

Friday, May 26, 1950

JTA Daily News Bulletin

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

TRUMAN ANNOUNCES BIG-THREE AGREEMENT ON SUPPLYING ARMS TO ISRAEL AND ARAB STATES

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- President Truman today announced that a major agreement has been reached between the United States, Britain and France with regard to the question of supplying arms and war material to the Arab states and Israel on the basis of their needs to maintain a certain level of armed forces for the purpose of assuring their internal security and their legitimate self-defense. The possibility that they may play a part in the defense of the Middle Eastern area as a whole was also taken into consideration.

The text of the agreement, which was made public today (see page 2) simultaneously in Washington, London and Paris, was handed over this morning by the State Department separately to the diplomatic representatives of the Arab states and to Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath. In announcing the agreement at his press conference today, President Truman said:

"The participation of the United States Government in the declaration emphasizes this country's desire to promote the maintenance of peace in the Near East. It is the belief of the United States Government that the declaration will stimulate, in the Arab countries and Israel, increased confidence in future security, thus accelerating the progress now being made in the Near East and contributing toward the well-being of the peoples there."

Top-level government officials, commenting on the American-British-French declaration, said that there is every evidence that the document will be well received by Israel and the Arab states. They pointed out that the U.S. Government does not expect the three-power agreement to result in an increase of activity in the arms race between Israel and the Arab countries. They also expressed the hope that the agreement will encourage Arab-Israel negotiations for peace treaties through the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission.

Congressional Leaders Consulted Before Agreement Was Drawn Up

American diplomats hailed the agreement as an indication that the three powers will act together on Middle East policy. An apparatus for the exchange of information among the three powers on the arms situation in the Middle East and shipments to that area has been created, they revealed. They also revealed that Congressional leaders were consulted by the State Department before the three-power declaration was drawn up.

State Department officials emphasized the fact that Israel has received more American munitions than the Arab states. They also insist that the U.S. Government is completely satisfied that there is no threat to peace in the Middle East and that none of the states in that area has aggressive intentions, nor is any state now in a position to launch effective aggressive warfare.

Sources close to the State Department's Munitions Export Control Section insisted today that Israel has submitted a list of arms she wishes to buy and that the arms, with some exceptions, have been generally approved. The quantity Israel has received here was said to be considerable, although it was added that the total arms shipments to the Middle East were of insignificant proportions. Only arms commercial-

ly available are being licensed for sale by the United States. Jet planes, however, are considered in this category, it was indicated.

It was also revealed here today that the U.S. Government stipulated that the joint American-British-French declaration should have no bearing on the State Department's consideration of any particular arms list submitted by the Israel Government for approval. On the other hand, it was indicated that the U.S. will maintain a rough balance of power between Israel and the Arab states through the continuous exchange of information with Great Britain.

The general purpose of the joint declaration was said here to be directed toward the prevention of anxiety by instilling a feeling of arms security in both Arabs and Jews. Officials expressed the hope that the assurances voiced in the declaration will pacify the Middle East area rather than stimulate an arms race there.

Although the declaration expressed opposition to the violation of frontiers or armistice lines, it was stressed in official circles today that this should not be taken to mean that it was an actual guarantee that Congressional approval would have been necessary before the U.S. Government could have participated in such an assurance. Government officials admitted that the declaration was deliberately vague about just what action the U.S. might take to prevent violations. They emphasized that it was not the intention of the declaration to freeze existing armistice lines.

FULL TEXT OF JOINT AMERICAN-BRITISH-FRENCH DECLARATION ON NEAR EAST ARMS PROBLEM

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Following is the text of the joint statement issued today on the American-British-French agreement on arms to Middle East countries:

"The Governments of the United Kingdom, France and the United States, having had occasion during the recent Foreign Ministers' meeting in London to review certain questions affecting the peace and stability of the Arab states and of Israel, and particularly that of the supply of arms and war material to these states, have resolved to make the following statement:

"1. The three governments recognize that the Arab states and Israel all need to maintain a certain level of armed forces for the purpose of assuring their internal security and their legitimate self-defense and to permit them to play their part in the defense of the area as a whole. All applications for arms or war materials for these countries will be considered in the light of these principles. In this connection the three governments wish to recall and reaffirm the terms of the statements made by their representatives on the Security Council on August 4, 1949, in which they declared their opposition to the development of an arms race between the Arab states and Israel.

"2. The three governments declare that assurances have been received from all the states in question, to which they permit arms to be supplied from their countries, that the purchasing state does not intend to undertake any act of aggression against any other state. Similar assurances will be requested from any other state in the area to which they permit arms to be supplied in the future.

"3. The three governments take this opportunity of declaring their deep interest in and their desire to promote the establishment and maintenance of peace and stability in the area and their unalterable opposition to the use of force or threat of force between any of the states in that area. The three governments, should they find that any of these states was preparing to violate frontiers or armistice lines, would, consistently with their obligations as members of the United Nations, immediately take action, both within and outside the United Nations, to prevent such violation."

ISRAEL WELCOMES JOINT DECLARATION ON ARMS; INVITES ARAB STATES TO ENTER PEACE TALKS

TEL AVIV, May 25. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel is satisfied with the opposition displayed by the American, British and French governments against the development of an arms race in the Middle East, an Israel Foreign Ministry spokesman declared today. He was commenting on the Big Three statement announcing that arms deliveries to the Middle East are conditional upon the assurance that the purchasing state does not intend to undertake aggressive action against any other state.

"The fact that arms and war material have hitherto been supplied to states which did not cease to threaten a renewal of the war against Israel and which to this day obstinately refuse to make peace still remains a source of grave concern," the Israel spokesman continued. He voiced the Jewish state's interpretation of today's joint American-British-French declaration as signifying an end to the discrimination hitherto practiced in the shipment of arms and war supplies to Middle East countries.

The Israel Government notes with particular satisfaction, the spokesman continued, that the joint declaration asserts unalterable opposition to the use of force or the threat of force in the Middle East. He emphasized that the government seizes this opportunity to reassert its desire for a final peace settlement with the Arab states and once again repeats its invitation to each and every Arab state to enter into immediate negotiations for such a settlement.

It is the unalterable policy of Israel to promote security, friendship and co-operation in its relations with all of her neighbors for prosperity and stability in the Middle East and for peace among all nations, the spokesman concluded.

EGYPT REPORTED TO HAVE APPLIED FOR U.S. ARMS; SEEKS FIGHTERS, BOMBERS, TANKS, ARTILLERY

LONDON, May 25. (JTA) -- Egypt has asked the United States, in a written memorandum, to help equip her army with American arms, usually well-informed quarters stated today in Cairo, Reuters reported. "The Egyptian government was understood to have asked for fighters, bombers, tanks and artillery, similar to those Israel is reported to be receiving from the United States," the dispatch said.

The memorandum drew a comparison between the populations and strategic positions of Egypt and Israel and stressed that Egyptian military preparations did not represent any aggressive intention. They were necessary for "internal security and defense against aggression," the report quoted the memorandum as stating.

American Ambassador Jefferson Caffery has told Foreign Minister Mohamed Saleh El Din Bey that Washington was ready to supply light weapons only, according to the report. The Ambassador was understood to have said Egypt could obtain her requirements of American light weapons from British depots in the Suez Canal, Reuters said.

ISRAEL'S REPLY TO U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL'S JERUSALEM PLAN TO BE SUBMITTED TODAY

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- Israel's reply to the U.N. Trusteeship Council's Jerusalem plan--comprising the government's latest proposals for resolving the Jerusalem deadlock--will be submitted to Roger Garreau, president of the Council, at Lake Success tomorrow, it was announced here. The Israel delegation to the U.N. will release the reply on Sunday.

Labour Minister Golda Myerson boarded an Air France plane at Lydda today on her way to the United States to address United Jewish Appeal meetings throughout the country. Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and Mrs. Sharett boarded a South African airliner at midnight. The Israel Foreign Minister will visit South Africa for some three weeks.

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JERUSALEM MUNICIPALITY PLANS TO DOUBLE CITY'S JEWISH POPULATION WITHIN FIVE YEARS

JERUSALEM, May 25. (JTA) -- The Jerusalem municipality today heard details of a plan for doubling the city's population within the next four to five years and extending its area from the present 30,000 dunams to 50,000 dunams. The plan also calls for the razing of slums.

The population of the New City of Jerusalem has reached 110,000, representing an increase of 30,000 in the past year, it was revealed here. During the same period 200 industrial plants and workshops were established, providing employment for 10,000 workers.

The amount of capital invested in Jerusalem industries in the past year reached some \$4,200,000. The Israel Government appropriated \$840,000 for expanding the water supply for Jerusalem and settlements in the Jerusalem corridor sector.

285 DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS URGE INTERNATIONAL CURATORSHIP FOR HOLY PLACES IN JERUSALEM

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Two hundred and eighty-five American leaders, representing outstanding spokesmen for the religions, labor, political and cultural communities of the United States, in a communication to President Truman made public here today, requested the United States Government to take the initiative in resolving the Jerusalem question by asking the United Nations to abandon the corpus separatum internationalization scheme and substitute for it a system of international control limited solely to Holy Places.

Making the request on the eve of resumption of the United Nations Trusteeship Council meeting, the group submitted a substitute plan which it asked be accepted as the basis for American policy. Specifically the leaders proposed that the Jewish zone of Jerusalem, already integrated with Israel, be recognized as belonging to the Jewish state, and that the Arab zone of Jerusalem, under the control of King Abdullah, be integrated with an Arab state.

Respecting the Holy Places, they suggested that there be established an International Curatorship for the Holy Places to be discharged by a United Nations commission composed of representatives of the Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Greek Orthodox and Moslem faiths. Such a commission, responsible to the Security Council and having the power to employ guards, should have as its function: (a) to authenticate the Holy Sites in Palestine; (b) to be responsible for their preservation; (c) to insure free access to them at all times; and, (d) to supervise the restoration of such Holy Places as may have been damaged in the Palestine war.

Joining in making this proposal were 19 Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, 77 Episcopalian religious and lay leaders, including the Secretary of the House of Bishops; six Bishops of the Evangelical United Brethren Church; 18 Methodist Bishops; 42 heads of Christian Theological Seminaries; the president of the American Unitarian Association; the executive secretary of the Northern Baptist Convention; 25 Unitarian clergymen; seven presidents of colleges; 20 college professors and many outstanding personalities in various walks of life.

"The principle embodied in the proposal for an International Curatorship should be accepted as the basis for American policy," they urged, "with a view to later presentation of a statute to the United Nations based on this principle." They praised the opposition of the United States to the December resolution of the United Nations and the Statute drafted by the Trusteeship Council, but pointed out that opposition is not enough. What is now required is "leadership in a constructive proposal as a substitute for an unjust and unworkable one," they said.

ILSE KOCH TO BE INDICTED BY GERMAN AUTHORITIES TODAY ON 180 KILLING CHARGES

MUNICH, May 25. (JTA) -- Ilse Koch, notorious official of the Buchenwald concentration camp, will be indicted by German officials tomorrow on a total of 180 charges of attempted murder and attempted manslaughter, Bavarian prosecutor Hans Ilkw announced today. Two hundred witnesses will testify against Frau Koch.

N.C.R.A.C. DISCUSSES ROLE TO BE TAKEN BY JEWISH GROUPS IN CIVIL LIBERTIES ISSUES

ATLANTIC CITY, May 25. (JTA) -- The National Community Relations Advisory Council opened its eighth plenary session here tonight with a discussion on the role which Jewish community relations agencies should play with regard to civil liberties issues in America. No policy decision was immediately announced but a resolution will be adopted later. The parley is being attended by more than 100 delegates representing affiliated member organizations.

The activities of the N.C.R.A.C. for the past year are reviewed in a report prepared for the conference by Isaiah M. Minkoff, executive director of the organization. The report emphasizes that the N.C.R.A.C. denounced the American Council for Judaism "for its baseless innuendoes impugning the loyalty of American Jews." It reviews the work done by the organization in the fields of church-state relationships, overt anti-Semitism, immigration, civil rights and discrimination and stresses the fact that during 1949 the operations of the N.C.R.A.C. assumed a constantly broader scope and deeper penetration.

LEADER OF PRO-ARAB GROUP ATTACKS U.S. ZIONISTS AT COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM PARLEY

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The charge that Zionists in the United States are making an effort "to segregate Jews from the current of American culture" and to instill in their minds a sense of "belonging spiritually elsewhere" was made today by Dr. Virginia C. Gildersleeve, leader of a pro-Arab group in this country and former dean of Barnard College, addressing a meeting of the American Council for Judaism at the Henry Hudson Hotel.

Miss Gildersleeve also complained that "the greatest poets in our literature have been attacked as 'anti-Semitic' because they have sometimes treated legends common at their time." She cited the fact that "The Prioress' Tale" was "left out of a new modern-English Chaucer," and that "it has been proposed that 'The Merchant of Venice' be omitted from school reading lists." She also objected to the fact that "pickets have marched before movie houses to prevent the showing of a screen version of Dickens' 'Oliver Twist.'"

STATE DEPARTMENT TENDERS FAREWELL LUNCHEON TO AMBASSADOR ELATH; HIS SERVICES LAUDED

WASHINGTON, May 25. (JTA) -- British Ambassador Sir Oliver Franks today expressed the welcome of the British people to Israel Ambassador Elishu Elath at a farewell luncheon served in Mr. Elath's honor by the State Department. Ambassador Franks expressed confidence that relations between Israel and the United Kingdom would continue to improve.

George McGhee, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, complimented Mr. Elath on his five years of service in Washington, crediting him with laying the foundations for Israel-American relations. Mr. Elath spoke briefly, thanking the American Government for help extended him during crucial moments. He expressed confidence in the close ties of friendship between the U.S. and Israel.

U.S. LABOR ZIONISTS OPEN FOUR-DAY CONVENTION; WILL DISCUSS COMMUNITY DEMOCRATIZATION

BOSTON, May 25. (JTA) -- Reorientation of Labor Zionist policy in the United States in the light of the establishment of Israel will be one of the major issues to be dealt with at the 27th national convention of the Labor Zionist Organization of America, which opens here tomorrow. More than 300 delegates from all parts of the country arrived here today to attend the four-day convention.

The convention will also take up the question of immigration of American Jewish youth to Israel as pioneers and of "democratization of American Jewish communities." Principal speakers at the parley include Golda Myerson, Israel Minister of Labor; Ambassador Eliahu Elath; and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency.

RABBINIC ALUMNI PARLEY HEARS PLEA FOR MORE FORMAL TRAINING FOR COUNSELING TECHNIQUES

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The election of Dr. Leon Katz, of Passaic, N.J., as president of the Rabbinic Alumni of Yeshiva University was announced here today at the concluding session of the group's 53rd annual convention.

The convention heard a plea for more formal training for the ministry of all faiths emphasizing counseling techniques. Dr. Morton Seidenfeld, director of psychological services, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, told the convention that today a "great deal more stress is being placed upon the role of the counselor, whether he be a theologian, psychologist, or one who is specifically designated as a counselor."

NEW YORK GUILD FOR JEWISH BLIND REPORTS \$65,000 DEFICIT; AIDS 2,500 PERSONS

NEW YORK, May 25. (JTA) -- The New York Guild for the Jewish Blind incurred a cash deficit of close to \$65,000 in 1949 after expending \$711,589 for its programs of aid to 2,500 persons of all ages, faiths and races, it was revealed today in the Guild's annual report.

The Guild's program includes recreational and educational programming for the blind, job training and placement, professional social work, and provision of a fully-equipped Braille library. The Guild's home for Jewish blind, located in Yonkers, N.Y., and the only institution of its kind in the United States, provided regular care last year for 113 blind persons whose average age is 72.

URUGUAYAN JEWS DECIDE TO PLANT FOREST IN ISRAEL IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR FABREGAT

MONTEVIDEO, May 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Uruguay has decided to plant a forest in Israel on Jewish National Fund land in honor of Prof. Enrique Rodriguez Fabregat, Uruguayan delegate to the United Nations who has been a consistently staunch friend of Israel, it was announced here. The decision was taken at a meeting during which the Uruguayan diplomat voiced the hope for closer ties between this country and Israel.

ORT MECHANICAL TRAINING SCHOOL OPENED AT HISTADRUT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 25. (JTA) -- Ceremonies marking the opening of a training school in mechanics at the Histadrut Agricultural College--known as Midrasa Haklait Mosad Rupin--took place today with Dr. Aron Syngalowski, chairman of the executive committee of the World ORT Union, participating.