

# J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## FLOODS RISE IN ISRAEL; ISOLATED SETTLEMENTS SEND S.O.S. CALLS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- More emergency calls for help were received here today from settlements in all parts of the country surrounded by rising waters. Some of the settlements in the Negev are completely cut off. Special rescue squads have been rushed to the affected areas.

Military and civilian planes today dropped food supplies to a number of isolated settlements in the Negev and Galilee. The military planes parachuted bread and other foodstuffs in the Lake Tiberias area, while three Piper Cub civilian planes, belonging to the Israeli Flying Club, dropped sacks with food supplies into flooded immigrant camps in the Majdal section of southern Israel.

Vast truck gardens have been washed away by the rising waters. The entire settlement of Yagur, near Haifa, is flooded and major damage to the houses and the fields are reported from there. Roads in some parts of the country are submerged under three feet of swirling water.

Mrs. Golda Myerson, Minister of Social Welfare, today reported in Parliament that 23 of the 163 immigrant camps in the country have been hit severely by the gales. From nine of them the inhabitants had to be evacuated. She said that 64,000 families are living in camps in tin huts, 13,000 in wooden huts and 10,500 in tents.

The Minister praised the aid given by the army in rescue operations in the flooded areas. She said that additional labor units are being despatched to the affected areas to assist flood victims. At the same time, she appealed for an increase in civilian volunteers to work in the flooded immigrant camps.

## EGYPTIAN PLANES FLY OVER ISRAEL; SECOND VIOLATION IN WEEK

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- Three Egyptian aircraft violated Israeli air space over the Negev, a military spokesman announced here this evening. The spokesman said that the planes flew over the southern Negev and later today returned to Egyptian territory.

This is the second time within a week that Egyptian planes have been spotted over Israel territory. Late last week several planes--later identified as Egyptian--flew over the southern region of Israel and headed for the Egyptian-held Gaza strip.

**STRIKING ISRAELI SEAMEN DEPORTED FROM U.S. TO ISRAEL ON GREEK SHIP**

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The 59 striking Israel seamen who tied up two Israeli ships in New York and Baltimore and were interned on Ellis Island were deported today from the United States to Israel on the Greek vessel Nea Hellas. Their ships--the Yafa and the Haifa--sailed from the ports of New York and Baltimore, respectively, manned by other crews.

Dr. Joseph Burstin, representative of the Histadrut in the United States, told a press conference here today that the Federation of Labor in Israel is opposed to the demands by the striking Israel seamen who are seeking the right to declare strikes in foreign ports and request autonomy for their employment bureaus. Dr. Burstin emphasized that Israel cannot permit the seamen to strike while in foreign ports since this might paralyze normal traffic between the Jewish state and the outside world.

The representative of the Histadrut pointed out that Israel is surrounded by enemies on land and that its only contact with the outside world is by sea. Israel's entire import and export trade would be exposed to sabotage by irresponsible elements if Israeli seamen were permitted to strike in foreign ports, he emphasized.

With regard to the autonomy of the labor exchange offices established by the striking seamen's union, Dr. Burstin explained that employment in Israel is regulated by the labor exchange offices there in which all labor groups, as well as the Israel Government, are represented. "This guarantees an impartial division of labor," he said. He expressed the hope that the seamen's strike will soon come to an end.

**SOCIAL INSURANCE BILL PRESENTED BY ISRAELI MINISTER TO KNESSET**

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- Israeli Minister of Social Welfare Golda Myerson today presented to Parliament a national social insurance bill providing for benefits for old age, accident, maternity and death. The measure is a re-draft of an earlier bill presented, but never considered, in the first Knesset.

Speaking during a debate on the government's budget bill, which passed its first reading today, Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan voiced support for the selective immigration policy proposed for Israel by the Jewish Agency. He also reported that the Israeli pound had dropped in value by 50 percent on the Zurich money market recently, but added that the panic sale of "hot money" had no effect on the purchasing power of the pound. He also denied that his budget would foster inflationary tendencies.

Responding to a question by an Arab deputy on the government's responsibility for Arab refugees in Israel, the Minister declared that the government--which desires to foster a spirit of citizenship and equality among the Arab people in Israel--feels that it should take over responsibility from the United Nations for some 21,000 Arabs designated as refugees. He stressed that the government did not want to keep these people on relief rolls but to absorb them into Israel's economy and make them self-supporting.

Mr. Kaplan further declared that every penny collected from Moslem wages as taxes was spent for Moslem activities, adding that Arab teachers will receive the same wages as Jewish teachers from now on. He pleaded for co-operation from the Arabs in settling all problems, complaining that suspicion and agitation had deterred Arabs from going to places where they were sent for their own and the country's good.

PRESIDENT WEIZMANN'S HEALTH REPORTED IMPROVING CONTINUOUSLY

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- President Chaim Weizmann who has been gravely ill during the last several weeks is improving continuously, a communique issued today by the President's Office stated.

Dr. Weizmann is now in a position to sit freely for several hours daily and he eats with a good appetite, the communique said. His son and daughter-in-law who were summoned to his bedside from London last week are returning today to England.

U.S. TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATOR IN ISRAEL PLEDGES FULL CO-OPERATION

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- Bruce McDaniel, head of the American technical aid mission, today assured the Israeli people that his mission had come to Israel to co-operate in the development of the country and aid it in its current problems. At a press conference, he stressed that American aid would be given not only by supplying food, clothing and housing for immigrants but also by stimulating agricultural and industrial production and by supplying technical training to help the Jewish State become self-supporting and economically independent.

Reviewing the situation, Mr. McDaniel said that the first \$10,000,000 of the \$65,000,000 appropriated by Congress until June 30, 1952 had been turned over to the Israel Government for the purchase of foodstuffs, seed and raw materials. Pointing out that \$50,000,000 of the allocation had been set aside for refugee assistance, he said that his mission would approve plans outlined by the Israel Government for the industrialization and development of the country to care for an estimated 800,000 refugees.

Turning to the technical aspects of the job to be done, he said that his mission would include experts in the industrial and agricultural fields and, for temporary periods, experts for specific projects. The payments for materials or labor needed for these programs, he said, would be made from a joint account set up by the mission and the Israel Government, with the latter paying its share into the common fund in the form of Israeli pounds on an exchange rate yet to be agreed upon.

He emphasized that once an agreement had been reached on the joint account, all checks issued from it would be signed by him and Echud Avriel, Israeli co-ordinator of U.S. aid.

IRAQ SENTENCES 15 JEWS TO PRISON ON "ZIONIST ESPIONAGE" CHARGES

LONDON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- Fifteen Iraqi Jews have received various sentences from five months to life imprisonment following their conviction on charges of "Zionist espionage," according to a report received here today from Bagdad. The court also ordered the property of the defendants forfeited to the government.

The report, quoting the newspaper Al Shaab, said that Ishmael Salahoon received a life term; Eliahu Jurgi Abed and Shalom Salah Shalom each received 15-year terms; while Usef Ibrahim Basri, Fuad Ishad Nathan, Fuad Israel Dalah, Isaac Yacob Setty, Ibrahim Haskel, Shaul Hasken, Ibrahim Sassoon Kerkoukly, Yacob Sasson Shaaya, and Ezra Rachmin each received five years at forced labor. The remaining three defendants received five-month sentences but were released because they had already spent that much time in jail awaiting trial. They are: Esperance Yacob; Albertine Rubin Leiahu; and Madeline Rubin Lowe.

BANK OF AMERICA GRANTS \$10,000,000 TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The Bank of America has granted a loan of \$10,000,000 to the State of Israel, it was announced here today by David Horowitz, Director General of Israel's Ministry of Finance, who is returning to Israel tonight after a brief visit to this country.

Mr. Horowitz, assisted by Sidney S. Green, financial adviser to the Israeli Treasury Department in the United States, negotiated the loan for Israel. The collateral behind the \$10,000,000 loan is the Israel Bond Issue, now being sold in this country. "We are pleased to note that in granting this loan the Bank of America has signified its faith in our capacity to make good, and in our firm desire to build a democracy that will make its fullest contribution to the peace and progress of mankind," Mr. Horowitz declared in a statement to the press.

JEWISH AGENCY URGES U.S. JEWS TO SUPPORT U.J.A. GENEROUSLY

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today published an appeal to the Jews in the United States urging them to support the United Jewish Appeal in 1952 "with utmost generosity" and emphasizing that the U.J.A. is "the main channel for American Jewry's philanthropic support of Israel."

At the same time the Agency warned against unwarranted drives. Pointing out that "occasionally individuals and organizations launch new campaigns in behalf of Israel enterprises of special and limited character," the Agency said: "These enterprises are not always constructive and the claims put forward in their behalf are not always warranted by facts."

A special committee on control and authorization of campaigns in the United States, established by the Jewish Agency, will shortly announce what campaigns for Israel, in addition to the United Jewish Appeal, will be authorized for 1952. In the meantime, the Agency advises Jewish contributors to contact this committee whenever they are asked for contributions by any organization other than the United Jewish Appeal.

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, in a message to U.J.A. general chairman Edward M. M. Warburg this week, stated that "the Government of Israel continues to regard the United Jewish Appeal as an essential part of the four-point program and an indispensable instrument of help for Israel, as well as a bond of unity between American Jews." The Prime Minister extended also to Mr. Warburg and to U.J.A. executive vice-chairman Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, his "personal thanks and deep appreciation and gratitude" of the Israel Government for all they have done this year to make the U.J.A. a success.

\$5,000,000 FOREIGN CAPITAL TO BE INVESTED IN RAYON FACTORY IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliamentary Finance Committee has approved a proposal calling for the government to guarantee a \$3,000,000 loan to a projected rayon factory in Israel which would be established with the investment of \$5,000,000 in foreign capital and 1,000,000 pounds locally. The government will also participate in the company.

The plant, to be called Sehorith, will be established by a firm which already has 20 branches in various parts of the world. The company would be granted monopoly rights in the marketing of its products. Mapam leader Moshe Sneh voiced objections in the committee to the granting of "excessive rights to monopolistic capital." He also insisted that the government not guarantee the \$3,000,000 loan unless it received a 50 percent voice in the management of the corporation.

## NEWS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA PERTURBED OVER PREMIER'S ANTI-JEWISH SPEECH

VIENNA, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The approximately 15,000 Jews still residing in Czechoslovakia are greatly perturbed over the anti-Jewish note struck by Czech Premier Antonin Zapotocky in a speech delivered this week at a meeting of the central executive committee of the Czechoslovak National Front, it was reported here today.

The text of the speech, published yesterday in the Prague newspapers which reached here today, indicates the Czechoslovak Communist government is embarking on an outspoken anti-Jewish policy following the arrest of Rudolf Slansky, former secretary general of the Communist Party, and a number of Jewish high government officials. It was for the first time that anti-Jewish remarks were made publicly by any leader of the present regime in Czechoslovakia.

Declaring that Slansky was trying to help the Western powers, the Czech Premier said: "We shall not tolerate any foreign influence in our affairs, whether from Washington or London, Rome or Jerusalem. When negotiations were being carried on before February, 1948, for nationalization of capitalist enterprises, those who are emigrants today wanted to give back the nationalized concerns to the Jewish and other capitalists under the camouflage of restitution."

(The New York Times, in a cable from Vienna today, says: "It was not believed that Premier Zapotocky could have spoken as he did without the assurance that he would be backed by Moscow. But this raises the question of what is to become of Matyas Rakosi and Erno Geroe in Hungary, and Anna Pauker in Rumania, who are also Jewish and hold party and government posts as high as were those of M. Slansky. It had been known that the Soviet Union, which long discouraged anti-Semitism, now was letting it have its head. This trend, however, did not prevail until now in the Soviet satellites.")

## ROME OFFICIALS CONSIDER BROADCASTS ON JEWISH PROBLEMS

ROME, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The possibility of establishing a series of regular broadcasts on Jewish problems and Jewish culture over Italy's government-owned radio network was discussed at a meeting between Dr. Renzo Bonfiglioli, president of the Union of Jewish Communities of Italy, and network executives, who have expressed an interest in the project.

The Union has also begun a nationwide survey of synagogues, cemeteries and other Jewish institutions in an effort to prepare a plan for their conservation. This is considered of prime importance because of the fact that many former communities in Italy no longer exist or are about to go out of existence, leaving their institutions without care.

## J.C.A. DECIDES TO INTENSIFY ITS WORK IN ARGENTINA JEWISH COLONIES

LONDON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish Colonization Association decided to intensify its colonization activities in Argentina, it was reported here today by Dr. Ricardo Dubrowsky, president of the DAIA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry.

Dr. Dubrowsky, who participated in the sessions of the J.C.A., said that the group also decided to establish an ORT technical school for the children of Jewish colonists in Argentina as well as to develop cultural activities in the colonies.

WORLD-WIDE CHANUKAH CELEBRATIONS ARRANGED FOR JEWS IN SERVICE

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board today announced that Jews in the U.S. armed forces will celebrate Chanukah--which starts on Sunday evening--on a world-wide scale, "whether they are stationed in the battle area of Korea, or serving in Tokyo, Frankfurt, Balboa or Alaska." More than 25,000 gifts were shipped out to Jewish chaplains who will act as hosts at the parties, the announcement said.

Participants in the overseas Chanukah project are Serve-a-Camp and Serve-a-Hospital Committees across the nation and J.W.B. Armed Services Committees in Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Miami. Shipments to Korea, Alaska and the Pacific posts were made by groups in cities on the West Coast while those in the East covered Europe and the Canal Zone. Co-operating in the project in New York were ten Jewish Community Centers.

ISRAEL BOND COMMITTEE ARRANGES CHANUKAH FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- A Chanukah Festival for 20,000 children will be held at the Madison Square Garden on January 1, arranged by the New York Committee for State of Israel Bonds. Free tickets will be issued to purchasers of Israel bonds, it was announced here today.

ORTHODOX GROUP TO ESTABLISH 14 NEW ALL-DAY SCHOOLS IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- A decision to establish 14 new all-day schools in the United States during 1952 was adopted here at the annual meeting of the Torah Umesorah, a national Orthodox society for Hebrew day schools. Five of these schools will be established in the South. More than 250 delegates from various communities where Hebrew day schools exist participated in the conference.

Samuel C. Feuerstein, president of Torah Umesorah, reported that the organization has by now established close to 40 schools located in 37 cities and in 16 states. Mr. Feuerstein pointed out that in addition to establishing new schools Torah Umesorah also serviced 104 of the 147 existing Hebrew day schools in all of their operational and educational areas. A report by Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, director of Torah Umesorah, revealed that most of the communities with Jewish population groupings of 15,000 and over have day schools.

2,000 CHILDREN ATTEND JEWISH ALL-DAY SCHOOLS IN LONDON

LONDON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- An organization to "further the activities of and financial support for all Orthodox Jewish schools in Greater London" was formed here at a meeting of heads of Jewish day schools in London. It was reported at the conference that some 2,000 children are attending all-day Jewish schools in London.

JEWS IN ENGLAND CELEBRATE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP

LONDON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- The 250th anniversary of the consecration of the Bevis Marks Sephardic synagogue was celebrated at a special service here yesterday, with the Duke of Edinburgh, Israeli Minister Eliahu Elath and representatives of all churches and of many Jewish organizations present.

The synagogue was built in 1699 by Joseph Avis, a Quaker, who, finding that it cost him less to build it than he had anticipated, returned the difference to the congregation with the explanation that he refused to make a profit on the construction of a house of worship. Many members of the Bevis Marks congregation today are descendants of a small band of Jewish merchants who received permission from Oliver Cromwell in 1656 to settle in Britain. The synagogue is now officially listed as an ancient monument of Great Britain.