The annual conference paid tribute to the late Daniel Frisch, president of the Zionist Organization of America. Dr. Levine announced that a project in the form of a 100,000-tree forest will be launched immediately to honor Mr. Frisch's memory. This memorial forest will be adjacent to the George Washington Forest which was planted by American Jews and non-Jews through the J.N.F. as a tribute to the first President of the United States.

Announcement was also made that in tribute to Judge Rothenberg's distinguished career of more than 25 years of service to the Zionist movement, a dinner will be tendered in his honor in May under the joint auspices of the United Palestine Appeal and the Jewish National Fund. Mr. Elias M. Epstein, overseas director of the Jerusalem headquarters of the J.N.F. who is scheduled to return to Israel today, declared that he was confident that the Fund was now entering the most significant and productive stage in its nearly fifty years of existence.

Elected along with Dr. Levine were Louis Segal, honorary secretary; Jacob Sincoff, national treasurer; Rabbi Max Kirshblum and Miss Juliet M. Benjamin, associate treasurers. Mendel W. Fisher was named, for the 15th consecutive year, secretary and executive director. Sixty-two members were elected to the board of directors, representing all Zionist groups in this country and eighteen were named to the administrative committee. Dr. Israel Goldstein, former president of the fund, Dr. Pinkhos Churgin, Mrs. Rose L. Halperin, Louis Lipsky, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia, and Baruch Zuckerman were elected honorary chairmen.

MONTREAL JEWISH COMMUNITY LAUNCHES \$1,680,000 UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL DRIVE FOR 1950

MONTREAL, March 14. (JTA) -- The local \$1,680,000 drive of the United Israel Appeal was launched here at a dinner in the Windsor Hotel with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland as guest speaker.

Samuel Bronfman, Canadian Jewish leader, declared at the dinner that "we are determined to complete the gigantic tasks of immigration, resettlement and rehabilitation in Israel in which we have been engaged for more than a decade. What we do in Montreal will inspire renewed generosity and self-sacrifice on behalf of the United Israel Appeal in communities from coast to coast."

TWO SHIPS TO CARRY AMERICAN SURPLUS POTATOES TO ISRAEL; ONE SAILS TODAY FROM MAINE

SEARSPORT, Maine, March 14. (JTA) -- The Israel-chartered Greek freighter *Essos* will sail from here tomorrow with surplus Maine potatoes which were purchased by the Israel Government from the U.S. Agricultural Department for the surplus price of one cent a bushel. A British freighter will pick up a second cargo of potatoes for Israel within a week.

3/15/50

ELATH HONORED IN CHICAGO; DEFINES RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AMERICAN JEWRY

CHICAGO, March 14. (JTA)--Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath was tonight awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters by the College of Jewish Studies here at a special convocation to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the College. The same degree was conferred on: Prof. Harry Wolfson of Harvard University; Prof. Julian Morgenstern, president emeritus of the Hebrew Union College; and the late Prof. Chaim Tchernowitz, renowned Talmudist and Hebrew author.

Ambassador Elath, the featured speaker at the convocation, declared that "the relations between Israel and American Jewry may well constitute the pattern for the relations between Israel and all the other settled branches of world Jewry." He added that "translated into immediate realities" this meant preparation by gaining knowledge of the Hebrew language and culture and "a constant and increasing movement of pioneers from this country to Israel."

The Ambassador quoted from a recent address by Israel Premier David Ben Gurion, in which he asked for American "know-how" to be brought to Israel by American Jewish engineers, chemists, builders and technicians. Ambassador Elath also called on American Jewry to "see to it that young Jewish boys and girls raised in the proud traditions of American concepts of liberty and democracy should carry these with them to Israel."

"They can bring their spirit of devotion to democratic ideals and their professional knowledge and skill and apply them to the constructive absorption of the new immigrants," he said. "What we expect from American Jewry, we also expect from the Jews in England, South Africa, France, Australia and other countries," he concluded.

CONSUL WARNS AGAINST SENDING AUTOMOBILES AS GIFTS TO FRIENDS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA)--The Government of Israel will no longer grant permission for the importation of automobiles as gifts for residents of Israel, Arthur Lourie, consul general in New York, announced today. The government's action was taken after it was learned that many of the gift shipments were not bona fide transactions and violated import and currency regulations to the detriment to the state's economy.

"Tourists who wish to use their cars during their trips in Israel may do so by securing a carnet de passage from the American Automobile Association prior to their departure for Israel or by posting a bond with Israel customs officials upon their arrival," Mr. Lourie said. "The bond will be returned when they take the car out of the country." Tourists are forbidden to sell or leave their cars in Israel unless they secure an import license in advance of arrival.

ISRAEL CABINET MEMBERS AND CONSULAR CORPS ATTEND FUNERAL OF DR. ELIAH IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA)--Premier David Ben Gurion today interrupted his vacation to participate in the funeral of Dr. Mordecai Eliahu, Israel's late Ambassador to Britain.

The funeral procession started from the Jewish Agency premises and included the entire consular corps. Members of the Cabinet, of the Jewish Agency executive, and of Israel's Supreme Court were among the pallbearers. Eulogies were delivered by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and Chief Rabbi Ben Zion Uziel. Burial took place at the Sanhedria Cemetery.

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