

# J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## U.S. CHARGES SOVIET WITH "SUBVERSION" AGAINST ISRAEL, ARAB STATES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- The United States today made known that it has handed a note to the Soviet Foreign Ministry telling the Russians that it was their own "aggressive actions" and "subversion" against Israel and the Arab states which brought about the Allied plan to create a Middle East Command.

The U.S. note was submitted at Moscow yesterday along with notes from Turkey, France, and Britain, which are co-sponsors of the projected Middle Eastern Command. The note cited negotiations between the Soviet Union and the Nazis in 1940 to create a Soviet sphere of influence in the Middle East as evidence of Communist designs on that area. The American note said that the Russian attitude since the end of World War II causes the State Department to believe that aims set forth in 1940 "remain the policy of the Soviet Government."

The Allied notes were in reply to Soviet notes which warned that a Middle East Command would be considered "aggressive" and that the Russians viewed as groundless the western contention that a Soviet threat exists to the Middle East. The anti-Communist powers accused the Soviet Union of attempting, through her protests against the proposed command, to frighten Middle Eastern states from joining with the West in such an arrangement.

American diplomats consider the Moscow strategy to be aimed at the exploitation of hostility between the Arab states and Israel and strife between Egypt and Britain. The American note said, "the recent Soviet threats to these states, warning against their participation in the Middle East Command, constitute interferences in the affairs of these countries."

The notes of the four powers rejected the Russian assertion that the proposed command would be an aggressive organization and stressed that rather than being aggressive, the command was based on provisions of the United Nations Charter for collective action in defense of world peace.

## TWO KILLED AS GIGANTIC STORM GRIPS ISRAEL FOR SIXTH DAY

TEL AVIV, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- The six-day storm which has been sweeping Israel, wrecking temporary tents and huts in which immigrants live, beating down crops and disrupting normal activities today claimed its first two lives as a blown high tension wire electrocuted a man in Tel Aviv and a suddenly flooded wadi drowned a member of a kibbutz near Lake Tiberias.

At least ten settlements, including several maaharot, were cut off when their roads were inundated by flood waters. Food supplies were parachuted to Kibbutz Gallil, while special army units fought seas of mud to bring supplies to the

settlements in the Judean Hills. Children from immigrant villages in the Jerusalem area have been taken to Jerusalem where they are receiving shelter in the public institutions. Work resumed on the Haifa docks this morning after having been halted yesterday because of the torrential rains. The industrial area of lower Haifa has been flooded and special rescue squads have been evacuating victims of the flood to shelters on high ground.

Additional hundreds of immigrant families were evacuated from their temporary homes yesterday. While special police and army details labored with the evacuees, other units were attempting to repair the damages to tents caused by the high winds. The storm is threatening to deal a severe blow to Israel's economy. The rains, which were badly needed by crops starved for water, have reached the point where they threaten to wash out many crops, particularly the citrus crop, upon which Israel depends for considerable foreign exchange.

#### U.N. DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE GERMANY; ISRAEL EXPLAINS ITS VOTE

PARIS, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- Israel again voted today with the Soviet Bloc in the United Nations against a U.N. investigation of election conditions in Germany. However, the proposal was adopted in the General Assembly's special political committee, by 45-6, with eight abstentions.

Israeli delegate Maurice Fischer, explaining his vote, said his government would not vote for a resolution on Germany which does not explicitly instruct the investigating commission to take into consideration factors relating to the resurgence of Nazism and does not warn it of the dangers of neo-Nazism. Mr. Fischer said he appreciated the statement of the American delegate that it was understood that the terms of reference of the commission would include investigation of indications of Nazism.

#### STRIKING CREWS OF ISRAELI SHIPS IN U.S. EXPLAIN THEIR GRIEVANCES

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- Spokesmen for the striking Israeli seamen here today denied at a press conference that the strike of the crews of the Israeli ships "Yafo" and "Haifa" was politically inspired or had political goals. "The members of the Israeli Seamen's Union are not affiliated with any political party," they declared.

The spokesmen said that four of the crewmen remained on the "Yafo" and two on the "Haifa" because they are responsible for handling financial matters on the ships. Both vessels will return to Israel with crews composed chiefly of Greeks and Spaniards, the spokesmen asserted. They emphasized that the demands of the striking seamen "are entirely professional."

The Labor Zionist Order "Farband" today announced that at a meeting of its executive committee in New York a resolution was adopted condemning the strike of the seamen on Israeli ships in American ports. The resolution charged that the strike "is being inspired and conducted by the Mapam Party in partnership with the Communists in Israel." It expressed solidarity with the Histadrut against whom the seamen's strike is directed.

#### AMERICAN CO-ORDINATOR DISCUSSES TECHNICAL AID WITH ISRAELI PREMIER

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- Bruce McDaniel, American technical aid coordinator for Israel, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Monnet Davis, today visited Premier David Ben Gurion at his office and discussed with him problems concerning the distribution of American aid in the Jewish state.

U.N. OFFICIAL VOTES TO GRANT JORDAN LAND HELD BY ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- Israeli representatives on the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission yesterday walked out of a meeting of the body after charging its United Nations chairman, Bennet de Ridder, with "rewarding" Jordan transgression.

The Israelis became embittered when Col. de Ridder voted with the Jordanians to change a demarcation line in the Kalkilya area in such a fashion as to grant the Arab state the only parcel--25 acres--in the area held by the Israelis. The walk-out was preceded by a sharp exchange between Col. de Ridder and Lt. Col. Shaul Ramati, head of the Israeli delegation.

The issue arose over Israel's complaints that Jordanians were persistently violating the border by crossing into Israel territory to cultivate fields there. The Jordanian authorities have consistently refused to take action to halt the transgressions.

JAMES N. ROSENBERG URGES INCLUSION OF NON-ZIONISTS IN JEWISH AGENCY

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- A suggestion that the Jewish Agency be expanded to include non-Zionists "in the spirit of the historic 1929 Zurich constitution" was made today in a statement issued here by James N. Rosenberg, noted American Jewish leader.

Mr. Rosenberg, who was one of the non-Zionist founders of the enlarged 1929 Jewish Agency, composed equally of Zionists and non-Zionists, emphasized that in view of the fact that the Knesset contemplates granting "special status" to the Agency, Israel's interests require that the Agency be so composed as to best help the upbuilding of the young state.

Mr. Rosenberg disclosed that he has submitted his proposal to the Israel Government through Ambassador S. Eban, also to several Jewish leaders. "My suggestions are entirely mine, I speak for no organization," he said.

"With the establishment of the Jewish State, differences of principle once dividing Zionists and non-Zionists have reached a vanishing point," Mr. Rosenberg declared. "Before the Jewish Agency receives 'special status,' it should be so re-constituted as to represent all elements of Jewry. It should be composed of those best able to serve Israel, irrespective of whether they are Zionists or non-Zionists. A Jewish Agency so constituted shall command support of all Jews."

GERMANS NOT EAGER TO SETTLE RESTITUTION, JEWISH LEADER SAYS

DUSSELDORF, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- The question of German restitution to victims of Nazism can only be settled when the Federal Government of West Germany takes the initiative in the matter, Dr. H.G. Van Dam, secretary-general of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, declared today in an interview with the press.

Dr. Van Dam, who said that it was absurd to put the question of paying compensation to victims of Nazism on a level with the repayment of national debts or the rehabilitation of refugees, insisted that the German people's mood was not conducive to an easy and quick settlement of the restitution question. He said that there was not too much active anti-Semitism in Germany today, but felt that the German people might change its attitude easily.

U.S. LEADERS PRESENT PROGRAM TO SETTLE PALESTINE REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 19. (JTA) -- Declaring that Israel cannot re-absorb the Arab refugees who left Palestine and that Iraq and Syria and Jordan could absorb them all, a group of 19 distinguished American church and civic leaders submitted a memorandum to the United Nations General Assembly, now in session in Paris, proposing a \$800,000,000 program to re-settle the Palestine refugees and to develop natural resources in the Middle East over the next five years.

The memorandum also urges the United Nations once again to call upon Arab states and Israel to negotiate a peace settlement. It emphasizes that "the resettlement of the Arab refugees is a formidable undertaking, but it is much simpler to resettle them in Arab lands where identity of language, tradition and culture exists, than to return them as an alien minority in Israel where new homes and livelihood would have to be provided in any event."

The memorandum asks that \$300,000,000 should be applied immediately to the resettlement of the Arab refugees, and that \$500,000,000 should be used to develop the natural resources of the Arab states. The 19 signatories suggest the establishment of a U. N. Resettlement Agency to carry out the work of resettlement, and a Resources Development Commission, operating on a five-year plan basis to supervise the development program. Envisaged is a series of projects similar to the Tennessee Valley Authority to harness the water and power resources of the Jordan River, serving Jordan and Israel; of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, serving Iraq and Syria; and of the Litani River in Lebanon.

The Arab states, Israel and the international community are each asked to assume and discharge a portion of the responsibility. The Arab states--principally Iraq, Syria and Jordan--by assigning tracts of land "now unpopulated or under-populated, which are capable of being developed, to support a substantial population," with a specific designation of land to each Arab refugee family to be settled; Israel, by paying a "fair amount" into a resettlement fund by way of compensation for abandoned Arab land in Israel; the international community, by subscribing the largest part of the funds required, both for resettlement and development.

Says Jews Spent \$800,000,000 on Refugees in Israel

In explanation of its view that Israel cannot re-absorb the Arab refugee population, the document points out that since 1948, Israel has absorbed a Jewish refugee population about equivalent in numbers to the Arab refugee population; and that, moreover, half of these immigrants are unanticipated refugees in flight from persecution in the Arab states. On some 700,000 Jewish refugees, Israel and six voluntary agencies in three years have already spent over \$800,000,000, the memorandum says.

"Today, Israel is confronted with the immediate problem of receiving 700,000 to 1,000,000 Jews of North Africa and the Arab countries, and offering them homes and rehabilitation," the document continues. "Should Israel fail, the responsibility for these Jews would fall upon the international community. "Were Israel compelled also to re-absorb the Palestine Arabs, it would mean completely dislocating the economy of the state and, indeed, threatening its very existence."

Signatories to this proposal constitute a cross-section of religious, labor, educational and liberal leadership. They include: Sumner Welles, Dr. Dewey Anderson, Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, Dr. Donald B. Cloward, Dr. Frederick May Elliott, the Rt. Rev. Charles Kendal Gilbert, Earl G. Harrison, the Very Rev. Ivan Lee Holt, Miss Freda Kirchwey, Dr. Kenneth Scott Latourette, Archibald Macleish, Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, the Rt. Rev. Norman B. Nash, Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, James G. Patton, Jacob S. Potofsky, Dr. James T. Shotwell and Dr. Russel H. Stafford.

AMERICAN FUND FOR ISRAEL INSTITUTIONS SETS \$1,934,000 QUOTA FOR 1952

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- A fund-raising goal of \$1,934,000 for 1952 was set last night by the American Fund for Israel Institutions at a dinner concluding the two-day Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Fund.

It was announced at the dinner that the Fund has raised \$7,000,000 in ten years for leading cultural, traditional and social welfare organizations in Israel. Alan M. Stroock, trustee of the Fund, revealed that the organization had established a five-year, \$30,000 scholarship fund for Israeli students in honor of Edward A. Norman, president and founder of the Fund.

JEWS CONGRESS OPPOSES INTRODUCTION OF PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA) -- The national executive committee of the American Jewish Congress, composed of more than 75 representatives from all parts of the country, today adopted a resolution calling upon the New York State Board of Regents to rescind its recent proposal that every public school day begin with the recitation of a prayer.

The resolution asserted that the Regents' proposal would result in introducing into the public school system influences and pressures which would threaten the existence of the non-sectarian public school. "Although the prayer recommended by the Regents is described as non-denominational," the resolution stated, "experience has shown that, sooner or later, non-denominational religious exercises acquire sectarian additions and deviations. What is non-denominational to the majority is frequently sectarian to the minority."

Pointing out that children of different faiths pray in different ways, the resolution urged that "these religious differences should not be brought into the public school where all children must be deemed Americans, without divisions according to race, color or religion."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, who just returned from England, reported at the meeting of the national executive committee that anti-Semitism in Britain has "declined perceptively in recent years" and that a friendly relationship is growing up between Britain and Israel. Reporting on his conversations with British Jewish leaders concerning the recent German offer to make reparations for Nazi crimes against Jewry, Dr. Goldstein said agreement existed that no discussions with Germany can take place "unless there is evidence that Chancellor Adenauer has in mind something really commensurate with the magnitude of the damage done."

UNION STRIKE AGAINST NEWARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL ENTERS THIRD WEEK

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 19. (JTA) -- The strike of members of the Social Service Employees Union, Local 11, against the Jewish Community Council of Essex County and a number of agencies affiliated with the Council is entering its third week tomorrow with the Council refusing to negotiate a new contract with the union because of its "Communist leadership."

Only about 60 of the 145 members of the union are on strike, a Council spokesman said here today. The strike began on December 6 after the Council notified the union that when the present contract expires on December 31, it would negotiate only with a union "without a Communist reputation." Seven agencies of the Council independently re-affirmed the Council's stand.

Allan V. Lowenstein, Council president, has charged that the strike has been marked by a campaign of "vilification, violence and harassment, including jamming of the agency's telephones and threats of employees and officials." Two ar-