

# J T A DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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**MIDDLE EAST IS NOW A POWDER KEG, SAYS BEN GURION; APPEALS TO EGYPT**

**JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA).** Premier David Ben-Gurion today told the Israel Parliament that "the entire Middle East is now a keg of explosives and any spark may set afire all the region." This, he emphasized, demands Israel's uttermost preparedness.

At the same time, Mr. Ben-Gurion stretched out a hand of peace to Egypt and declared that there is no reason for any conflict between the two countries. "There is no foundation for border disputes," he said. "This is no territorial quarrel between Israel and Egypt. On the contrary, peace between the two countries would help Egypt to strengthen its international status."

Israel, Premier Ben-Gurion stressed, is not hostile to Egypt because of ancient times or even because of its recent invasion. "We did not dream of attacking Egypt when the former regime trembled and the new regime was not settled as yet," he said. "We greet Egypt as far as her present government strives for peace. However, nobody can yet foretell whether the Egyptian regime now is for peace or for war. We must, therefore, be prepared, alert and wise."

With regard to Syria, the Israel Premier pointed out that the Syrian military dictator Gen. Shishkall, who invaded Israel, was defeated and barely escaped to save his skin. However, now he threatens Israel "in a typical Hitlerite fashion." "I shall not discuss now how such threats can be reconciled with Syria's belonging to the United Nations, but from our defense viewpoint, we must rely only upon ourselves and not on external forces," he declared.

## **Demands Increase in Military Service for Israelis**

Mr. Ben-Gurion delivered his address in support of a government bill requesting that military service for Israelis be increased from the present 24 months to a 30-month period. He called vigorously for "relentless preparedness" emphasizing that Israel's enemies "did not sit idly during the last four years and were preparing themselves" against the Jewish state.

"There is no doubt," he said, "that there are many among the Arabs who desire peace with Israel. But their voice is seldom heard. Most nations of the world are interested in peace between Israel and the Arab countries; nevertheless there is no peace. The situation in the neighboring countries does not forecast stability and peace. The contrary is true. In the entire Middle East only Turkey and Israel are stabilized," he pointed out.

## **LAVON NAMED MEMBER OF ISRAEL CABINET; SUCCEEDS ELIEZER KAPLAN**

**JERUSALEM, Aug. 18. (JTA).** Pinkas Lavon, former Minister of Agriculture, was today named minister without portfolio to succeed the late Eliezer Kaplan as deputy to Premier David Ben-Gurion. The Israel Parliament approved the appointment.

## U.S. AUTHORITIES IN GERMANY BLAMED FOR AUERBACH'S SUICIDE

MUNICH, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Jewish enterprises in Bavaria were closed today during the funeral of Philip Auerbach, former head of the Bavarian Restitution Office, who committed suicide after being sentenced last Thursday by a German court - which included three ex-Nazi judges - to 30 months' imprisonment for embezzlement of restitution funds.

Liberal circles here blamed the American occupation authorities for Auerbach's suicide. They pointed out that the occupation authorities were responsible for his appointment to the post of Restitution Commissioner and that his trial should have been conducted in camera before an Allied court and not before a German court.

A spokesman for the German Social Democratic Party emphasized that Auerbach's suicide was "final proof of his devotion and sincerity with which he addressed himself to the task of bringing relief to victims of Nazism in Bavaria." He criticized the court verdict as "uncommonly severe" and added:

"Even though it may be impossible to doubt that the court did its best to the objective, it is still open to question whether all its members were able to clear their minds of old prejudices. That is a matter which those concerned must settle for themselves with their own consciences."

Other circles here pointed out that Auerbach tried to secure at least some restitution to victims of Nazism at a time when German authorities were doing their best to reduce restitution to a minimum and postpone it as long as possible. Some emphasized that it was an "utterly unintelligible mistake" to appoint a court composed of former members of the Nazi Party to try a Jew who was a former inmate of a Nazi concentration camp.

Dr. Joseph Klebansky, Auerbach's lawyer who last week announced his intention of appealing against Thursday's verdict, today said that he had no doubt whatsoever that his client would have been acquitted of the charges had he lived.

### Bavarian State Restitution Office Resumes Activities

MUNICH, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Bavarian State Restitution office, which was not operating during the several months when the Auerbach trial took place, today announced the resumption of its work.

There are about 120,000 restitution and indemnification claims awaiting settlement by this office, it was revealed today. At the same time it was also reported that an agreement was reached between the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization and the Jewish Community of Munich under which the community is to receive about 1,000,000 marks worth of former Jewish communal and heirless property.

### Anti-Semitic Leaflets Distributed in Southern Bavaria

MUNICH, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitic leaflets bearing Nazi swastikas were distributed today in southern Bavaria, calling on the Germans "to remember" the Nazi war criminals sentenced to death by the Allies.

German pilgrims who returned here from a trip to Beirut expressed admiration over the reception accorded them by the Arab population and said that they were greeted by shouts of "Heil Hitler" in the Lebanese capital. They also expressed amazement over the number of Arab children who had been named Hitler.

### GERMAN-JEWISH TALKS NEARING END; ONLY TWO POINTS TO SETTLE

THE HAGUE, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Members of the delegation of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany today indicated here that the German-Jewish reparations talks may be concluded at the end of this month, while a spokesman for the Israel delegation said that only one point of disagreement prevents conclusion of the Israel-German negotiations.

The point of disagreement is the "stability clause" which the Israel delegation demands in order to secure a guarantee against any loss from possible devaluation of German currency. The Germans oppose this demand on the ground that it casts doubt on the stability of German currency. However, a compromise is expected to be reached after members of the German Cabinet return from their vacation.

The point of difference between the Conference delegation and the Germans is the extension of restitution to Austrian Jews who suffered during Germany's occupation of Austria. The German delegation claims that Austria had a Nazi government of her own. The Germans, therefore, argue that the present Austrian Government and not the West German Government should be the one to pay reparations to Austrian Jews.

Meanwhile, it was reported today from Bonn that government circles there state there will be no re-export of German goods from Israel received as reparations from Germany. Industrial circles in Germany had feared this might happen, endangering Germany's overseas markets, but their fears were described as completely unfounded. It is further understood that "safety clauses" have been inserted in the Israel-German agreement to this effect.

It was also reported from Bonn that 45% of the goods to be exported to Israel by Germany will be steel products, while 25% will be ironware and non-farrous products, and 30% chemicals and other products. Terms and methods of export will be decided by the German manufacturers and an Israel purchasing commission. Several German towns have already offered their facilities to the commission for use as its headquarters, but it is believed Cologne will be selected by the Israelis.

### ISRAEL-AUSTRIAN CREDIT TALKS CONCLUDED; TERMS ESTABLISHED

VIENNA, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Negotiations between Israel and Austrian representatives on the goods to be supplied to the Jewish State under the Austrian Government 100,000,000 schilling credit have been successfully concluded here. The following quotas have been established:

Up to 25% of the credit may be used for the purchase of timber, houses and other goods produced from wood; a similar quota may be used for the purchase of machinery, industrial equipment, tools, agricultural implements, textile machinery, wood and metal working machinery; up to 15% may be used for woolen, cotton, rayon and mixed yarns; up to 10% may be used for construction materials; and up to 25% for miscellaneous items, including trucks, buses, bicycles, microscopes, hospital equipment, chemicals, glass and rubber products, grinding and abrasive materials, wire and graphite.

### Australian Jews Request Government Action Against Austria

SYDNEY, Australia, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Australian Government today informed the Executive Council of Australian Jewry that it will consider its request to intercede with the Allied Council in Austria against the laws passed by the Austrian Parliament recently restoring property and civil rights to more than 20,000 former members of the Nazi Party.

REPUBLICAN PARTY FLEDGES TO BAR RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY FROM CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The Republican National Committee pledged today that it would condemn every instance of religious or racial bigotry which may emerge in the 1952 election campaign. A similar pledge was made last week by the Democratic National Committee.

Arthur E. Summerfield, chairman of the National Republican Committee made this promise to six Jewish, Catholic and Protestant leaders who previously asked both major parties to work toward an election campaign free of bias. Mr. Summerfield said today that he would send an anti-prejudice statement to all Republican candidates.

"The 1952 election must stand before the world as a shining example of how the people of a great republic resolve issues and differences of viewpoint within the broad framework of freedom and equal justice for all," Mr. Summerfield wrote. "I feel so deeply about the wisdom of your firm resolution concerning this campaign that I am taking the liberty of communicating it in full to all principal leaders and candidates seeking election on the Republican ticket next November."

His letter was addressed to Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, president of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.; Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City, Mo.; Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, president of the Synagogue Council of America; Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, president of Ohio Wesleyan University; Dr. George N. Shuster, president of Hunter College, and Jacob Blaustein, president of the American Jewish Committee.

CHARGES OF ANTI-SEMITISM AGAINST SEN. NIXON CONDEMNED BY JEWS

DENVER, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Senator Richard Nixon, vice-presidential nominee, announced today the receipt of a statement from the Community Relations Committee of the Los Angeles Jewish Community Council, lashing at the attempted injection of bigotry into the current political campaign. The statement, signed by Judge Isaac Pacht, chairman of the Community Relations Committee, reads:

"We have been made aware that certain individuals and groups, acting without knowledge of the facts, have attempted to inject the issue of anti-Semitism into the current campaign to elect the President and Vice-President of the United States. We cannot permit this to occur without registering our deepest disapproval and disavowal. General Eisenhower, Governor Stevenson, Senator Sparkman and Senator Nixon may differ on many of the problems besetting the nation and the world. On these fundamental things, however, they are in agreement; their deep belief in religious liberty and their common, unalterable concern for all Americans.

"In the case of Senator Nixon, it is incumbent upon us, as citizens of California, to speak with candor and frankness. Against Senator Nixon the insinuations of anti-Semitism have been particularly vicious. There are many of us who support the senator for the vice-presidency. There are many of us who oppose him. Whatever our political differences, however, upon this one fact we have no difference. We resent and deplore this accusation. Democrats and Republicans alike, we want it placed squarely on public record that any charges of anti-Semitism against Senator Nixon are utterly and totally unfounded. We make this statement only after the most assiduous inquiry.

"The attempt to cloud the true issues in a political year by appeals to emotional and ignorant sectionalism, racism and sectarianism is one that must be fought by

all Americans. In their wisdom the American people will make their decisions on the facts in our historical tradition of free men choosing free leaders in a free land."

On receipt of Judge Pacht's statement, Senator Nixon declared: "I have always recognized that those who would stir up race hatred and bigotry are violating every concept of Americanism. They are just as un-American and anti-American as the Communists, the Nazis and the Fascists. The spreading of bigotry and dissension among our people is a threat to American liberties. That is one of the principal reasons why I joined with Dwight Eisenhower in condemning appeals to prejudice, intolerance and bigotry."

#### U.S. PUBLISHERS TO RECEIVE DOLLARS FOR BOOKS SOLD IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Official sources here today confirmed the conclusion of an agreement between the United States and Israel under which the exchange rate for import of American books by Israel was set at \$1.40 for one Israeli pound.

The new accord makes it possible to sell American publications in Israel 28 per cent cheaper than hitherto. It also enables American publishers to sell their publications in Israel for local currency and collect dollars from the United States Treasury, since the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv will use the Israeli currency for cultural activities.

(The New York Times today reported that contracts of guarantee with the United States Government have been signed by ten publishers for the amount of publications each is willing to send to Israel up to June 15, 1953. A total of \$260,280 in such contracts is divided as follows: Doubleday & Co., Inc., and its subsidiary Blakiston & Co., \$20,000; Moore-Cottrell Subscription Agency, \$25,000; Pocketbooks, Inc., \$25,000; Bantam Books, Inc., \$30,000; McGraw-Hill, Inc., \$28,000; Crowell-Collier Publishing Company, \$57,280; New American Library of World Literature, Inc., \$10,000; Macmillan Company, \$25,000 and Henry M. Snyder & Co., \$40,000.)

#### 250 DELEGATES ATTEND B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH CONVENTION IN AMERICA

EAST LANSING, Mich., Aug. 18. (JTA) -- Some 250 delegates representing 25,000 members of Aleph Zadik Aleph -- B'nai B'rith's teen-age boys organization -- are attending the A. Z. A. convention at Michigan State College here which opened today. The A. Z. A.'s sister organization -- B'nai B'rith Girls -- will meet immediately after the conclusion of the A. Z. A. convention.

In addition to delegates from the United States, the convention is attended by representatives from Canada, Mexico, England and Israel. Governor G. Mennen Williams of Michigan will address the convention.

#### WOODCUT BY ISRAELI ARTIST PRESENTED TO WASHINGTON PRESS CLUB

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (JTA) -- The president of the National Press Club today accepted on behalf of the club, as a "symbol of Israel-American friendship" a woodcut of the prophet Jeremiah by Jacob Steinhardt, an Israeli artist. The woodcut was presented to the club by B. A. Barkai, an Israeli journalist, and Milton Friedman, Washington correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. President T. Felt said he wished to gratefully acknowledge the gift which he considered symbolic of the close ties between Israel and the United States. I. S. Turover, national vice-president of the Zionist Organization of America, was present at the presentation.