



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

VOL. XXI No. 121 - 36th year

Friday, June 25, 1954

EISENHOWER LAUDS Z. O. A. FOR ITS "CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES" IN U.S.

NEW YORK, June 24. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today emphasized that he considers the Zionist Organization of America to be a group which dedicates itself "with vigor" to many "constructive activities" in the United States and to the "cultural enrichment" of American Jewry. He also lauded the ZOA for strengthening mutual understanding between the people of Israel and the United States.

The President expressed his sentiments in a message to the ZOA 57th annual convention which opened last night at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here. His message was read to the 1,200 delegates from all over the country attending the convention, and the convention voted to convey to the President its deep appreciation for his "warm statements." President Eisenhower's message reads:

"I am happy to send greetings to the 57th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, together with my very best wishes for the coming year. The Z. O. A., which has included some of America's most distinguished citizens, has dedicated itself with vigor to many constructive activities in this country and to the cultural enrichment of American citizens of the Jewish faith. It has also done much to strengthen the mutual understanding between the people of Israel and the U.S.

"I am sure that in the deliberations of your present convention you will concern yourselves with the welfare of the Near East. I can assure you that your Government shares this concern. It is striving ceaselessly to help solve the pressing political and economic problems of this area and to help develop peaceful relations among the people who live there. The achievement of this objective will require unity of purpose and patient effort by all our citizens, as well as a strengthened bridge of understanding between them and the populations of this complex, significant region of the world."

U.S. Disturbed by Arab-Israel Tension, Murphy Says

Robert Murphy, Deputy Under Secretary of State, addressing the ZOA convention tonight, also praised the Zionist Organization of America for reflecting "some of the finest ideals of the American Jewish community." He said he was privileged to have the opportunity "to emphasize the appreciation and understanding of our government for these ideals."

The Under Secretary of State told the ZOA delegates that the United States is "deeply disturbed" by the tension between Israel and the Arab states. "Perhaps this problem is too complex, and the fears and frustrations too deep-seated to make possible the immediate attainment of formal peace," he said. "But we earnestly seek the emergence of peaceful relationships. We try to encourage every possible

action which could lead in that direction--whether it be full and effective support of the UN truce organization, development of the Jordan Valley, a solution of the Palestine refugee problem. "

The State Department believes that the United Nations plan for the unified development of the Jordan Valley will lead in the direction of Arab-Israel peace, he stated. He defended the State Department officials immediately concerned with Near Eastern affairs.

"I can say of my associates in the Department of State who regularly deal with ramifications of the problem that they are affected by sympathy and desire to effect solutions which are in the best interest of the Jewish community and of our country," he declared. "In working for these solutions, there is no desire improperly to interfere in the internal affairs of any state. In approaching these problems I think that we in the Department of State are conscious that the Jewish community is not seeking favors and above all that its desire is for peace. "

Dr. Silver Denounces Anti-Israel Officials of State Dept.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, addressing the convention, voiced his belief that the anti-Israel utterances expressed by certain officials in the Near Eastern Division of the State Department do not "represent the true sentiments of the leaders of our government who have time and again given expression of their deep and sympathetic interest in the security and prosperity of Israel. "

Answering the recent "unfounded charges" made against Israel by Arthur Z. Gardiner, chief political and economic advisor of the State Department's Near Eastern Division, and by Representatives Frances Bolton of Ohio, whom he described as "the mouthpiece in the House of Representatives for all pro-Arab propaganda," Dr. Silver declared:

"President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles must know that Israel is no threat to the basic interests of American policy in the Near East. They must know that Israel is a democracy, deeply rooted in the millennial democratic traditions of the Jewish people and Judaism, and that it will to the last defend its democratic way of life and institutions.

"They must know that there is a large reservoir of good-will and gratitude to the government and people of the United States among the citizens of Israel for having helped so vitally in the establishment of their state and for the economic assistance which has been given to this day. They are too proud to put their friendship on the auction block or use it in any diplomatic game of blackmail.

"They must know that Israel wants peace with all her Arab neighbors, and has time and again asked for it, only to be rudely rebuffed. They must know that Israel is prepared to cooperate in the solution of all the outstanding issues between it and its neighbors in a spirit of good will and is prepared to cooperate in any project such as the Jordan Valley Authority to benefit all the peoples involved, provided its own vital and legitimate interests are safeguarded. "

J. N. F. CONVERTED INTO ISRAELI CORPORATION; DECREE PUBLISHED

JERUSALEM, June 24. (JTA) -- The Official Gazette of Israel today announced the conversion of the Jewish National Fund to an Israeli corporation, by order of the Minister of Justice, Dr. Peretz Rosen. The JNF was originally a British corporation.

(In New York, Mendel Fisher, executive director of the JNF of America, said that Dr. Rosen's order was "gratifying" and revealed that this move had been planned for a long time. He said the old corporation would probably remain in existence until all its assets were transferred to the new corporation. He also stated that the news of this action would be welcomed by friends of the JNF throughout the world.)

ISRAEL-AMERICAN TALKS ON WATER DEVELOPMENT MAKE PROGRESS

JERUSALEM, June 24. (JTA) --The Israel-American talks on plans for regional development of the resources of the Jordan River and the surrounding area concluded last night with some progress on specific points and with an announcement that Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's personal envoy, was leaving for Cairo to resume his talks with representatives of Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan on the development scheme.

A joint communique issued here said that progress toward agreement on several points had been made and that certain other questions remained to be resolved. It revealed that while Ambassador Johnston was leaving today for Cairo three members of his staff would remain in Israel and, together with American Charge d'Affaires Francis Russell, would continue the discussions with the Israel Government. Finally, the communique said that further conversations between Ambassador Johnston and Premier Moshe Sharett, who headed the Israel negotiating team, are contemplated in the near future.

In an interview with newsmen late last night, Mr. Johnston refused to specify on what points agreements had been reached and where it had been lacking. He said that the three members of his staff who remain in Israel will stay as long as necessary and that he would be in one or another of the neighboring countries and would be available if needed.

ISRAEL TO PROTEST TO SECURITY COUNCIL ON MEVOOT BETAR INCIDENT

JERUSALEM, June 24. (JTA) -- The Israel Government today cabled instructions to Ambassador Abba Eban, its delegate at the United Nations, to lodge a protest with the UN Security Council against the Jordan ambush of an Israel patrol on Israel territory near Mevot Bevat last Saturday and the killing of three Israelis. After the protest has been made to the Security Council a copy will be sent to Gen. Vagn Bennike, head of the UN truce organization in Palestine.

The decision of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission to censure Israel for the Mevot Betar incident came in for criticism today from an Israel military spokesman as being in variance with the facts in the case. No Israel delegate was present at the MAC meeting because Israel has boycotted the unit since its failure some months ago to place responsibility for the Scorpion Pass massacre on Jordan.

The Israeli spokesman once again stressed that the evidence of eye-witnesses and bloodstains and tracks on the scene proved that the Israeli patrol was ambushed on Israel soil by Jordanian units some of which were on Israel soil and that at least one of the Israelis was dragged across the line into Jordan territory. The Israeli spokesman also made available a medical report by the doctor who conducted a post mortem on the bodies of the victims indicating that one of them had been mutilated and beaten apparently while still alive.

JORDAN REPLIES TO "BIG THREE" PROPOSALS; REJECTS TALK WITH ISRAEL

LONDON, June 24. (JTA) -- The Jordan Government has made a point-by-point reply to the British Government's aide memoir outlining Anglo-American-French proposals for strengthening the United Nations truce organization in Palestine, the press reported today.

The report said that the Jordanian reply accepts some of the Big Three suggestions as providing a basis for further discussion and rejects all suggestions on direct talks or contact of any kind with Israel. The report says that the British Foreign Office is not displeased with the initial Jordan reaction, but the unofficial Israel view is that Jordan's reply is little other than a diplomatic rejection.

AUSTRIA RAISES OFFER TO JEWS ON HEIRLESS PROPERTY SETTLEMENT

VIENNA, June 24. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government has increased its offer of a lump sum settlement of Jewish demands for an heirless Jewish property settlement from 25,000,000 schillings to 120,000,000, it was reported today by a government source. The Jewish delegation, however, still believes that 300,000,000 schillings is a fair figure for such a settlement.

The Austrian Government is understood to feel that the increased sum it is offering should be used, among other things, to compensate Jews who had to pay special "flight taxes" to the Nazis before being permitted to leave the country, and to repay Jews whose bank accounts were confiscated. The Austrian Government does not plan to indemnify victims for such losses, because it insists that the Nazis sent these assets and taxes to Germany and that the Austrian economy did not benefit from them therefore it should not have to make them good. However, it will grant loans up to 10,000 schillings--which need not be repaid--to Jews whose apartments were taken over by the Nazis.

The Austrian Government source was optimistic over the favorable atmosphere in which current negotiations are being conducted, and pointed to the agreement on benefits to former Austrian Jews who are now residing abroad as one evidence of progress. It is believed that within the next few days it will become evident whether the parties can reach a compromise on the lump sum settlement.

NOTORIOUS ANTI-JEWISH ACTOR RECEIVES HIGH GERMAN DECORATION

BONN, June 24. (JTA) -- One of West Germany's highest decorations was today awarded to Werner Krauss, a German actor who is identified in the public mind with the most repulsive manifestations of Jew-baiting on the Nazi stage.

Bonn President Prof. Theodor Heuss awarded the Federal Grand Cross to Krauss on the occasion of the actor's 70th birthday. The presentation was made today in Berlin by Sen. H. Tibertius, head of the city's cultural and education department.

FIRST ISRAEL PLANE LANDS IN GERMANY; CARGO SERVICE PLANNED

DUSSELDORF, June 24. (JTA) -- The first Israel aircraft to touch down on German soil on a commercial flight landed here today as El Al, the Israel national airline, began a series of test flights to study the feasibility of such a service.

The run will be from Lydda, via Athens and Rome, and is designed primarily for the transportation of mail and urgently needed reparations items. The service, which should be in operation shortly, is planned as a weekly one. The plane which landed today was a Commando cargo plane.

FIRST ISRAEL EXHIBITION IN BERLIN; MAYOR SPEAKS AT OPENING

BERLIN, June 24. (JTA) -- The first exhibition on contemporary Israel to be seen in the former German capital opened its doors yesterday at the "Maison de France," the French cultural center located on Berlin's most splendid shopping street and boulevard, the Kurfuerstendamm.

The gathering at the opening ceremony was addressed by Berlin's Lord Mayor, by the chief of the city's cultural affairs department and by Dr. Zvi Daniel-Weizmann, director of the Israel Purchasing Mission office in Berlin.

The exposition was brought to Berlin by the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation. Before it closes on July 4, hundreds of school classes will be led past the displays by their teachers. It drew crowds of 6,000 in Hamburg and 14,000 in Duesseldorf last month.

EDUCATION, INTERMARRIAGE, ASSIMILATION DISCUSSED AT LONDON PARLEY

LONDON, June 24. (JTA) -- The need for Jewish teachers in the smaller communities throughout the British Commonwealth was emphasized here today by delegates from Rhodesia and other countries and by Jewish educational authorities in Britain as the second conference of Commonwealth Jewish leaders turned to consideration of religious problems facing the various communities. The delegates also stressed the threats of intermarriage and assimilation.

British Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie, who presided, said that Jewish education in Britain was religious in character and that there was resistance to any attempts to secularize it. He also thought that this was so throughout most of the Commonwealth. He opposed asking the Jewish Agency for funds for Jewish education in countries outside Israel, asserting that funds contributed to the Agency were primarily meant for Israel and that the Jews had a tradition of paying for the education of their own children.

Dr. M. Epstein, head of Jews College, proposed that the number of rabbinical students entering the school from the Commonwealth nations outside Britain should be increased and he praised South Africa for setting up scholarships for the education of such students. Other speakers suggested that the communities abroad select their own students for rabbinical training in Britain rather than accepting British rabbis for posts in their countries. Also advocated was an exchange of ministers among various communities and a proposal that rabbis spend several months in Israel before taking up religious duties.

At a session devoted to work among Jewish youth, G. Saron of South Africa explained that in his country there was no system of youth clubs and that the only movement was a Zionist one. There is need for reorientation in youth work, he suggested, adding that the problem was causing some concern. He also suggested the training of youth leaders in Israel.

Monroe Abbey of Canada reported on the growing influence of the YMHA movement in Canada and reported that the most vocal young Jews in Canada were very left-wing in their views and that because of this a schism had developed in the youth movement. In this view he was supported by Saul Kanee, also of Canada, who suggested that youth work in that country would have to be started all over again, because of this situation.

200 SYNAGOGUES BUILT IN DECADE IN U.S. AT COST OF \$400,000,000

PIKE, N.H., June 24. (JTA) -- Over 200 synagogue buildings representing an outlay of \$400,000,000 have been erected in the last decade in the United States, it was reported here today at the annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the organization of Reform rabbis. The figure is for Orthodox, Conservative and Reform groups, it was emphasized.

The convention was told by Dr. Israel Bettan that Bas Mitzvah does not belong in Reform temples and that it goes counter to tradition. There is no popular demand for it in Reform Jewry, he stated. Rabbi Malcolm Stern, of Norfolk, urged that rabbis be equipped with information about psychology if they wish to be successful counsellors.

Today's session observed the 750th anniversary of the death of the famous Jewish philosopher Maimonides. Speakers emphasized that the teachings of Maimonides are pertinent today.

CANADIAN HADASSAH TO SPONSOR YOUTH REHABILITATION IN ISRAEL

MONTREAL, June 24. (JTA) -- A broad program of youth rehabilitation and education in Israel, including the creation of a "Boys' Town" there, will be sponsored by the Hadassah Organization of Canada this year, it was announced today by Mrs. D.P. Gotlieb, of Winnipeg, national president. Three hundred thousand dollars--nearly one-third of the organization's million-dollar-budget--will be allocated for this purpose, Mrs. Gotlieb said.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY AWARDS 176 DEGREES TO GRADUATING STUDENTS

NEW YORK, June 24. (JTA) -- A total of 176 degrees and diplomas, in course, and three honorary degrees were awarded today by Yeshiva University at its 23rd annual commencement exercises. For the first time, the Yeshiva's Institute of Mathematics awarded four Master of Science degrees to Students and the University's Teachers Institute for Women awarded ten diplomas.

Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of the University, awarded honorary degrees to the following: Judge Samuel Meilitz of the Superior Court of Connecticut, Doctor of Laws; Dr. Alvin C. Eurich, vice-president of the Fund for the Advancement of Education, Doctor of Humane Letters; and Rabbi Aaron D. Burack, Professor of Talmud at the University, Doctor of Divinity.

A \$500,000 gift for the University from the Gustav Wurzwiler Foundation was announced at the commencement exercises by Dr. Joseph H. Lookstein, vice-president of the foundation and president of the University's Rabbinic Alumni. The grant is to be used for the maintenance and advancement of the University's educational programs.

U.S. LABOR ZIONIST CONVENTION OPENS IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, June 24. (JTA) -- The 29th national convention of the Labor Zionist Organization of America opened here today to discuss questions of major interest to Jews in this country and Israel. The convention will last four days.

The several hundred delegates attending the parley will take up the problem of encouraging greater economic participation by American Jewry in the upbuilding of Israel, the extending of maximum political assistance to Israel and the intensifying of Jewish education and communal organization in the United States. Singled out for particular attention is the question of immigration to Israel, and ways which it can be stimulated.

BALTIMORE JEWS CONDEMN RUMORS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN ELECTIONS

BALTIMORE, June 24. (JTA) -- The Baltimore Jewish Council, in a letter addressed to the president of every Jewish organization in the city, condemned rumors of anti-Semitism and anti-Catholicism circulated against some of the candidates in the primaries being held June 28.

The letter called on Christians and Jews both to vote as individuals and not as religious groups and according to their judgment as American citizens.

It declared that "any attempt to influence voters by religious considerations, whether initiated by individuals or by sectarian organizations, is highly improper." It added that "to attribute religious prejudice falsely to any candidate is not merely improper; it is to be condemned."

ISRAEL PAINTER WINS OVER 32 COMPETITORS AT VENICE EXHIBITION

ROME, June 24. (JTA) -- A landscape by Mordechai Ardon, an Israeli painter, has won the UNESCO Prize at the Venice Biennial Exhibition. The painting will be acquired by the Italian Government and will hang permanently in the Modern Art Gallery in Rome. The Israeli painter was adjudged the winner over competitors from 32 countries.

JEWISH WOMAN RECEIVES TITLE "LADY OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC"

ROME, June 24. (JTA) -- The Italian Ministry of Education today honored a prominent Jewish woman who holds a major post in Italian civil service. The Ministry awarded the title of "Lady of the Italian Republic" to Dr. Anita Mondolfo, Inspector-General of Italian Libraries.