

# J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## ISRAEL CABINET OBTAINS SUPPORT FOR ITS STAND ON GERMAN REPARATIONS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- All the parties in the Israel coalition government will support the Cabinet's stand on the question of reparations claims against Germany, it was reported here last night by Kol Israel, the government-sponsored radio system.

The announcement came after a lengthy meeting of Cabinet members and other representatives of the various coalition parties over the issue, which has split several of the government parties. All persons at the meeting, which was presided over by Premier David Ben Gurion, were sworn not to reveal what went on at the discussion. The government's statement on reparations will be presented to Parliament next Monday.

The local press, reporting some of the details of the inter-party meeting, today stated that the group adopted a resolution to ask the Knesset to empower the government to act on the reparations matter "in the light of circumstances." Another resolution, opposing any direct negotiations with Germany, was defeated with only five delegates in favor of it. They were: Rabbi Mordecai Nurock of the Mizrachi; Dr. Zorach Warhaftig of Poale Mizrachi; Eliahu Moshe Genichovsky of Poale Mizrachi; Benjamin Mintz of Poale Agudas Israel; and Rabbi Kalman Kahana of Poale Agudas Israel.

Israel Guri, Mapai leader, demanded that all the parties in the coalition vote with the government, regardless of the feelings of their deputies, because the issue is one of confidence or non-confidence in the government. Mr. Mintz declared that his party had decided to seek the advice of foremost rabbinical authorities on this question, and will act in accordance with their advice.

## Germans Ask Bonn Government to Be Specific on Reparations

FRANKFURT, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Hesse association of Germans who are legally obligated to make restitution of Jewish property which had been stolen by the Nazi regime and sold to members of the group today demanded that the West German Government make an official declaration of the nature of the reparations and compensation to be made to Israel and the total of these payments.

The Hesse group's statement criticized the American zonal restitution law as one which has not made good the wrongs inflicted on the Jews, but has often created new wrongs by placing the "burden of the state's debt on those who purchased Jewish property." The statement scored the government for failing to acknowledge its "principal obligation and basic responsibility" for the material and other damages wrought on the Jews by the Nazis. It also asked whether the West German Government wished to make reparations for damages suffered by Jews in territory which now constitutes the Soviet zone of occupation and in other territories which once belonged to Germany.

U. N. ASSEMBLY MAY TAKE UP PALESTINE ISSUES WITHIN TEN DAYS

PARIS, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Israeli delegation at the United Nations expects the General Assembly to begin consideration of the Palestine issues within ten days, it was learned here today as the Assembly reconvened to begin the second half of its 1951 session.

If the agenda of the Assembly were to be followed strictly, the Palestine case would be brought to the floor before ten days, but it is believed that the Arab states will seek to have the Assembly debate the question of Libya, which became nominally independent--under U.N. auspices--yesterday. It is expected that the Arab states will be able to muster a sufficient number of votes to push through the agenda change. The Israeli delegation is currently headed by Arthur Lourie, but Ambassador Abba Eban is scheduled to arrive in Paris to assume direction of the delegation before the Palestine question arises.

Two U. N. reports will be discussed during the Palestine debate. One, the report of the Conciliation Commission for Palestine, will be chiefly political in nature, although one of its main points is the question of the Palestine Arab refugees. The second report, that of the U. N. agency for relief of the Arab refugees, which deals with proposals for their resettlement, has certain political undertones.

AMMAN DISTURBED OVER RUMORS OF POSSIBLE JORDAN-IRAQ MERGER

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The recent rumors of a merger of Iraq and Jordan have aroused "great anxiety" in Jordan palace circles and in the "minds of many prominent Jordan statesmen," the Israeli radio declared in a broadcast heard here.

The Tel Aviv radio, which quoted Amman reports, said that Jordan's King Talal is known to oppose a union of his country with any other Arab state. It added that most Jordan statesmen of standing support the King on this issue.

200 COCHIN JEWS SEEK RE-ADMISSION TO INDIA; WANT TO LEAVE ISRAEL

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- A report from India published in the Manchester Guardian today says that 200 Cochin Jews who went to Israel without passports recently addressed a petition to Pandit Nehru, Indian Prime Minister, asking for permission to return to that country.

The petition points out that the Jews of Cochin "found living conditions in Israel too difficult and want to return to their ancestral homes," the report says. The correspondent adds that there are at present about 3,000 Jews residing in Cochin.

DELEGATION TO U. S. TO STUDY IMPORTATION OF KOSHER MEAT TO ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- A delegation of two rabbis, representing the Chief Rabbinate and the Ministry for Religion, will leave tomorrow for a trip to France, Denmark, the United States, Uruguay and Mexico to study the problem of the importation of kosher meat to Israel.

The Israeli Chief Rabbinate today proclaimed January 8 as a national memorial day in honor of the victims of Nazism. Special prayers will be recited on Mt. Zion.

**60,000 DISPLACED JEWS ADMITTED INTO UNITED STATES UNDER DP ACT**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- Approximately 60,000 displaced Jews entered the United States under America's three-year displaced persons program which terminated this week, it was learned here today.

Addressing a press conference, John W. Gibson, chairman of the DP Commission, said that 19 percent of the approximately 300,000 displaced persons who had been admitted to this country under the DP Act were Jewish, 46 percent Catholic, 35 percent Protestant, Orthodox Churches and various other denominations; 36,000 more displaced persons are scheduled to enter within the next two months, he stated.

About 3,000 Jewish refugees who registered for immigration to the United States under the DP Act have failed to received visas by the deadline which was set for midnight Dec. 31st, Jewish agencies dealing with migration today estimated. However, they are eligible for admission under the regular U.S. immigration quotas.

The Joint Distribution Committee, the United Service for New Americans and the HIAS have already begun preparations for the immigration of these 3,000 applicants under regular immigration quotas. Similar preparations are being made for several thousand Jewish refugees who entered Germany, Austria and Italy after the closing date for registration under the DP Act which was Jan 1, 1949.

At his press conference today Mr. Gibson said that over 39 percent of DP's are making a real contribution to the United States. The DP Commission, he stated, will continue functioning until August to bring in certain categories of orphans and Eastern European Germans. There are 26,284 visas available for ethnic Germans--persons of German descent who lived in other countries before the war but were expelled after V-E Day--and 7,836 for orphans.

(In Frankfurt, DP Commissioner Henry Rosenfield said that every visa authorized by Congress was used, along with 11,000 extras obtained by "begging, borrowing and stealing" from unfilled national quotas. Hundreds of persons still there fulfilled every requirement for admission to the United States, but "there were just no visas left," Mr. Rosenfield declared.)

**BRITISH AND AUSTRALIAN JEWS HONORED BY KING ON NEW YEAR'S DAY**

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The New Year's Honor List, published yesterday, carries the names of fewer Jews than usual. The highest award to a Jew went to Andrew Benjamin Cohen, Governor and Commander-in-Chief-designate for Uganda, who was appointed a Knight of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Bronke Katz, designer of the Festival of Britain, was named a Member of the British Empire.

Two members of the Melbourne Jewish community are included in the list. Knighthood was bestowed upon Sir Archibald Michaelis, Speaker of the Victorian state parliament, while Maurice Gabriel Sloman of Sydney was made a Member of the British Empire.

Lord Samuel, who left for Israel on a business and pleasure trip yesterday, is shortly expected to announce his retirement as leader of the Liberal Party in the House of Lords. Viscount Samuel, who is 81, has been wanting to retire for some time.

**ISRAEL BRODIE REPORTS ON POTASH COMPANY PACT WITH ISRAEL GOVT.**

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The potash works at the Dead Sea in Israel, idle since the Arab-Israel war in 1948, are scheduled to resume operations at an early date under an agreement initialled by the Israel Government and Palestine Potash Ltd., it was announced today by Israel B. Brodie, a director of the potash company and vice-chairman of the Palestine Economic Corporation, largest common stockholder in Palestine Potash, Ltd.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Brodie said that the resumption of potash production will "make a substantial contribution to the well-being of Israel." Mr. Brodie, who has just recently returned from an extended stay in Israel where he took a leading role in the negotiations between the Israel Government and Palestine Potash Ltd., noted that the potash works had been a major source of foreign exchange through the export of its products which have an annual value of about \$7,000,000.

Mr. Brodie stated under the agreement that there will be established a new Israeli corporation which will take over the assets, liabilities and operations of Palestine Potash Ltd. In this new company, Mr. Brodie added, the Israel Government will hold 51 percent of the voting rights, the stockholders of Palestine Potash Ltd. 25 percent and new Israeli investors 24 percent. The government will have a majority of one on the board of directors, he added.

"The government undertook by public issues or otherwise to furnish approximately the equivalent of \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000 to bring the plant to an early production of 150,000 tons of potash annually," he reported. He stressed that this production will be "substantially increased thereafter" and noted that "bromine production will also be resumed."

"Potash ordinary shareholders will receive 33 1/3 percent of the equity of the new company," Mr. Brodie said. "The plan," he added, "is to be finalized by an exchange of stock of Palestine Potash Ltd. for stock of the new corporation. There are other provisions which will reinforce the security of the old investors. The new company will also be considered an approved undertaking under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investment, approved by the Israel Parliament."

"In view of the substantial commitments which the Israel Government has undertaken under this agreement," Mr. Brodie said, "the old company's representatives thought it only fair that the government should be given a controlling vote in the affairs of the company." He added that the new agreement "demonstrates that the Israel Government is earnestly endeavoring to encourage private initiative in the country."

**UNITED JEWISH DRIVE IN ARGENTINA BRINGS SUCCESSFUL RESULTS IN 1951**

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The 1951 United Jewish Campaign in Argentina brought a 10 percent increase in the funds raised as compared with the results of the previous year, it was announced here today by Dr. Israel Yagupsky, co-chairman of the Campaign.

Dr. Yagupsky said that the introduction of an "honor tribunal" for those failing to pay their pledges in full or those refusing to contribute brought satisfactory results. He reported the launching of an emergency campaign to collect 100,000 tons of clothing for Israel's flood victims. The campaign is being supported by the local Kehilla; the DAA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry; and various Zionist groups.

**MAXIM LITVINOV, FORMER SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER, DIES AT 75**

LONDON, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The Moscow Radio today announced the death of Maxim Litvinov, former Soviet Foreign Minister who was demoted in 1939 when he opposed the Stalin-Hitler pact. He was 75 years old.

The son of a Jewish merchant of Bialystok, where he was born, Litvinov became the second Foreign Minister of Soviet Russia and was instrumental in winning United States recognition of the Soviet Union in 1933. From 1941 to 1943 he served as Soviet Ambassador to Washington.

His real name was Meyer Wallach. He became a militant revolutionary in his early youth and later hid his personality under many aliases. His father wanted him to remain an Orthodox Jewish merchant in Bialystok, but Litvinov went to Kiev in 1901 where he was arrested by the Czarist police for running a clandestine printing plant. He was sentenced to five years deportation to Siberia, but after a year fled and went to London where for the first time he met Lenin and Trotsky.

In the following years Litvinov, still a revolutionary, became a business man. He married Iva Low, a member of the well known Low family in England, whose father was a prominent lawyer in London. He remained in England till 1918 when he was arrested and exchanged for Bruce Lockhart, well known "British agent" held in Moscow. Upon his arrival in Moscow he was named Assistant Commissar of Foreign Affairs, later becoming Foreign Commissar - a post he held till May, 1939.

**HILLEL FOUNDATIONS ACQUIRE SWISS CONSULATE BUILDING IN JERUSALEM**

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations last Friday purchased the Swiss Consulate building in Jerusalem as quarters for the Hillel Foundation at the Hebrew University, it was announced here today by Rabbi Arthur L. Lelyveld, national Hillel director.

"The new Hillel House will serve as a center for cultural and social activities for the students and faculty of the Hebrew University," Rabbi Lelyveld said. "As such, it will represent a major contribution by B'nai B'rith and American Jewry to the cultural life of the University and of Israel."

**ANNUAL AWARD FOR BEST DISSERTATION ON HEBREW LITERATURE SET UP**

NEW YORK, Jan. 2. (JTA) -- The American Friends of the Hebrew University today announced the establishment of a \$10,000 memorial trust fund at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem by Mrs. Lea Habergrutz in honor of her late husband. Income from the gift will be awarded annually to the author of the best post-graduate dissertation in the field of Hebrew literature.

The American Friends also announced the arrival in the United States of Dr. Kurt Wormann, director of the Hebrew University Library, who will spend four months in this country visiting the libraries and library schools of principal American cities and universities. His itinerary is being arranged by the State Department in cooperation with the American Library Association.

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