

## DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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ISRAEL RESUMES DRAINAGE OF HULEH SWAMPS; SYRIA CONCENTRATES TROOPS; SITUATION TENSE

JERUSALEM, March 26. (JTA) -- Despite Syrian troop concentrations in the Huleh area, Israel today resumed the work of draining the swamps in the demilitarized zone of that area and notified the United Nations observers that the Israelis will not remain idle if the Syrians fire on workers engaged in the land reclamation project. The situation was reported tense.

Syrians and Israelis exchanged fire yesterday in the Mishmar Hayarden area when Jewish tractors were brought in, in preparation for resuming the work of reclamation. As the tractors reached a bridge along the western bank of the Jordan River, the Syrians opened fire from their positions along the eastern bank. The Israelis returned the fire. No casualties were reported. U.N. observers requested that the tractors halt their progress, but they proceeded unimpeded until evening. Syria is objecting strongly to the project and has notified the mixed armistice commission to that effect.

High military officers on the Israeli and Syrian General Staffs were meeting today at the Syrian frontier. Depending on the outcome of their meeting is the question of whether Israel will be able to peacefully develop its \$16,000,000 project of draining the Huleh swamps, which is expected to be completed within three years, adding 15,000 acres of fertile soil to Israel's farm lands.

NEW CRUEL MEASURES AGAINST JEWS TAKEN BY IRAQI AUTHORITIES; JEWS DEPRIVED OF WATER

TEL AVIV, March 26. (JTA) -- The Iraqi authorities are taking new and cruel measures against Jews emigrating to Israel, arrivals on the Baghdad-Lydda airlift charged today.

They declared that Jews assembled at the airport awaiting transportation are being clubbed and beaten up by the police. Several of them showed injuries in confirmation of their statement. They charged that emigrating Jews, including women and children, were kept at the airport yesterday for seven hours without water. When the authorities finally heeded the children's pleas for water, they provided buckets of dirty water previously used for washing.

One Jew who arrived in his pajamas, said he had been clubbed and forced to take off a new suit he had been wearing. Confiscation of personal effects of the emigrants is now a routine matter, the new arrivals declared. The newcomers here said that the Jews in Bagdad are panic-stricken and face starvation. All Jewish shops have been closed and it is most difficult for the Jews to buy foodstuffs. From midnight Friday to dawn Sunday, the airlift brought in a total of 2,078 Iraqi Jews.

ISRAEL TO PROHIBIT TRADING IN GOLD; MEASURE TAKEN TO CHECK INFLATION IN COUNTRY

JERUSALEM, March 26. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan today told the Israeli Parliament that he will soon submit a bill prohibiting free trading in gold. Such legislation, he said, is imperative so as to help check inflation.

The Minister made it clear that the government does not intend to confiscate gold, but will offer its owners dollar-based bonds in exchange. A carte blanche to combat the black market in gold and to halt inflationary tendencies was given to Mr. Kaplan by the Israeli Cabinet last week. As a result, the British gold sovereign dropped from 30 Israeli pounds to 20 in the black market.

Minister Kaplan also proposed that in the future immigrants be allowed to bring with them capital goods or invest their capital in machinery, raw materials or building materials which they would be permitted to bring into the Jewish state.

Mr. Kaplan then entered into a defense of the proposed four-month national budget, which later passed its first reading and is scheduled for final passage on Wednesday. He stated that the budget amounted to 16-17 percent of the state's national income of 300,000,000 pounds, pointing out that the United States budget accounts for 25 percent of its national income, while in Britain 40 percent of the annual national income goes into the budget.

He denied charges by Mapam leader Moshe Sneh that Israel is facing bankruptcy, and insisted that the current economic situation is caused by the tremendous task of accepting and absorbing hundreds of thousands of immigrants. He appealed to the people of Israel to purchase savings certificates and to save whatever and whenever they could in both their own and the state's best interests.

ISRAEL FULFILLED PROMISE TO U.N. TO EVACUATE SOUTHERN PALESTINE AREA. TRUCE CHIEF REPORTS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 26. (JTA) -- Israel has fulfilled its promise to the U.N. Security Council to evacuate its military forces from the disputed Bir Qatir area near the Gulf of Akaba, Maj. Gen. William E. Riley, U.N. truce chief in Palestine, reported to the international organization's headquarters here.

Quoting the findings of one of his military observers, Gen. Riley stated that there are no evidence of military occupation in the region and former defense works have been filled in. He also said that Israel and Egypt are studying a plan on how to deal with the explosion of Bedouins who invaded Israel's territory.

Two other reports to the U.N. spoke of the progress of armistice enforcement on the Israel-Jordan frontier and of the current Israel-Syrian dispute over the draining of the Huleh swamp region.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ISRAEL; BEN GURION HONORS ITS MEMBERS

JERUSALEM, March 26. (JTA) -- A British parliamentary delegation arrived here today. The delegation was at the Lydda airport by representatives of the Israeli parliament, and was entertained at a luncheon tendered in honor of its members by Premier David Ben Gurion. It is expected that the members of the delegation will cross the Israeli-Jordan armistice line to visit the holy places in the Old City.

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600 CANADIAN JEWISH LEADERS CONFERENCE ON AID TO ISRAEL; GOVERNMENT ASSURES CREDITS

MONTEAL, March 26. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government has assured substantial credits to Israel through the newly-formed Canadian Israel Trading Corporation, it was revealed here today by Samuel Bronfman, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Addressing the three-day National Conference for Israel and Jewish Rehabilitation, which is attended by 600 Jewish leaders from all parts of Canada, Mr. Bronfman appealed for greater contributions in "gift dollars" as well as for investments in Israel. The Bronfman family announced the largest contribution at the opening of the appeal.

The conference adopted a four-point program to help the Jewish state through contributions by individuals and organizations as well as through private and public investments in Israeli enterprises. Mr. Bronfman was presented with a gold medal "in appreciation for his services to the Jewish community, to overseas Jewry and to Israel." Principal speakers at the conference included Ambassador Abba Eban, David Erowitz, Director General of Israel's Ministry of Finance, and Abraham Harman, Councillor of the Israeli Consulate in New York.

SIXTEEN ZIONIST GROUPS IN U.S. ISSUE JOINT PROCLAMATION ENDORSING PRIMACY OF U.J.A.

NEW YORK, March 26. (JTA) -- All Zionist parties in the United States today published a joint proclamation endorsing the primacy of the United Jewish Appeal. The proclamation was signed by the presidents of 16 Zionist groups. A conference to implement the proclamation will take place here next Sunday.

"We endorse the primacy of the United Jewish Appeal for American philanthropic support of Israel in 1951 and as the keystone of Israel's three-year economic plan," the proclamation says. "As Zionists, we must assume active support of the United Jewish Appeal, setting an example for others in the generosity of our giving and in the zeal of our labors. We pledge this in recognition of the unique and irreplaceable role which the United Jewish Appeal must play in behalf of Israel and world Jewry."

Organizations signing the proclamation are: B'nai Zion, Hadassah, Hapoel Hamizrachi, Jewish National Workers Alliance of America, Keren Hayesod, Jewish National Fund of America, Labor Zionist Organization of America, Mizrahi Organization of America, Mizrahi Women's Organization, National Committee for Labor Israel, Pioneer Women of America, Hashomer Hatzair, United Labor Zionist Party, United Palestine Appeal, United Zionist Revisionists of America and the Zionist Organization of America.

JEWISH ZIONISTS HOLD 50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE; WELCOME ANGLIO-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP

LONDON, March 26. (JTA) -- The 50th annual conference of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland concluded here today with a resolution welcoming the improvement in the relations between Britain and Israel. The resolution also called upon the Zionists in Britain to do their utmost "to ensure the continuance of this progress by promoting understanding of the aims of Israel among fellow citizens."

The conference also adopted a resolution expressing the determination of British Zionists to "contribute to the utmost" to the current rescue work in relation to the Jews of Iraq. Another resolution thanked the Jewish Agency for the technical assistance given to Chalutzim who left Britain for settlement in Israel. It was reported at the conference that 4,000 British Jews are at present in Israel, including 2,000 in collective and other settlements.

CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN MANCHURIA CLAMPING DOWN ON IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

HONG KONG, March 26. (JTA) -- Chinese authorities in Harbin have clamped down on the emigration of Israel-bound Jews, it was authoritatively reported here. The same source said that exit visas are not being issued even to Jews who previously obtained permission to leave.

As a result, the organized immigration service which operated from Manchuria to Tientsin by rail, from there to Hong Kong by sea, and thence to Israel by air, has come to a virtual halt after 18 months. It does not pay to send a special vessel for the relatively few immigrants waiting at Tientsin and they have been instructed to make their way overland to Hong Kong. Here they will remain, under arrangements made by the local Jewish community, until parties of 60 can be organized for the air trip to Lydda.

JEWISH CONGRESS CHARGES U.S. CONGRESSMEN WITH FAILURE TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, March 26. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today issued a report jointly with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People charging both Houses of Congress with making a "political football" of the civil rights issue and doing little to eliminate "those patterns of discrimination and segregation which deny to many Americans that equality of opportunity and right which is the essence of our democratic system."

DR. SILVER ADVISES U.J.A. OF HIS READINESS TO ADDRESS CAMPAIGN MEETINGS

NEW YORK, March 26. (JTA) -- The United Jewish Appeal today announced that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver has advised U.J.A. leaders of his readiness to address campaign mobilization meetings. Dr. Silver will address special U.J.A. meetings in Kansas City, Indianapolis, Los Angeles and Cleveland.

The United Jewish Appeal headquarters also announced today that Edwin Samuel, special adviser to the Israel Government, will arrive in the United States April 4 to address a number of major communities on urgent measures required to cope with Israel's needs.

AMERICAN JEWISH LEADER LEAVES FOR ISRAEL TO SURVEY NEEDS OF COUNTRY'S FIVE MUSEUMS

NEW YORK, March 26. (JTA) -- Richard S. Zeisler, chairman of the American Friends of Israel Museums of the American Fund for Israel Institutions, left today via Pan American Airlines for Israel to conduct a survey of the needs of five of Israel's museums--Tel Aviv Museum, Haifa Museum, Bezalel Museum in Jerusalem, Ein Harod Museum and Museum Haaretz in Tel Aviv--all Fund beneficiaries. The Museum Committee was organized recently for the purpose of assisting the Israel museums in organizing and presenting exhibits, enlisting museum personnel and obtaining gifts of art objects from the United States.

ELISHA M. FRIEDMAN, AUTHOR AND ECONOMIST, DEAD; WAS ACTIVE IN ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK, March 26. (JTA) -- Elisha M. Friedman, author and active worker in many Zionist organizations, died last night at Mt. Sinai Hospital. He was 61 years old. Born in New York, he served as an economist for the Treasury Department and was frequently called to give expert testimony before Senate and House committees on taxation, railroads and profit sharing. He was a member of the American Economic Committee for Palestine, a member of the board and one of the founders of the American Friends of the Hebrew University.

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