



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

650 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright - Reproduction only by previous arrangement

VOL. XXI No. 52 - 35th year

Wednesday, March 17, 1954

WAR WITH ARABS IS IMMINENT, ISRAEL'S ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF SAYS

TEL AVIV, March 16. (JTA) -- "War with the Arab countries is imminent," Israel Army Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Dayan declared here today at a rally in honor of Reserve Officers Day. This, he said, was the only interpretation that could be placed on the repeated Arab declarations that they would annihilate Israel.

Dwelling on Arab intrigues and provocations against Israel, Gen. Dayan pointed out that until the Arab states' "zero hour" arrives, the Arab countries are doing everything in their power to weaken Israel. This campaign, he asserted, includes the Arab attempt to disrupt German reparations payments to Israel and the economic blockade of the Jewish State.

In the light of these facts, Gen. Dayan said, the Israel Army is now faced with two choices: either to hoard the weapons it has, or to make a strenuous effort to acquire modern arms such as the Arab states already have. Israel will take the second course, he declared, and will make great sacrifices to buy arms "for the war which the Arabs would force on us."

Gen. Dayan called on the reserve officers to pay special attention to the training of some 50,000 immigrant youths now living in transit camps. He said that the halting of immigration had meant a shortage of manpower for the Jewish State. Former Premier David Ben Gurion and Defense Minister Pinchas Lavon were among the speakers at the rally. (At the time the Bulletin went to press they had not yet spoken)

Earlier, speaking at Elath, Israel port on the Gulf of Aqaba, which is celebrating its fifth anniversary, Gen. Dayan declared that Israel would not permit the Egyptians to turn "the open sea (the gulf) into a closed lake for Israel." Despite the Egyptian blockade of the gulf, he said, Elath "would fulfill its destiny and become Israel's gate for trade with Africa and the south Asian countries."

Syria Sends Fighter Planes Over Israel Territory

TEL AVIV, March 16. (JTA) -- Two Syrian fighter planes today violated Israel air space by flying over the southern end of Lake Tiberias in the Kinneret area, a military spokesman announced here. Israel immediately protested the action to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission.

The latest Syrian violation of the armistice agreement came less than 24 hours after the mixed commission yesterday recognized Israel sovereignty over all of Lake Tiberias and a strip of land ten metres wide (approximately 33 feet) on the eastern bank of the lake.

The commission, chaired by a United Nations truce observer, adopted a resolution calling upon the Syrians to stop interfering with Israelis fishing on the lake and

also called on the Syrians to refrain from entering upon or crossing the ten-metre strip. The commission's resolution was adopted after an 11-hour session.

With the chairman casting the decisive vote, the commission also censured Syria for opening fire yesterday on several Israeli fishing boats and an Israeli police boat, wounding three Israelis. The body also censured the Israelis for replying to the attack with gunfire, inflicting casualties among the Syrians on the east bank of the lake. The Syrian attack, in which small arms, machine guns and artillery were used, is the second in less than a week.

The Israeli border line, which was upheld by the commission, was originally set as the Syrian-Palestine frontier by Anglo-French agreement after World War I. During the meeting the UN chairman suggested a "compromise" under which the Israelis would agree not to fish too close to the eastern bank. This the Israelis rejected.

(In Washington, the Syrian Ambassador today called upon Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade and reported to him on the incident at Lake Tiberias. It was learned later from diplomatic sources that he claimed that heavily-armed Israel boats made "an unprovoked attack" against Syrian shore installations.)

UNEMPLOYMENT IS ISRAEL'S GREATEST THREAT, MINISTER SAYS

JERUSALEM, March 16. (JTA) -- The greatest threat now facing Israel is unemployment, Minister of Trade and Industry Peretz Bernstein last night told Parliament.

He told the deputies that the problem of unemployment could be solved by transferring the jobless to agricultural pursuits and by stepping up Israel's export trade.

U.S. WILL NOT SEEK TO COMPETE WITH ISRAEL IN TRADE WITH BRITAIN

LONDON, March 16. (JTA) -- The United States will not seek to compete with Israeli citrus fruit trade with Britain, it was indicated here today. This was learned after Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath paid a visit to the Foreign Office which had nothing to do with "current Middle East problems."

It is understood that American orange and grapefruit shipments to Britain will commence at the end of May, just when the Israeli season is over. It was announced yesterday that \$2,000,000 has been made available by the U. S. to Britain to purchase surplus oranges and grapefruit from the U. S.

ISRAEL'S TRADE PACT WITH ITALY TERMED "CONSIDERABLE" ACHIEVEMENT

JERUSALEM, March 16. (JTA) -- Israel will buy from Italy about \$9,000,000 worth of goods annually under the recently concluded Israel-Italy trade pact, and will export some \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 worth of goods to Italy where previously almost no Israeli goods were sold, Moshe Bartur, director of the Foreign Ministry's economic department, said today.

Mr. Bartur, who has just returned from Italy, where he headed the trade negotiators, called the pact a political and economic achievement of considerable note. He denied recent reports from London, featured in the Israeli press, that British oil companies had protested Israeli purchases of crude oil from the Soviet Union.

ISRAEL ARMY WILL NOT DRAFT YESHIVA STUDENTS, MINISTER SAYS

JERUSALEM, March 16. (JTA) -- Defense Minister Pinchas Lavon promised a delegation of American Orthodox rabbis now touring Israel that the Israeli Army would not draft yeshiva students, Rabbi Theodore L. Adams, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, today told newsmen here. The rabbinical delegation has met with Premier Moshe Sharett, Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog and other religious leaders.

ITALIAN GOVT. ASKS JEWS TO FIND HEIRS OF DISCOVERED VALUABLES

ROME, March 16. (JTA) -- The Italian Ministry for Interior has asked the Union of Italian Jewish Communities to help in the search for rightful owners of jewelry and other valuables worth several millions of lira which were recently found in a branch of the Bank of Rome. The valuables were stolen from Jewish and other victims of the Nazis.

Under Italian law property taken from Nazi victims is returned to rightful heirs up to sixth degree relatives. If such heirs are not found the property reverts to the state which, however, has renounced it in favor of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES EXHUMATION OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

LONDON, March 16. (JTA) -- The British Government will not take any action on the reinterment of 91 convicted and executed Nazi war criminals who were recently exhumed from a mass grave and reburied in individual graves in Lower Saxony.

When the question was raised in Commons yesterday by several Labor MP's, including Barnett Janner, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden said that the British Government had no responsibility in the matter, the German authorities had acted without consulting Britain and were not required to consult the British.

In response to demands that he take action, Secretary Eden refused, adding "this matter was done decently and without any provocation and there were no demonstrations or anything of the kind. I am not prepared to pursue hatred beyond the grave."

COOPERATION AMONG BRITISH JEWS ON FOREIGN ISSUES IS SOUGHT

LONDON, March 16. (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews last night resumed discussion of proposals for bringing about greater cooperation among British Jews on matters of foreign policy. However, no decision was reached and the discussion was recessed until the Board's next meeting, about a month from now.

Dr. Abraham Cohen, president of the Board, presented the proposals to the meeting, after an address in which he underlined the primary position of the Board in representing Anglo-Jewry. He offered the Anglo-Jewish Association, British Section of the World Jewish Congress, World Union for Progressive Judaism and Agudas Israel World Organization representation at meetings of the Board's foreign affairs committee. These delegates, he suggested, would have full right of discussion but no vote.

In return, Dr. Cohen asked that these organizations give assurance that they would take no action which would conflict with the right of the Board alone to speak and make representations to the British Government and foreign embassies in this country in the name of British Jewry and "in behalf of Jews in other countries."

It was the last phrase, claiming the exclusive right to speak for Jewries abroad, which produced vehement criticism from supporters and members of world Jewish organizations who were present at the meeting. They denied the Board had the right to speak for Jews outside Britain and demanded that this phrase be withdrawn. At this point the matter was dropped and committees of the Board will discuss it before the next Board meeting, April 11, when the proposals will again be debated.

INTER-AMERICAN PARLEY URGES ACTION AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

CARACAS, Venezuela, March 16. (JTA) -- The tenth Inter-American Conference here yesterday adopted unanimously a resolution condemning racial discrimination and recommending action to abolish it throughout the Western hemisphere. The resolution, adopted 19 to nothing, with one abstention, recommended that the American states adopt legal and educational measures to effect the abolition.

U. N. COMMISSION HEARS JEWISH VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANT

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 16. (JTA) -- Opposition on the part of major Jewish organizations to the idea that only a state can bring a complaint against another state if the latter violates the provisions of the covenant on human rights was expressed here today by Moses Moskowitz, representative of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission. The Consultative Council is composed of the American Jewish Committee, Anglo-Jewish Association and Alliance Israelite Universelle.

Addressing the UN Commission on Human Rights, Mr. Moskowitz asked: "If the right of complaint is restricted to the state how can the international community act as protector of the covenanted rights. Suppose there is a conspiracy of silence among the states and none of them invokes the covenant even in the face of most grievous violations, is there any way in which the international community can step in and remind the states of their obligations."

Mr. Moskowitz said the answer to the two questions was in the negative. He pointed out that human rights which could not be asserted were of little consequence. The representative of the Consultative Council supported the proposal for the creation of an office of United Nations attorney general or high commissioner for human rights. He said that such an office would mean that the international community could exercise its function as protector of the covenanted rights.

Jewish Congress Urges U. S. to Ratify Human Rights Pact

An appeal to the United States and the other great powers to fulfill their "moral obligations to mankind" by pressing for the completion of a binding international covenant on human rights during the present meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights was made by Dr. Maurice L. Perlsweig, World Jewish Congress consultant to the U. N.'s Economic and Social Council.

Dr. Perlsweig, attributed the reasons for the failure to formulate a Covenant on Human Rights to present day international tensions, and to the fact that some governments, notably the United States, "have left no doubt that whatever the results of the discussion at this meeting of the Commission on Human Rights, they will refuse to sign and ratify the covenant."

However, Dr. Perlsweig declared, the fact that the United States delegation is sitting in the commission and participating actively in its work, is a hopeful sign "since that action might be construed as an expression of continuing American interest in the Covenant and recognition of its importance."

"The fact that the commission is sitting at all and continuing its work," he added, "in spite of the negative attitude of important governments and the uncertainties and tensions of the international situation, is, in itself, ground for hope."

OSE Granted Consultative Membership in U. N. Body

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- The World Union OSE has been granted full membership in the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on United Nations International Children's Fund and has been placed on the register of consultative members of the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

This was revealed today by Norman Acton, assistant secretary general of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, in a letter to Dr. Leon Wulman, executive director of the American Committee of OSE.

"CANADA HALL" TO BE ESTABLISHED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY BY HADASSAH

MONTREAL, March 16. (JTA) -- The name of Canada will be permanently recorded in Israel through the creation, by Canadian Hadassah, of "Canada Hall" at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, it was announced today by Mrs. D.P. Gotlieb of Winnipeg, national president of the organization.

An intensive Dominion-wide campaign to raise funds for the construction of Canada Hall will be launched early in April under the chairmanship of Mrs. Clarence Gross of Montreal who is Hadassah's national chairman for the Hebrew University.

Canada Hall - the first structure in the new State to bear the name of Canada - will be an auditorium seating 400 persons, adjoining the Biology Science Building of the University. Funds for the construction and equipment of the Biology Science Building have been contributed by Hadassah chapters from coast to coast during the last three years and the building is now nearing completion.

ARGENTINE JEWISH LEADER REPORTS ON CULTURAL TIES WITH ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- The formal establishment of an Argentine chair at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem will take place next month, it was reported here today by Dr. Salvador Kibrick, president of the Fundacion Catedra Republica Argentina, who arrived here from Israel where he completed the arrangements for the establishment of the chair.

Dr. Kibrick indicated that a "Republica Argentina House" will be built in Jerusalem and that the Argentine chair at the Hebrew University marks only the beginning of a campaign to encourage close scientific and cultural relations between the schools of higher learning in Israel and the universities in Argentina.

The leader of Argentine Jewry emphasized that the subjects which will be taught by the Argentine department at the Hebrew University will include history, geography, economics and culture of all Latin American countries, with special emphasis on Argentina's history and literature as well as the role of Argentina in Latin America. There will also be a course on the contributions of Argentine Jewry to the progress of their country.

Dr. Kibrick revealed that the Jews of Brazil, Chile and other South American countries will be urged to contribute toward the building of the projected Argentine House in Israel, or to build their own pavilions there and establish their own chairs at the Hebrew University.

ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT PERMITS SHIPPING OF KOSHER MEAT TO ISRAEL

BUENOS AIRES, March 16. (JTA) -- The vessel Rio Quinto left this port today with a cargo of 260 tons of kosher meat to be used in Israel for Passover. The meat was shipped on a special license, since the Argentine Government has clamped down a temporary embargo on all meat shipments abroad. The release of the Israel-bound cargo was seen as a gesture of goodwill toward Israel.

ISRAELI VESSEL ENTERS JAPANESE PORT FOR FIRST TIME

NEW YORK, March 16. (JTA) -- The 10,000-ton Israeli freighter "Tel Aviv" has dropped anchor in Yokohama harbor, thus becoming the first Israeli flag ship to enter a Japanese port, it was reported here today. The freighter, which carried coal and scrap for Japan, was the first Israeli vessel to make the long haul through the Panama Canal to Honolulu and thence to Japan. From Japan, the Tel Aviv will proceed to Vancouver, British Columbia, to pick up a cargo of lumber for Britain.

- - - -