

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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ISRAEL-JORDAN TENSION GROWS; TALKS SCHEDULED FOR TODAY; BEN GURION REPORTS ON SITUATION

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Tension around this city mounted today as reports of border attacks continued and both the Israel and Jordan Governments considered the security situation. United Nations officials will sit down tomorrow with Israel and Jordan representatives in a new effort to ease the tense situation.

Israeli Premier David Ben Gurion reported this morning to the Foreign Affairs Security Committee of Parliament on the situation and the problem of Arab bands infiltrating on Israel territory. Arab newspapers published in the Old City featured reports of attacks by Jews on the village of Balata, in the old "bloody triangle" near Tulkarem and at Beth Eshel, near Beersheba.

The Arab press reported that the Arab Legion had received instructions to strengthen the home guard along the Israel border, to train civilians to use rifles and to distribute them to the adult male population. The newspaper A'difaa warned that unless Israeli attacks ceased, the Arabs won't hesitate to blow up houses in and near Tel Aviv.

70,000 WORKERS GO ON BRIEF "SYMPATHY STRIKE" IN ISRAEL; SUPPORT DEMANDS OF METAL WORKERS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Seventy thousand workers downed tools this morning in a brief strike in sympathy with the 7,000 metal workers whose wage demands brought about a shut-down in the Israel metals industry affecting 260 plants. Essential services were not affected by the strike.

High Government circles and officials of the Histadruth, the Jewish Labor Federation, predicted settlement of the strike, probably by this week-end, following direct intervention by the government.

Premier David Ben Gurion and Minister of Trade Yaakov Geri spent last evening in conference with representatives of labor and industry in an effort to bring about settlement of the dispute. They stressed the necessity of settling the dispute which has closed down one of Israel's major industries and has caused a loss of \$1,500,000 in production in the metal industry alone.

ISRAEL MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SUCCESSFUL IN WASHINGTON TALKS ON SECURING WHEAT

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The visit of Israel Agriculture Minister Pinhas Lavon to Washington for discussions on a wheat agreement has been successful, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Abba Eban, disclosed here today.

Although there was no revelation of the specific content of the Washington talks, Mr. Eban told a press conference at the Israel consulate here that Mr. Lavon had come to Washington to insure Israel of interim supplies of wheat while the Am-

ambassador himself continued discussions for a long-term agreement and that this effort had met a favorable response.

Meanwhile, he revealed, Israel continued to impress on Washington the urgent need of the Jewish state for stockpiling food and raw materials since the nation was surrounded by hostile neighbors and depended on an overseas lifeline for its supplies. Following conversations initiated by Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett with the United States Secretaries of State and Defense and with Presidential adviser, W. Averell Harriman, Mr. Eban said he was discussing with Secretary of Agriculture Brannan a scheme for the long-range supply of American wheat to Israel on favorable credit terms.

The Israel Ambassador emphasized that Israel was not interested in a grant, as in the case of India, but wanted to pay for all supplies it got here. He said he also had discussions with Secretary of the Interior Chapman on the question of fuel supplies and with Secretary of Commerce Sawyer on the critical nature of the supply problem for Israel in general.

ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE CONVOKED; JEWISH AGENCY PLANS CONSULTATIONS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Zionist Actions Committee, which is the supreme Zionist body between Congresses, will not be convoked in the near future, it was announced here today by Berl Locker, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive. Mr. Locker said that instead of holding a meeting of the Actions Committee, the Jewish Agency executive will maintain consultations with leaders of the various Zionist parties. He is leaving for South Africa today at the invitation of the Zionist Federation there.

The return of the Progressive Zionists to the ranks of the General Zionist Party was urged today by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, American Zionist leader, addressing a public meeting. Dr. Neumann said he came to Israel to remind the Jews there that they and the Jews in other countries of the world are "interdependent." Israel's best ally are the Jewish communities in the countries outside of the Jewish state and not any of the western powers, Dr. Neumann said.

FIRST MUNICIPAL CONGRESS OPENS IN TEL AVIV; ISRAEL MINISTER WELCOMES ARAB DELEGATES

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The first Municipal Congress opened here last night with more than 1,000 delegates representing about 100 municipalities and local councils.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Moshe Shapira, Israel's Minister of Interior, said that the current country-wide municipal budget totals about 35,000,000 pounds as compared with 6,500,000 during the British administration. Welcoming the Arab delegates, the Minister said that municipal status will be gradually extended to some of the Arab areas which do not enjoy that status as yet.

ISRAEL WILL CONTRIBUTE CITRUS FRUIT FOR UNITED NATIONS RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN KOREA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Israel Government informed the United Nations today that it would contribute fruit and citrus fruit concentrates valued at 12,000 pounds (\$33,000) for U.N. relief activities in Korea. Previously, the Israel Government had shipped medical supplies to Korea.

LEADER OF BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY MAY BECOME ADMINISTRATOR OF MARSHALL PLAN AID IN CITY

BERLIN, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Paul Hertz, a member of the Jewish community, is one of the twelve new members elected to the Berlin City Council. It is understood that he will be responsible for the administration of Marshall Plan aid in Berlin.

HOLLAND SHOWS CLEMENCY TO NAZI WAR CRIMINALS SENTENCED FOR DEPORTATION OF JEWS

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Protests were made today to Queen Juliana by the Ashkenazic and Liberal Jewish congregations against clemency shown to two German criminals serving prison sentences in the Netherlands for their leading rôles in the deportation of Jews from this country during the Nazi occupation. The two war criminals were F.H. Aus der Fuenten and F. Fischer.

The protest declared that only a satisfactory statement by the Dutch Government could remove the deep sense of grievance caused by this act of clemency among Dutch Jewry. The Sephardic Jewish community declined to sign the protest on the grounds that it did not want to protest against the prerogatives of the Crown.

BRITISH WAR VETERANS PROTEST AGAINST EXTENDING CLEMENCY TO GERMAN WAR CRIMINALS

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Delegates representing 60,000 British veterans of the London area were on record today as protesting clemency extended to Nazi war criminals in Germany.

The delegates, representing 149 British Legion branches in the London area, unanimously adopted a resolution last night at the Legion's metropolitan area conference denouncing clemency to the convicted Nazi war criminals as "an insult to our fallen comrades and to the ideals for which we fought."

Sir Hartley Shawcross, British Attorney General and one-time British Chief Prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trial, expressed opposition with "interference with the Nuremberg judgments." Speaking at a luncheon for foreign correspondents, Sir Hartley said that tampering with the decisions of the war crimes tribunal would vitiate the warning of the trials that mass murder will be punished.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE FORMED IN AUSTRALIA TO FIGHT PROJECTED MASS-ADMISSION OF GERMANS

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Sparked by Dr. H.V. Evatt, former Minister of External Affairs and now deputy leader of the Federal opposition, a citizens' committee was set up here today to fight Immigration Minister Harold Holt's proposal to admit 25,000 Germans annually as immigrants to Australia.

The committee announced that it will inform the Australian public of the dangers of German mass immigration. Its members include churchmen, veterans and others. Meanwhile, Dr. Evatt, addressing a mass meeting here, denounced the release of convicted Nazi war criminals as "appeasement of Hitlerism."

MICHIGAN CONGRESSMAN DEMANDS INVESTIGATION OF COMMUTATION OF NAZI CRIMINALS' SENTENCES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Rep. John D. Dingell, of Michigan, today demanded a Congressional investigation of "pressures and influences" which led to the commutation of the sentences of Nazi war criminals in the American zone of Germany. The Michigan Congressman asked for the formation of a special five-man committee to determine the "cause and reasons" for the commutation of the sentences.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY DISCUSSES MAJOR NOAH'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO JEWISH LIFE

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The life of Major Mordecai Manuel Noah, an early 19th-century American Jewish figure, who devised a plan to settle large numbers of Jews in the open spaces of the American continent, was discussed here yesterday at the 49th annual meeting of the American Jewish Historical Society. Lee M. Friedman was re-elected for a fourth term as president of the Society.

Dr. Robert Gordis described Major Noah, the centennial of whose death was observed by the Society, as a "superb symbol of the American Jew of the future." He said that Major Noah--who was an American diplomat, journalist, playwright and world traveler--was a political Zionist a half-century before Dr. Theodor Herzl because he visualized the restoration of the Jewish people to Palestine by their own efforts. "The Republic of Israel," Dr. Gordis said, "would do well to honor the memory of one of its spiritual progenitors."

A review of 50 years of Jewish education in the United States was given at the meeting by Dr. Leo Honor, of Philadelphia. Another anniversary observed by the Society was the golden jubilee of the Jewish Morning Journal, New York Yiddish daily. Dr. Mordecai Soltes, executive director of Yeshiva University and historian of Jewish periodical literature in America, said: "Throughout its career, the Journal has assumed an active role in supporting all efforts to strengthen the system of Jewish education in America without regard to differences in ideological outlook."

BNAI ZION ORDER RAISES \$100,000 FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUMAN VILLAGE IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The sum of \$100,000 was raised here last night for the establishment of a village in Israel in honor of President Truman. The money was contributed at a Bnai Zion \$50-a-plate dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria. Ambassador Abba S. Eban of Israel was the chief speaker at the dinner. Other speakers included: Rep. Emanuel Celler, D., New York; Dr. Jacob I. Steinberg, president of Bnai Zion; Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the Jewish National Fund's Jubilee Committee; Rudolf G. Sompsorn, national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal; and Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the Jewish National Fund. The agricultural village, which will be known as Kfar Truman, will be located near Haifa.

The more than 1,500 guests also honored Dr. Harris J. Levine, former president of the organization and currently head of the Jewish National Fund of America, for 25 years of "selfless service to the Jewish people."

SO. AFRICAN JEWISH LEADERS PRAISE ACHIEVEMENTS IN ISRAEL UPON RETURN TO JOHANNESBURG

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- B. A. Ettlinger, president of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and I. A. Maisels, chairman of the Board, have returned to Johannesburg from visits to Israel. Both expressed the warmest praise for what they termed the "great job" being done by the Jewish state.

Mr. Ettlinger spent four weeks in Israel. He was officially received by members of the Cabinet, judges of the Israel Supreme Court, the heads of the Hebrew University and various other organizations, and made a close personal study of the conditions in the country. The Jewish Agency gave a reception in his honor in Jerusalem. Mr. Maisels spent two-and-a-half weeks in Israel on a purely private visit.

ISRAEL LEGATION IN LONDON EXPANDING; ACQUIRES NEW BUILDING FOR CONSULATE OFFICES

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Israel Legation in London has acquired another building in Devonshire Square into which the consulate and commercial counsellor's office will be moved next month, it was learned here today. The expansion is seen as evidence of a greater British interest in Israel.

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