



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

550 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

*Content Copyright. Reproduction only by previous arrangement*

VOL. XX No. 242 - 34th year

Thursday, December 17, 1953

## SECURITY COUNCIL GETS BIG THREE RESOLUTION ON JORDAN PROJECT

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 16. (JTA) -- A draft resolution placing full authority for settlement of the Jordan River power project dispute between Syria and Israel in the hands of Major Gen. Vagn Bennike, United Nations Chief of Staff in Palestine, was submitted to the Security Council today by the United States, Great Britain and France. It would have him report back within 90 days on the measures taken to solve the dispute.

The draft resolution gives no instructions or makes no recommendations to Gen. Bennike on resumption of work on the Jordan project by Israel beyond the general provision that he "explore possibilities of reconciling the interests involved in this dispute including rights in the demilitarized zone and full satisfaction of existing irrigation rights at all seasons, and to take such steps as he may deem appropriate to effect a reconciliation, having in view the development of the natural resources affected in a just and orderly manner for the general welfare."

The resolution instructs the chief of staff "to maintain the demilitarized character of the zone" and calls on both Israel and Syria "to comply with all his decisions and requests in the exercise of his authority under the armistice agreement." It requests the U. N. Secretary-General to provide experts, particularly hydraulic engineers, to give Gen. Bennike "the necessary data for a complete appreciation of the project in question and of its effect on the demilitarized zone."

### Action on Resolution Deferred Until Today

The resolution stresses Gen. Bennike's request to Israel on Sept. 23 to halt work on the project "so long as an agreement is not arranged" and also the Israel statement on Oct. 27 halting work "pending urgent" examination of the question by the Council. It declares that to promote the return of permanent peace in Palestine, it is essential that the Syrian-Israeli armistice agreement "be strictly and faithfully observed by the parties" and points out that under the armistice conditions, "the Mixed Armistice Commission's interpretation shall prevail." It also stresses that the chief of staff, as chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission, has "responsibility for the general supervision of the demilitarized zone."

Action on the resolution was deferred until tomorrow at the suggestion of the Israeli delegate, Abba S. Eban, who pointed out that the resolution and the speeches by the representatives of the three sponsoring powers had to be considered as an entity.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., head of the American delegation, who introduced the resolution, emphasized the American viewpoint that final decision in the matter must rest with the U.N. Chief of Staff. He took the position that development projects consistent with the armistice agreement which were "in the general interest" and did not infringe on the rights of others should be "encouraged."

#### Lodge Underlines Authority of UN Staff Chief

In the present case, he insisted, it was for the chief of staff to decide whether the Jordan project met these conditions. He was the proper authority to make this decision and neither party should "take unilateral action" or seek to "exercise a veto" in this matter.

Sir Gladwyn Jebb, head of the British delegation, scolded Israel because the issue had had to come before the Security Council which was thus required to face, not the question whether the canal was in itself a good and useful project, but "solely with the question of the failure of one party of the Israel-Syrian armistice agreement to comply with a request on the part of the chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission."

The British spokesman also took strong issue with the Syrian position that Syrian consent was needed for any project in the demilitarized zone. He said he had not been convinced that the work could not proceed without the consent of Syria. The present issue, he said, was whether the work was admissible under the armistice terms "as they stand."

Henri Hoppenot, spokesman for France, said Israel's failure to comply with directions of the U.N. Chief of Staff has resulted in the issue coming before the Council whose obvious duty now was to support the authority of the chief of staff.

He noted that the "defendant party" had announced suspension of work on the project during the Council's debates. The work, he said, should "remain stopped until the decision of the chief of staff shall cease to have its effect."

Turning to the Syrian argument that diversion of Jordan water would give Israel military advantages, M. Hoppenot pointed out that, in recent years, much larger rivers had not proved to be real military barriers. It would be "unjust," he said, "if 'fate and economic development' were to be decided by such 'war games' and if the Jordan were to be kept flowing, unused, between two banks more or less desert because of a lack of agreement."

United Nations observers, commenting tonight on the draft resolution, stressed three factors expressed or implicit in the resolution and the speeches of the sponsors: first, the Big Three rejected Syria's claim to a veto right over the project; secondly, acknowledgment by the Big Three that the Israeli Jordan project is a desirable project, and, thirdly, the implication that Gen. Bennaï's negotiations will be centered mainly on securing an understanding between himself and the Israel Government.

#### EGYPTIANS CONFISCATE ISRAEL-BOUND MEAT SHIPMENT AT SUEZ CANAL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Egyptian authorities intercepted an Italian freighter carrying meat from East Africa to Israel as it passed Port Said on the Suez Canal and subsequently released the vessel after confiscating and removing the Israel-bound cargo, it was learned here today.

The freighter, the S.S. Franca Maria, carried 140 tons of kosher beef, processed at an Israeli-owned slaughter house in Eritrea, and 120 tons of hides shipped from Mossewa. The vessel was allowed to proceed after its cargo was unloaded at Port Said. Notification of the incident was received by radio here today.

NETEUREI KARTA LEADER ARRESTED FOR OBSTRUCTING ISRAEL POLICE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Rabbi Amram Blau, leader of the fanatical "Neteurei Karta," and 11 of his Yeshiva pupils were arrested today when they tried to prevent a police search in the Mea Shearim district for Orthodox girls failing to register for national service.

Today, the tenth day of Teveth, had been proclaimed by Orthodox groups as a day of prayer and protest against implementation of the national service law provisions under which Orthodox girls, exempt from military service on religious grounds, have to perform other forms of national service.

The authorities, however, began to round up national service act evaders today, sending civilian and military police units into the religious districts. An area was cordoned off in the Mea Shearim quarter opposite the Slonim Yeshiva to which apprehended suspects were brought.

Several hundred Orthodox men and women, led by Rabbi Blau, began a demonstration and liberated some of the prisoners. Police reinforcements dispersed the demonstrators and made several arrests. About 100 youths subject to national service were taken into custody.

ISRAEL WILL NOT CARRY OUT DEATH SENTENCES IMMEDIATELY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Israel Government has no intention of proceeding at this time with execution of death penalties, Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen told Parliament's legal committee tonight in a statement clarifying misapprehensions that had arisen following his warning earlier this week when the house debated the proposed criminal code. He declared that his remarks then were aimed at warning the house that decision on the death penalty could not be further delayed. The division in Parliament on the issue of capital punishment cuts sharply across party lines.

U.S. MAKES SURPLUS FOOD GIFT TO ISRAEL THROUGH HADASSAH

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The United States Government, through the Foreign Operations Administration, has made available to the Hadassah for distribution in Israel 1,169,000 pounds of surplus food, Mrs. Herman Shulman, president of the women's Zionist organization, announced here today.

Included in the shipment of food, which is already en route and is expected to arrive in Israel next Sunday, is 188,000 pounds of non-kosher beef which will be distributed to Christian and Arab institutions in Israel. In addition to this beef, the shipment consists of: 100,000 pounds of dried prunes, 100,000 pounds of raisins, 100,000 pounds of shortening, 200,000 pounds of rice, 100,000 pounds of dry beans, 200,000 pounds of sugar, and 181,000 pounds of evaporated milk.

Freight charges involved in this operation will be borne by the FOA, Mrs. Shulman revealed, and the bags in which the food is distributed will be clearly marked with the insignia of the United States Government and Hadassah. Mrs. Raphael Tourover, Washington representative of Hadassah, who made arrangements for the gift, will fly to Israel on Friday to supervise its distribution.

The food, other than the non-kosher beef, will be distributed through a committee of the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel and through the Youth Aliyah to hospitals, child-care and maternity centers, special camps and settlements.

KNESSET GETS BILL EXTENDING MILITARY RULE IN BORDER AREAS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government moved today to extend for one more year its authority to maintain military administration in the border regions of the country. Pinhas Lavon, Acting-Minister of Defense, introduced an empowering bill in the Israeli Parliament today and a second measure giving government authorities the power to deport undesirable or dangerous elements from areas of the country deemed to be security areas.

Both bills were given their first reading by the vote of all parties except the Arab, the left-wing Mapam and the Communists. The Arab deputies were strongly supported by the two leftist parties when they demanded abolition of military rule in the border zones.

The present laws providing punishment for infiltration are "inadequate and inefficient," Mr. Lavon told Parliament. He demanded that special military courts be set up--thus guaranteeing speedy verdicts in such cases--but that the sentences meted out by these courts should be the same as those handed down in civil courts.

In a review of the damage done by infiltrators from January last to November 1, Mr. Lavon reported that 56 Israeli men, women and children had been killed, 96 had been wounded, there had been 14 attempts to mine roads and houses and 11 acts of sabotage, as well as 263 armed attacks and 540 thefts. He contrasted this with the fact that 139 persons apprehended harboring infiltrators had been sentenced to a total of 166 months in jail. He stressed that Jews as well as Arabs had harbored infiltrators.

EGYPT'S ANTI-ISRAEL BLOCKADE CITED TO HALT TALKS ON SUEZ

LONDON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The Egyptian Government's "persistent denial of free passage through the Suez Canal to cargoes destined for Israel" was one of the reasons advanced by the 40 Conservative MP's in a motion presented yesterday in Commons demanding that Britain break off negotiations with Egypt to turn the Canal area over to the Egyptians.

The protest motion is expected to come up tomorrow during the foreign policy debate which will be opened by Prime Minister Churchill reporting on the Bermuda conference with President Eisenhower and Premier Laniel. It is unlikely that the motion will come to a vote because the 36 insurgent Conservatives have indicated no desire to topple the Churchill government, which could be accomplished by such a vote.

It is assumed here that the points raised in the motion were previously discussed by the motion's sponsors with government leaders and that the former were given no assurances that the issues they raised will be discussed with the Egyptian negotiators. This means, it was pointed out, that the British Government will not discuss with Egypt guarantees of free passage through the Canal of ships en route to or from Israeli ports.

MIDDLE AGED MOSCOW JEWS CONTINUE TO ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

TEL AVIV, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- A good many Russian Jews attend services at the Great Synagogue in Moscow, although the congregation is composed chiefly of men and women over middle age, a two-man Israeli trade delegation which has just returned from Moscow reported today. The two Israelis attended services twice while in Moscow. The delegation signed a pact in Moscow December 4 to sell the Russians 20,000 tons of citrus products, part of which will be paid for by Soviet crude oil and part in goods which have not yet been chosen.

**ISRAEL TO PAY LUTHERANS \$850,000 FROM GERMAN REPARATIONS**

COLOGNE, Dec. 16, (JTA) -- The equivalent of \$850,000 in marks will be paid to the Lutheran World Federation in settlement of the claims for certain property of the German Protestant churches in Israel taken over by the Israel Government, it was agreed in a pact signed by representatives of Israel and the Lutheran Federation.

The agreement, which implements and amends an earlier one concluded in 1951, provides that the money will be made available to the Protestant churches over the next ten years from reparations funds due Israel under the Luxemburg agreement. The money will be used by the Lutherans to finance missionary activities in the Near East.

The pact recognizes Israel's title to the property in question for which certain payments have already been made in Israeli pounds. The property covered is chiefly the Schneller orphanage and home formerly operated by the Kaiserwerth Sisters of Charity.

It specifically does not affect secular real estate owned by German Protestant individuals, for the most part "Templars" who were deported to Australia by the British Mandatory regime during World War II. Holdings by the Templars include real estate in Jerusalem, Haifa, Galilee, Lydda and in the Sarona section of Tel Aviv which was taken over by the Israel Government for its administrative seat in that city. Negotiations on this property were recessed last Summer and are expected to be resumed next month in Rome, with a representative of Australia present.

**COMMUNIST GERMANY MUST PAY REPARATIONS TO JEWS, W. J. C. INSISTS**

LONDON, Dec. 16, (JTA) -- East Germany must, as a matter of "simple justice," bear its proportion of Germany's total liabilities for the material losses suffered by the Jewish victims of Nazism, the European Executive of the World Jewish Congress declared in a resolution adopted yesterday and made public here today.

The resolution rejected the arguments of a recent East German note to West Germany--written by East German Vice-Premier W. Ulbricht--that no part of Germany was under obligation to pay reparations to Israel. The WJC resolution asserted that this refusal to indemnify Jews for losses suffered under the Nazis was an affront and a denial of justice as well as a direct contradiction of a declaration made in 1952 by the East German Minister of Agriculture that there was "no basic objection to discussing Jewish compensation" and suggesting that Israel "should make an application to the East German Government" on this matter.

In conclusion, the WJC resolution expresses its "urgent hope that the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) will now make available to the Jewish people payment of its share of the indemnity due from Germany for material losses inflicted upon the Jews by the Nazi Third Reich."

**BONN APPOINTS NEW OFFICIAL TO DEAL WITH ISRAEL REPARATIONS**

BONN, Dec. 16, (JTA) -- Baron von Mahs, a high official of the West German Ministry of Economics, was today appointed head of the division in the Ministry concerned with the procurement and supply of goods to Israel under the German-Israel reparations pact. He succeeds Dr. Carl Mueller-Graaf, highly respected by the personnel of the Israel Purchasing Mission, who was transferred to Vienna as head of the German trade mission to Austria.

FIRST JEWISH CIRCUMCISION CEREMONY PERFORMED ON BRITISH ISLAND

LONDON, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of the Shetland Isles, a lonely group of islands off the northeast coast of Scotland, a circumcision of a Jewish boy was performed.

The child, named Abraham Ben Yitzhak, was born to Mrs. Isidore de Mercado, wife of an Orthodox Sephardic Jew employed at the meteorological station at Lerwick, the major town in the islands. The officiating rabbi was flown to Lerwick from the mainland of Scotland in a plane which battled 80-mile per hour winds. The only other Jewish family in the islands acted as god parents.

The event was recognized as unique by the town authorities, who entered a record of it in the official annals. Surgeons and resident physicians at the hospital attended the circumcision ceremony.

FAMOUS BERLIN JEWISH BOOK FIRM CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY

BERLIN, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- The 125th anniversary of a well-known German publishing house established by a Berlin "melamed"--a teacher who maintained a private Hebrew school--is being celebrated here this week. It was founded in 1828 by Raphael Friedlander and still carries the name of R. Friedlander and Son. It specializes in natural history and the exact sciences.

Dr. Julius Friedlander, son of the founder, was a professor of mathematics at American colleges in 1852-53 and later became the major supplier of German publications in the natural sciences for Harvard, Yale and the Astor Library in New York. He also launched the bibliographical journal "Naturae Novitates."

Although J. R. Loewe and other Jewish partners were associated with the business until the Hitler period, it has not been in the hands of the Friedlander family for a long time. In 1941 the "Jewish" name of the firm had to be abandoned, only to be re-adopted four years later, after the Nazi collapse.

MRS. ROOSEVELT RECEIVES HISTADRUT AWARD FOR AID TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was the recipient today of the Histadrut Humanitarian Award presented annually to a prominent American leader for services to Israel. The presentation was made at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel. The award is a bronze plaque bearing a citation.

The award was given to Mrs. Roosevelt in appreciation of her "outstanding efforts in fostering sympathetic understanding between the people of the United States and the State of Israel and her warm encouragement of the cause of Histadrut." Previous recipients of the Histadrut award were President Truman, Vice-President Alben Barkley and Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.

TORONTO ELECTS FIVE JEWISH ALDERMEN TO CITY COUNCIL

TORONTO, Dec. 16. (JTA) -- Five Jewish aldermen were elected here to the new City Council which is composed of 18 members. Of the five, four were re-elected. The fifth--Herbert Orloff--was formerly a member of Toronto's Board of Education.