

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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QUIET PREVAILS ON ISRAELI-SYRIAN FRONTIER; ISRAEL PREPARED TO RESUME TALKS WITH SYRIA

TEL AVIV, April 8. (JTA) -- Quiet prevailed today on the Syrian-Israeli border while the reclamation work in the Huleh area--which precipitated the armed conflict last week between the two states--proceeded undisturbed. An Israeli military spokesman said he is unable to specify whether Syrian troops were still in the Israel part of the demilitarized zone near Hama. However, he emphasized that Syrian forces actually dominate this strip of land from their positions adjoining the boundary.

Acting on instructions from the State Department in Washington, U.S. Ambassador Monett Davis today called at the Foreign Ministry to ask for information on the demolitions by Israeli units of a number of houses in the Huleh area. He was told that the houses had been used as snipers' hideouts against Israeli police and United Nations observers. The French Minister in Israel similarly called at the Foreign Ministry here for information on the Israeli-Syrian border situation.

Political circles here believe that the Israeli-Syrian conflict is now being shifted from the military to the diplomatic field. All indications point to the fact that there is determination to utilize the three-day calm on the border to restore the Syrian-Israeli contacts through the United Nations. The Syrian Government has so far not complained to the Mixed Armistice Commission against the demolition by the Israeli units of the houses which allegedly had been used by Syrian snipers.

An Israeli military spokesman said today that Israel is prepared to resume talks with Syria through the Mixed Armistice Commission. He revealed that the Israeli authorities have approached Col. Bennet de Ridder, Acting U.N. Truce Chief of Staff, with a proposal to this effect. Informal talks between Israeli and Syrian officials--the first since the outbreak of the conflict last week--may start tomorrow in the presence of a United Nations observer at Rosh Pinah, an Israeli settlement on the Syrian frontier.

The spokesman said that the bombing last week by Israeli planes of Syrian military position does not signify that Israel proposes to declare war. "We were forced to show the Syrians the limits of our patience," he stated, adding that it was impossible for Israel to remain inactive after the Syrian attack at Hama and the killing there by Syrian troops of seven Israeli civilian policemen. A similar statement was made during the week-end by Premier David Ben Gurion, who added that Israel will not permit the Syrians to block the marsh-draining work in the demilitarized zone in the Huleh area.

Syria's aggressiveness is the "outcome of the intolerable situation emerging from the armistice agreement and the fruits of the Israel Government's persistent appeasement policy towards every deliberate, aggressive act committed by the Syrian authorities in the last two years," the national convention of the Herut party resolved today.

4/9/51

ISRAEL SUBMITS THREE CHARGES AGAINST SYRIA TO UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 8. (JTA) -- Counteracting the Syrian request to the United Nations that the Security Council be convened to act on the clash between Israel and Syria in the demilitarized zone of the Hulah area, Israeli Ambassador Abba Hushi last night asked that three accusations against Syria be placed on the Council agenda.

The Israeli representative asked for "urgent discussion" of: 1. Persistent firing by Syrian forces on Israeli workers engaged in the Hulah drainage project; 2. Entry of Syrian armed forces into Israeli territory near Hama; 3. The killing of seven Israeli civilian policemen during the invasion in the vicinity of Hama.

Earlier, in a letter addressed to the president of the U.N. Security Council, Mr. Hushi listed seven breaches of the Israeli-Syrian armistice agreement committed by Syria. He pointed out that the Israeli Government considers Syrian interference with the Hulah drainage work, coupled with the attack at Hama, as "a preconceived and malicious frontal attack on the peaceful implementation of the armistice agreement."

(Israel's stand on the Israeli-Syrian conflict was outlined by Ambassador Hushi in Washington to George C. McGhee, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs. The Syrian Minister in Washington, Farid Khory, also called upon Mr. McGhee and presented to him the views of the Syrian Government on the conflict.)

ISRAELI PREMIER TESTIFIES IN COURT IN LIBEL SUIT AGAINST COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER

TEL AVIV, April 8. (JTA) -- David Ben Gurion, Premier of Israel, appeared in a district court in Tel Aviv today in a case involving libel charges against the Communist newspaper Kol Hama. In the course of the day, the court ruled that the Premier had to reply to questions by counsel for the newspaper concerning questions of strategy during the war of liberation, but upheld him in his refusal to divulge military or state secrets.

The charges against the newspaper grew out of its calling the Premier a "traitor to the nation and to the working class." The case began 18 months ago. The Premier, who rejected a chair in the witness stand because he did not want any "special privileges," refused to take an oath "on religious grounds."

Defense counsel asked the Premier to explain the presence in Israel during its early months of existence of a "Col. Harris," a former United States Army officer who, the Communists charge, came to "organize" Israel. "Harris came as a volunteer; spontaneously, as did many others," Mr. Ben Gurion replied, refusing to elaborate any further. He also insisted that anything he would add was "likely to compromise the security of the state."

During cross examination by defense counsel, the Premier was asked to state whether he issued orders December 23, 1948, pulling back Israeli troops who had previously penetrated Egyptian territory. Kol Hama had charged that the troops were recalled on orders from the United States Government. "All my orders during wartime were issued to attain ultimate victory and it is my opinion that this was achieved," the Premier said. He refused to answer additional questions because he did not consider the courtroom a "proper" place for discussing Israel's relations with foreign countries.

Earlier, he explained that he "had never said anything against the Soviet government, but I condemn Jewish Communists, who have in the past collaborated with Zionism, and later with a party headed by the former Grand Mufti of Jerusalem."

PIORE, JEWISH PHYSICIST, APPOINTED CHIEF SCIENTIST OF OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The White House today announced the appointment of Dr. Emanuel R. Piore, a Jewish physicist, as chief scientist of the Office of Naval Research which is coordinating all new inventions that can be used by the U.S. Navy, and is subsidizing more than 40 percent of all the important scientific research work done in the U.S.

Dr. Piore, who was born in Vilna 41 years ago, was brought to this country by his parents in his early childhood. He is the son-in-law of Alexander Kohn, manager of the Jewish Daily Forward. He has been holding the post of deputy for natural sciences in the Naval Research Office for several years. The Navy said he would now replace Dr. Alan T. Waterman, who has been named director of the National Science Foundation.

B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN RAISED \$1,000,000 DURING 1950; GAINED 25,000 NEW MEMBERS

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- More than \$1,000,000 was raised during last year by the 600 Chapters of the B'nai B'rith women organization in this country for philanthropic, educational and other activities, it was announced last night at the opening session of the four-day annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith Women's Supreme Council. About 200 delegates, representing 125,000 members of the organization, are attending the conference.

Included in the total amount raised was most of a quota of \$100,000 which the organization pledged to raise over a three-year period for construction of a B'nai B'rith children's home in Israel. The building is to replace a children's shelter damaged by bombing during the Arab-Israeli war. Another \$400,000 has been allocated to American youth services. The women also raised funds for direct aid to Israel and made domestic philanthropic grants to the American Red Cross, cancer and infantile paralysis drives and other projects. The organization gained 25,000 new members during the year, it was reported at the parley.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OPENS FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- Problems concerning Jews in various countries will be discussed at a five-day conference of the International Council of Jewish Women which opened here tonight. Delegates from six countries are attending the parley.

Addressing the opening session, Mrs. Joseph M. Welth, of Detroit, president of the organization, said that "America and Israel had become reservoirs of hope and strength for the survival of Judaism." She pointed out that the Jews are today facing a two-fold task of providing material help to those in need and insuring the cultural continuation of Judaism.

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR NEW AMERICANS SPENT \$16,526,267 TO AID JEWISH IMMIGRANTS

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- A total of \$16,526,267 was spent during the last two years in providing assistance for 38,000 Jewish immigrants who settled in New York, it was reported during the week-end by Arnold S. Askin, president of the New York Association for New Americans, a beneficiary of the United Jewish Appeal. He stressed that 31,000 of the immigrants who received temporary assistance "have been wholly absorbed into the economy of our society."

Speaking at the second annual meeting of the Association, at which he was re-elected president, Mr. Askin emphasized that an additional \$4,168,000 will be required to help 7,000 Jewish immigrants who recently settled here, plus the 5,750 who are expected before the end of the year.

75TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. BERNHARD EHN TO BE OBSERVED TODAY; ACTIVE IN J.D.C. FOR 30 YEARS

NEW YORK, April 8: (JTA) -- The 75th birthday of Dr. Bernhard Ehn, one of the founders of the Joint Distribution Committee who has been active in Jewish life for more than 50 years, and under whose guidance the J.D.C. spent many millions of dollars to aid Jews in Europe and in Palestine, will be observed here tomorrow.

Until 1921, when he joined the J.D.C. as director of the organization's work in Europe, Dr. Ehn was for 17 years general secretary of the Hilfsverein der Deutschen Juden. He has been a director of the Keren Kayesed, a member of the administrative committee of the Palestine Economic Corporation, a member of the council of the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation, and a member of many other central Jewish institutions. As a student, he was a member of the Zionist organization.

Dr. Ehn, who was born in Sweden, was instrumental in the orderly emigration of Eastern European Jews since 1904, when he assumed the post of general secretary of the Hilfsverein in Berlin. Under his direction the immigrants were established on a solid economic basis. He was also instrumental in the organization and function of the school systems established by the Hilfsverein in the Near East, including Palestine.

After he joined the J.D.C. in 1921, he succeeded in carrying out a tremendous relief and reconstruction program for the J.D.C. in many countries. He remained European Director of the J.D.C. till 1939 when he settled in the United States and continued his association with the organization as honorary chairman of the European Executive Council of the J.D.C.

POST OFFICE IN ISRAEL IS OPERATING AT A PROFIT, MINISTER DOV JOSEPH REPORTS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- The postal system of Israel is operating at a profit, Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of Transport and Communications in the government of Israel, declared on his arrival here this week-end.

Dr. Joseph said that he had come to the United States in order to tour key cities in various parts of the country in behalf of the state of Israel \$500,000,000 Israel Independence Bond Issue, which is scheduled to be launched about May 1st. "The people of Israel are vitally interested in the success of the Israel Bond Issue in the United States," Dr. Joseph declared.

CURRENT CABINET CRISIS IN ISRAEL IS OF MINOR IMPORTANCE, GOING MINISTER SAYS

BUNDES ALBES, April 8. (JTA) -- Israel Minister for Labor Golda Myerson, who arrived here yesterday for a brief visit, told a press conference today that the current Cabinet crisis in Israel is of "minor importance, compared with the tasks of the present or any future Cabinet."

Mrs. Myerson stressed that the maintaining of open-door immigration to Israel is "our greatest endeavor," adding that Israel must fight against time. "Immigration is our responsibility," she continued, "but easing the conditions of the new immigrants depends on Jews abroad."

NEW YORK RABBINICAL ORGANIZATION PLANS ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY; CONVENT IN THIS COUNTRY

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- The New York Board of Rabbis, oldest rabbinical organization in this country, began a week-long commemoration of its 70th anniversary last night. Conferences on the rabbinical organization's programs and the impact of the present world crisis on the rabbis' ministry will be held on Tuesday.

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