



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

650 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

*Contents Copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement*

VOL. XX No. 225 - 35th year

Monday, November 23, 1953

## AUSTRIA REJECTS JEWISH DEMAND FOR HEIRLESS PROPERTY SETTLEMENT

VIENNA, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government has definitely rejected the demands of world Jewish organizations for a lump sum settlement of heirless property claims of Jewish victims of the Nazis, after having negotiated with the Jewish groups for six months over the amount of such a settlement, it was learned here this week-end from authoritative sources. The Austrian Government has also turned down all proposals for advance payment of any of the heirless restitution claims.

A case-by-case investigation of the claims is only possible six months after the ratification of an Austrian state treaty with the Allied powers, the government claimed. This argument was advanced by the government on the basis of a number of Austrian laws which provide for the submission of claims for return of heirless property until six months after the treaty ratification. In informing the Jewish groups of its decision, the government also argued that if it were to settle the claims with the Jewish groups, claimants could, until six months after treaty ratification, demand property which had been included in the lump sum settlement.

The Austrian Government also told the Jewish groups that they had started off on the wrong basis, since the granting of restitution to racial persecutees would mean "discrimination" in favor of one group. Special regulations favoring individual cases or groups was contrary to Austrian Government policy, it declared.

Nevertheless, it was reported, the government told the Jewish organizations that it was "willing to continue the negotiations," and asked for new Jewish offers for a settlement of the problem of heirless property.

## MORE JEWISH "RETURNEES" ARRESTED IN GERMANY AS "ILLEGALS"

MUNICH, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- German police this week-end arrested another 20 Jewish men, women and children who arrived here from Israel without having legal German entry visas. They were picked up at the railroad station.

Meanwhile, few of the estimated 1,000 Jewish "returnees" from Israel have accepted an offer by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society to pay their full transportation costs if they change their minds and decide to take up permanent residence in Israel again. On the basis of an agreement reached last week in Israel, the HIAS and the Jewish Agency will cooperate in taking care of the "returnees" upon their arrival in Israel and during the early stages of reintegration.

ISRAEL CABINET DISCUSSES SECURITY COUNCIL'S DEBATE ON KIBYA

JERUSALEM, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet held two meetings today to discuss the United Nations Security Council discussions of the Jordan complaint over the Kibya incident and the Syrian complaint on the Israeli hydroelectric project near Bnot Yaacov. Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett presented a lengthy report of the situation as regards the Security Council. Premier David Ben Gurion returned to Jerusalem late last night to preside at today's Cabinet sessions.

Speaking on a nationwide radio broadcast tonight, Premier Ben Gurion challenged the accuracy of the report submitted by Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike, United Nations truce supervisor, to the UN Security Council on the Kibya incident. Mr. Ben Gurion declared that the Western Powers, in their approach to the Kibya raid, "discriminate between blood and blood" in that they all are silent about all the incidents and blood shed before and after the Kibya incident by Jordan armed forces. (Details on page 4.)

U.S. MUM ON ISRAEL'S PLEA FOR DIRECT TALKS WITH JORDAN AT U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Hope that the resolution censuring Israel for the Kibya incident--introduced at the United Nations Security Council last Friday by the United States, Great Britain and France--may still be modified before it is voted upon either Tuesday or Thursday was expressed here today by U.N. delegates who are convinced that a resolution of censure will not end the Arab-Israel border incidents.

Numerous delegates believe that instead of censuring Israel, the Security Council could achieve better results by acting on Israel's proposal that direct Jordan-Israel talks be started at the U.N. headquarters with the participation of U.N. truce chief Gen. Vagn Bennike who has been summoned to the Security Council session. Jordan refuses to accept this proposal and is openly supported in this move by Britain.

Israel has so far received no official reply from the United States on the note sent to the State Department last week asking support of Israel's proposal for direct talks in New York on the border problems. Sir Gladwyn Jebb, British delegate, has been severely criticized by the Israelis here for backing Jordan's rejection of the meeting.

The New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune, America's leading newspapers, came out with editorials questioning the wisdom of the proposed Three Power resolution censuring Israel. Both papers drew attention to Israel's proposal for direct Israel-Jordan talks at U.N. headquarters and to Jordan's rejection of this proposal. The Times editorial pointed out that Israel's proposal "is a constructive offer, and in ignoring it, the representative of Jordan has put himself in the wrong."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, sent a telegram to Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., head of the American delegation at the U.N., calling for reconsideration of the U.S. position in co-sponsoring, with Britain and France, the resolution censuring Israel.

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS USE 880 SLABS OF ISRAEL STONE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Nov. 22. (JTA) -- A total of 880 slabs of stone cut from the hills around Jerusalem are being used to face a seven-foot high foundation for a Japanese peace bell to stand in the conference building of the United Nations here. The stone is a gift of the Israel Government to the UN.

## U.S. IS URGED TO REVISE ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTION AT SECURITY COUNCIL

CLEVELAND, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Speaking for 800 Jewish communities in the United States, the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, at its session here today, adopted a resolution expressing "grave concern" over the joint resolution presented by the U.S., Britain and France to the U.N. Security Council censuring Israel for the Kibya incident.

"We urge our government to use its influence and prestige through the United Nations and through diplomatic channels to endeavor to bring about such a revision of the resolution in question, and to call upon the governments directly concerned to negotiate a settlement of their differences and a permanent peace," the CJFWF General Assembly requested.

The CJFWF pointed out that the proposed three power resolution regrettably fails to recognize that the fundamental cause of these unfortunate developments, which have taken innocent lives on both sides of the frontier, lies in the failure of the free world to restore peace to the area. That restoration is crucial to the maintenance of peace in the entire world.

"In keeping with the objectives of the existing armistice agreements Israel has continuously proposed direct negotiations with the other signatories as the best means to achieve peace. These overtures have been persistently rebuffed. We believe the goal of peace would be best served by revising the resolution pending in the Security Council, both to recognize impartially the broad background of the present tension, and to call upon the parties most concerned to end that tension by constructive action to transform the armistice agreements into just and honorable peace treaties," the CJFWF resolution stated.

### Judge Sobeloff Analyzes Jewish Communal Developments

Simon E. Sobeloff of Baltimore, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, addressing today's session of the General Assembly, traced the development of cooperative efforts by American Jews through their central communal agencies in the face of the "colossal struggles" to destroy Nazism and aid in the re-establishment of the State of Israel.

"There is a strong parallel between these events in Jewish communal life and the experience of the free nations of the world," he declared. "In both instances common struggles strengthened a sense of kinship--nation with nation, and Jewish community with Jewish community--between those who live in far corners of the world. Having won the war, both the nations of the world and Jewish communities now have the prolonged, less dramatic, more difficult responsibility--to 'win the peace.'"

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, addressing the more than 1,000 Jewish community leaders from all parts of the country who participated in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, said last night that the Jews of America owe it to themselves and to the Jewish people "to take over the glory and burden of our heritage now that the Jewish communities of Europe no longer exist as vital and creative centers."

Speaking of Israel, Rabbi Silver said: "Already close to a million and a half Jews live in Israel and it seems destined to become, next to the United States, the largest center of Jews in the world and its most important cultural center. Many grave problems confront the new state--political, economic and social--but knowing their drives and dynamism, their pride and devotion, I am confident that they will solve them - with help and assistance of their fellow Jews throughout the world."

## BEN GURION ASSAILS "BIG THREE" RESOLUTION AT SECURITY COUNCIL

JERUSALEM, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion tonight challenged the veracity of the report on the Kibya incident submitted to the United Nations Security Council by UN truce supervisor Maj. Gen. Vagn Bennike and charge that the Big Three resolution on Kibya submitted to the Council discriminated "between the blood of one people and that of another."

Speaking on a national radio broadcast, the Premier said that the Big Three resolution, which censures Israel, by its silence condones in effect "all the murders committed by armed forces hailing from Jordan including those perpetrated by members of the Arab Legion both before Kibya and since, to the present day."

Mr. Ben Gurion charged that although it is not the expressed purpose of the resolution, the Big Three action will encourage the Arab states, particularly Jordan, to persist in their provocative acts in the border zones against Israeli inhabitants. He warned that the Israel Government will not be weakened in its resolve to defend its citizens, irrespective of the terms of the resolution before the Security Council.

He hit out sharply at the British Government which he insisted cannot claim the right to plead Jordan's cause and at the same time try to divest itself of the responsibility which its special position in Jordan entails. The Premier minced no words in expressing his "amazement and deep regret" over the failure of the resolution to call for direct negotiations for a peace settlement.

## ADL CONVENTION DISCUSSES ANTI-SEMITISM, CIVIL LIBERTIES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- A symposium on anti-Semitism and civil liberties in the United States was started here last night at the 40th anniversary convention of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League which is being attended by more than 1,000 persons.

Judge Meier Steinbrink, former chairman of the ADL, reviewing anti-Jewish activities in the United States since the founding of Israel, reported that native professional anti-Semites are echoing a campaign fostered by Arab diplomats in the United States who "use the Communist smear against Judaism and Zionism, repeat all the well-worn slanders and stigmatize as disloyal Americans who sympathize with or give aid to Israel." Mr. Steinbrink warned against "political anti-Semitism" which he described as the injection of false "Jewish questions" into national issues unrelated to Jews or Judaism as "appeals to base instincts."

Henry E. Schultz, national chairman of the ADL, said in his annual report on religious discrimination that "though the United States in 1953 has emerged as a vastly better place in which to live, current forces of fear and hate threaten the remarkable progress of the past 40 years in human relations."

Mr. Schultz, opening the ADL's 40th annual meeting, said the status of minority groups have improved, but "obstructing continuing progress," he said, are: 1. Fear of Communism combined with the inability of many Americans to recognize or understand it; 2. Strong suspicion of the intellectual "almost bordering on an anti-intellectual movement; 3. Patterns of prejudice and discrimination which are still ingrained in our culture; 4. Activities of "professional hate-mongers," who seek to exploit economic and political tensions; 5. Those Congressional committees which in the process of capturing headlines-- spread fear and confusion nationally.

Not since the Civil War era has the American mind been "divided by such bitterness" as it is today on issues which go to the roots of American life and the meaning of American patriotism, Archibald Macleish, former Librarian of Congress, said in a keynote speech to the ADL leaders.

ISRAEL FINANCE MINISTER TO VISIT U.S.; WILL ADDRESS U. J. A. CONVENTION

NEW YORK, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Levi Eshkol, Finance Minister of Israel, will make a special visit to this country early next month to confer with leaders of the United Jewish Appeal and to address the UJA's annual national conference which opens on December 11 in New York, it was announced today by Edward M. M. Warburg, general chairman of the UJA.

The chief purpose of the three-day UJA conference, Mr. Warburg said, will be to set the Appeal's 1954 aims and financial objectives on the basis of reports and budgets dealing with programs for the settlement and development of Israel, the relief and rehabilitation of distressed Jews in European and Moslem lands, and the reception and adjustment of refugees in the United States.

Mr. Warburg called special attention to action by the conference on the UJA's financial aims, emphasizing that these will be considered and voted upon in two parts. The conference, he said, will deal first with the 1954 budgetary requirements of the UJA constituent agencies--the United Israel Appeal, Joint Distribution Committee and the United Service for New Americans--as the basis for setting a distinct fund-raising goal representing their minimum needs.

Next, he said, the conference will consider special measures to help the Israel Government liquidate a number of heavy short-term obligations contracted in its first years as it coped with a peak Jewish refugee immigration from central Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

U.S. JEWS URGED TO MOBILIZE FOR RAISING \$125,000,000 FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Israel is looking to American Jews to provide a minimum of \$125,000,000 annually for the next seven years through Israel Bonds and the United Jewish Appeal, Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee of the State of Israel Bond Organization, reported at a meeting of the organization's Board of Governors held at the Hotel Astor here.

Mr. Venezky, who returned from Israel where he attended the economic conference of American and other Jewish leaders held in Jerusalem last month, said that the conference demonstrated that the relationship of American Jews to Israel cannot be considered on a "short range basis." He pointed out that Israel will need for investment during the next seven years a total of \$765,000,000 and 1,092,000,000 Israel pounds. In all, Israel will require a total of \$1,710,000,000, including an amount for the payment of debts, in the next seven years, he reported.

During the same seven-year period, he added, Israel expects to receive \$420,000,000 in German reparation payments; \$230,000,000 through private investments and an estimated \$185,000,000 in grants-in-aid. The balance of \$875,000,000, or \$125,000,000 a year, will have to come from Jewish sources, principally in the United States. This figure, Mr. Venezky explained, would represent an increase of some \$35,000,000 a year over the total amount made available, chiefly through Israel Bonds and the United Jewish Appeal, during the past year.

Mr. Venezky said that he was "deeply saddened by the action of the United States representatives in the Security Council of the United Nations against Israel." He deplored the fact that our State Department "has associated itself in a step which will encourage Arab hostility and seriously jeopardize any opportunity for the establishment of peace based on justice for all concerned."

CONSERVATIVE JEWRY CALLS FOR REVISION OF U.S. IMMIGRATION LAWS

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Resolutions calling for revision of the immigration laws, and urging the President of the United States and the Secretary of State "to do all in their power" to relieve dangerous conditions in the Middle East by the establishment of a negotiated peace between Israel and the Arab countries, were adopted here today by the executive council of the United Synagogue of America, national body of Conservative Judaism.

The council also adopted a resolution recording "deep dismay" at the "continued moral and ethical degeneration in the tone of discussion of national affairs by representatives of our Federal Government." The resolution charged "the good name of America has been dragged into the dust in the eyes of all men, to our own hurt and to the hurt of democratic forces throughout the world." It declared "the time has come to pause to rethink our ways so that without any weakening of our vigilance for the public good, we may restore our respect for and preservation of the rights of the individual and our confidence in the essential integrity of our public servants and of ourselves as a nation."

JEWISH GROUPS ATTACK HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

NEW YORK, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Jewish religious groups today withdrew their offer to consult with the House Committee on Un-American Activities and expressed sharp dissatisfaction with the procedure of the Committee and "disquiet regarding its Constitutional competence to investigate in the area of religion."

In a joint telegram to Committee chairman Harold Velde, the presidents of the Reform, Orthodox and Conservative groups and the Synagogue Council of America, coordinating body for all Jewish religious groups in the U.S., pointed out that they had originally offered to consult with Mr. Velde "because they assumed that he wished to consult with the 'duly constituted representatives of the religious Jewish community' along with Protestant and Catholic religious bodies."

The synagogue groups noted that Mr. Velde had neither replied to, nor acknowledged, their offer of November 2. "Not having heard from you," they declared, "we can only conclude that you did not wish to confer with the representatives of the Jewish religious bodies in America."

The statement continued: "In view of this, we are informing you that we are withdrawing our offer which, in any event, we believe is no longer in effect, and express our regrets that we did not have the opportunity to convey to you our dissatisfaction with the procedures of your committee and our disquiet regarding its constitutional competence to investigate in the area of religion."

Signatories to the statement were Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Maxwell Abbell, president of the United Synagogue of America, Rabbi Normal Salit, president of the Synagogue Council of America, and Max J. Etra, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations.

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA ARRIVES IN ISRAEL AS GOVERNMENT'S GUEST

TEL AVIV, Nov. 22. (JTA) -- Gov. John S. Fine of Pennsylvania arrived here today on a visit to Israel to participate in a ceremony dedicating a forest which will be planted in his honor in the Judean hills on land owned by the Jewish National Fund. Gov. Fine was met at the air port by representatives of the American Embassy and the Foreign Ministry. Gov. Fine is a guest of the Israel Government and the United Jewish Appeal.