



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

*Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement*

VOL. XXI No. 185 - 36th year

Thursday, September 30, 1954

## ISRAEL PROTESTS TO SECURITY COUNCIL ON EGYPT'S SEIZURE OF SHIP

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Ambassador Abba Eban, head of the Israel delegation to the United Nations, today submitted a communication to the Security Council protesting against the seizure by Egypt of an Israeli merchant vessel in the Suez Canal.

The ship, Bat Galim, a vessel of 500 tons flying the Israel flag, was manned by a crew of ten, all Israelis, and carried a mixed cargo consisting of meat, plywood and hides. It was on its way from Eritrea to Haifa. The Egyptians claim that the ship had fired on fishermen at a village near the canal, but Mr. Eban pointed out in his complaint to the Security Council that "no fire-arms of any description, except the captain's pistol, were on the ship."

"The seizure of the SS Bat Galim is but the latest expression of the Egyptian Government's scorn for the Security Council and its resolutions," the Israel protest stated. "It must be viewed against the background of the mounting number of murderous Egyptian attacks against Israel territory in recent weeks.

"This illegal interference with commercial shipping bound to or from Israel has proceeded unchecked for over six years. The Government of Israel wishes to express the strongest protest against this high-handed and aggressive conduct and demands that the ship, its crew and its cargo be released forthwith in order that they may proceed to Haifa without further delay.

"The Government of Israel reserves its right to pursue this matter further in the Security Council in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and the resolutions of the Security Council," Mr. Eban pointed out. In the meantime, he requested that his letter of protest be circulated to all members of the Security Council.

### Israel Protests Egypt's Action to "Big Three" Powers

JERUSALEM, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Walter Eytan, director general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, tonight summoned the ambassadors of the United States, Britain and France, and protested to them strongly against Egypt's detention of the Israeli vessel Bat Galim. He denied emphatically the Egyptian charges that the ship had opened fire on Egyptian fishermen.

(In Washington, State Department sources said today that the Department has only received preliminary cables from Cairo on the seizure by the Egyptian Navy of the Israel freighter Bat Galim and, therefore, has not yet formed any opinion about what action, if any, the United States might take.)

**ISRAEL AGREES TO RELEASE ALL ASSETS OF PALESTINE ARAB REFUGEES**

JERUSALEM, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Israel will release all assets of Palestine Arab refugees frozen in this country--amounting to the equivalent of \$8,500,000--it was announced here following conclusion of an agreement covering this move between the Israel Government and the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine.

This agreement, like an earlier one in which blocked Arab accounts totalling 1,000,000 pounds sterling (\$2,800,000) were released, carried no strings attached. In addition, Israel will release the contents of safe deposit boxes of the refugees and is consulting with the Conciliation Commission on procedures for speedy release of the cash and valuables.

The announcement of this agreement, which is seen as a possible forerunner of other moves conciliatory to the Arabs, came on the heels of a pre-Rosh Hashanah appeal to the Arab states to come to a peace settlement with Israel. That plea was carried in a broadcast in the Arabic language on the Israel radio.

In the broadcast, Gideon Raphael, head of the Middle Eastern Department of the Israel Foreign Ministry, indicated that the Israel Government is prepared to carry out its promise of paying compensation to the Arab refugees for land and other assets left behind. He also indicated that a practical plan could be worked out for inter-Arab communication through the Negev, that Jordan could be granted free port and transit facilities from Haifa, and that Israel has manufactured goods available for trade with the Arab states. Also, he stressed, that no defense pact for the Middle East region has a chance of being successful while it disregards Israel.

The importance attached to the broadcast in the Arab world can be seen from the fact that the major Arabic newspapers in the Jordan-held Old City of Jerusalem carried reports of the broadcast under banner headlines. While their editorial comments on it were critical, they gave complete reports of the broadcast in their news columns. Israeli circles were heartened by this treatment, noting that it gave Jordanians the opportunity to read the Israeli proposals in context.

**Israel's Appeal to Arabs for Peace Discussed at State Dept.**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Israel's appeal to the Arab states to reach a peace settlement was touched upon during a 45-minute talk at the State Department between Abdul Khalek Hassouna, secretary general of the Arab League, and John Jernegan, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

The Arab leader said that the purpose of his visit to the State Department was to exchange views on "all mutual problems." He told reporters that the matter of strengthening the Arab League defense pact with American military aid will be discussed in Cairo on October 30 at a meeting of the League's council. On the prospects of peace with Israel, he said that a prerequisite would be "a quiet situation" and that "unfortunately" such a situation does not prevail.

**BRITISH LABOR PARTY BACK ISRAEL'S VIEW ON MIDDLE EAST AID**

SCARBOROUGH, England, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The British Labor Party's national convention today adopted without a vote a resolution proposed by Poale Zion delegates calling for economic assistance rather than military aid to the states of the Middle East.

The resolution declared that if the Arabs are given arms the grants should be conditioned on their making peace with Israel and Israel should also be given sufficient quantity of arms to bring the military situation in the region back into balance. The resolution also underlined Israel's willingness to discuss the problems of the Arab refugees and to join in any plan for their rehabilitation worked out at a peace conference.

Earlier, during a debate on foreign policy, Clement R. Attlee, former Prime Minister and head of the party, stressed that Israel's security must be guaranteed by the powers. He called for Britain to take an active hand in bringing the Arab states and Israel into a peace settlement.

ISRAEL CRITICIZES U.N. TRUCE CHIEF'S REPORT ON BORDER INCIDENTS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Jordan's policies, which find expression in the publicly proclaimed view that Jordan is in a state of war with Israel, is the basis for the gravity of the present situation, the Israel Government said today in a reply to a report on border conditions made to the Security Council by Maj. Gen. E.L.M. Burns, U.N. truce observance chief in Palestine.

In a letter to Gen. Burns, Dr. Walter Eytan, director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, noted receipt of a copy of the Burns report sent to Premier Moshe Sharett, and pointed out that Mr. Sharett was unable to comment on it since Israel had not been a party to the investigations on which the report was based.

Under the circumstances, the letter advised, Mr. Sharett was bound to regard the report as incomplete since all its evidence had been taken from Jordanian witnesses with a natural interest in widely exaggerating the developments being investigated. Mr. Sharett could have wished, the letter added, that the report place incidents in a more correct perspective.

In his report, Gen. Burns had condemned the Israelis for an alleged retaliatory raid on the village of Beit Liqya, in the Latrun area, and had warned that retaliation was contrary to the armistice agreement and a "dangerous remedy." Dr. Eytan told Gen. Burns that "the memory of the massacre of Maale Akrabim is still fresh in the minds of our people." He reminded Gen. Burns of a whole series of Jordanian raids on Israel in recent months which were "unprovoked acts of murder." It was clear in each case, he said, that the murderers came from Jordan, "yet there was no indication that the Jordan Government made any attempt to trace, let alone apprehend or punish them."

The letter invited Gen. Burns to undertake a study of the conditions prevailing along the frontier and promised to make available to him all pertinent data and to afford him facilities for the fullest possible understanding of the situation. Meanwhile, the letter suggested that Gen. Burns seek to obtain Jordan's agreement to respect the demarcation lines and abandon "its illegitimate policies and acts of violence."

JORDANIANS SEIZE 480 SHEEP FROM ISRAEL FIELD; SHEPHERD WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- A flock of 480 sheep were stolen from Israel by Jordanian marauders who wounded the shepherd and stole his gun before driving off the flock. They drove the animals across the Jordan line near Megido.

(The New York Times reported from Jordan territory today that the Jordan authorities have informed United Nations truce headquarters that they are prepared to return the sheep after a UN investigation.)

IRAQ DELEGATE ATTACKS ISRAEL AT UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The Arab delegations to the current session of the U.N. General Assembly have lost no time in making the Assembly a forum for a continued political assault on Israel.

Dr. Mohammed Fadhil Al-Jamali, head of the Iraqi delegation, and first of the Arabs to speak in the general debate, opened the new onslaught with a broadside calling for cessation of Western aid to Israel.

The remarks by Dr. Jamali drew a plea for "moderation of language" from Dr. Eelco N. van Kleffens, president of the Assembly. A spokesman for the Israeli delegation denounced Dr. Jamali's speech as "an act of reckless international irresponsibility," adding that "its purpose and effect is to increase tension in the Middle East."

## CHRISTIANS CONDEMN SPAIN'S BAN ON ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES IN MADRID

NEW YORK, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The Council of Christian Social Progress of the American Baptist Convention condemned today the action of Madrid police in barring the holding of Rosh Hashanah services by Jews in a private hall of a hotel in that city. At the same time, the Baptist group praised the intercession of the United States Embassy in Madrid with the Spanish authorities to permit the services.

The ban on the hotel service, which was held last year with the permission of the authorities, followed recent publication in the Spanish press of articles and reports from abroad highly critical of Jews. The most outspoken of these anti-Jewish articles were written by Felipe Fernandez Amnesto, press attache of the Spanish Embassy in Washington, who also acts as correspondent for a number of important Spanish newspapers.

Despite protestations in some Spanish circles that the ban on the Jewish services was aimed primarily at the Protestants--who are also barred from public worship under Spanish law--and that it has no anti-Semitic overtones, it is believed here that the regular publication of Senor Amnesto's articles is an indication that some official circles are sympathetic to his anti-Jewish views.

Last week-end, American Jews in Spain brought to the attention of U.S. Ambassador James C. Dunn the police ban on the hotel services. His inquiries at the Foreign Ministry brought the reply that the Foreign Ministry was out of town and that nothing could be done in his absence.

However, a service was held in a small dwelling in Madrid. It was led by Rabbi Alex Fischel, who came from Paris expressly to conduct the service. In Barcelona this Rosh Hashanah the Jews of that city opened the first synagogue to be erected in Spain since the expulsion of Jews in 1492.

## GERMAN PRESIDENT, CHANCELLOR GREET JEWS ON HIGH HOLIDAYS

BONN, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Continuing the post-war tradition of sending Rosh Hashanah greetings to the Jews of Germany, Bonn President Theodor Heuss issued a message which underlined that the past year saw the effective implementation of the reparations pact with Israel and enumerating such important reparations payments as the first vessel built for Israel, which was recently launched at Hamburg.

Other Federal and provincial government leaders, led by Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, also issued New Year's greetings, as did Walter Freitag, chairman of the German Trade Union Federation, and Erich Ollenhauer, head of the Social Democratic Party. Herr Freitag stressed the common bitter experiences of the trade unionists and the Jews under Hitler, and Herr Ollenhauer said his movement was ashamed of the fact that Jewish survivors of the Nazi holocaust had still not received the indemnification which Germany is morally and legally obligated to pay.

Dedication services for the first rebuilt synagogue in the entire Palatinate area of Germany were held at Neustadt on the Weinstrasse just before the Rosh Hashanah holiday. The representatives of the government and of various churches attended the dedication services which featured the unveiling of a monument to the victims of the Nazis in front of the synagogue. Only 350 Jews survive in all of the Palatinate of the 18,000 who lived there before Hitler.

## BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT HAILS JEWS' CONTRIBUTIONS IN HOLIDAY MESSAGE

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The debt of civilization to the Jewish people was stressed in a New Year's message from Brazilian President Joao Cafe Filho to the Jewish community of Brazil.

In his message, released through the Confederation of Jewish Communities of Brazil, the President called upon the Jews of Brazil "to continue to make to my country their contribution of creative intelligence, of their spirit of organization and tenacity, of their initiative and of their fertile spiritual and material labor."

U.S. OBSERVER REPORTS ON CALCULATED CAMPAIGNS AGAINST JEWS IN USSR

NEW YORK, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The first eye-witness report of the anti-Jewish campaign conducted in the Soviet Union under the Stalin regime and its effect on the Jewish population there is published today in the New York Times by its Moscow correspondent Harrison E. Salisbury, who just returned to the United States after spending five years in the USSR.

"There have been three serious anti-Semitic drives in the Soviet Union in the last 15 years, each of which was government-inspired and government-instigated," Mr. Salisbury reports. "Two of those drives occurred within the last five years. The third was a war-time phenomenon. "These calculated campaigns against the Jews, together with the horrible exterminations carried out on Russian territory during World War II by the Germans, have virtually wiped out Jewish communal and cultural life in the Soviet Union, where, in the early days of the revolution, it had received considerable encouragement.

"Synagogues remain in only a few of the largest cities. In Moscow, with a population of several hundred thousand Jews, there is only one small synagogue, which is terribly overcrowded at the time of the Jewish holidays. In the former Jewish center of Minsk, there is a single synagogue. The same is true of Odessa, where many Jews still reside, although numbers were deported to the East during the anti-Jewish campaign of 1948-49. One of the oldest Jewish communities, that of Bukhara that dates from the sixth or seventh century, still manages to survive. Services are still held in the ancient synagogue on the Street of the Jews."

The N. Y. Times correspondent says that "it seems highly unlikely" that anti-Semitism will be resorted to in the foreseeable future by the Malenkov regime which acted to end "the most vicious machinations that had been instigated in Russia in recent times" - the "doctors plot" in which a group of Jewish doctors were accused of conspiring against the Kremlin.

Sees No Revival of Jewish Traditions and Culture Feasible

However, as far as Jewish religion and Jewish culture is concerned, the present government's benign policy toward Jews comes almost too late, "Mr. Salisbury reports. "There is little left to preserve. The Jews have been too widely scattered and too harshly persecuted, simply because of the fact that they are Jews, to make any early revival of either custom or religion likely or even feasible."

The first recent anti-Semitic outbreak in the Soviet Union took place shortly after the beginning of World War II, Mr. Salisbury writes. Its most spectacular manifestation was the circulation in Moscow of rumors that "the Jews are deserting Moscow." It was said that rich Jews had bought places on the evacuation trains and fled to the East.

"The truth was that the government itself had evacuated a number of 'rich Jews'-- artists, singers and writers--in a general organized movement of certain classes of intelligentsia," the N. Y. Times correspondent states. "The rumors actually had been started by the government in order to divert the resentment of the vast majority of Muscovites, who were being left behind. Possibly to the surprise of the government, the anti-Semitic reports snowballed to such an extent that many department chiefs began to discharge all Jews from their staffs. Professors were relieved of their university posts. Many Jews lost their deferred status and were inducted into the Soviet Army."

Jewish Life "Crippled Irreparably"; Organizations Dissolved

A more serious government-inspired campaign against Jews started seven years later, in 1948-49, under the mask of "cosmopolitanism," the correspondent relates. This campaign, he reports, virtually brought to an end in Russia organized Jewish communities and crippled Jewish cultural life irreparably. The Jewish language publishing house in Moscow was dissolved, as were Yiddish newspapers in Moscow and Minsk. Jewish theatres in Moscow, Minsk and Birobidzhan were closed. Jewish

organizations were dissolved. Considerable numbers of Jews in Birobidzhan were transferred out of the so-called Jewish Autonomous Oblast--some to Yakutia and other bleak northern areas.

"In Moscow, many Jews lost their posts in theatres and universities and publishing enterprises. Many government departments quietly introduced regulations against hiring Jews," Mr. Salisbury writes. He reveals that "the heaviest blows fell on the great Jewish center of Minsk and in the already largely moribund Jewish Autonomous Oblast of Birobidzhan which at this time largely lost its Jewish character. All Jewish cultural activities were wiped out. About the only vestige that remained, aside from the name of the oblast, were Yiddish street signs, a tiny synagogue (probably organized by the M. V. D. in order to keep a closer watch on religionists), and a Yiddish paper that appeared intermittently with a few hundred copies," he reports.

"The reason for this tempest against the Jews apparently was fear that they were not completely loyal to the Soviet Union and constituted a security risk," Mr. Salisbury assumes. "The fear probably had its foundation in the demonstrations given by Moscow Jews to the first Minister from Israel, Mrs. Golda Myerson, on her arrival in Moscow. Jews by the hundreds queued up at her office in the Metropole Hotel. They blocked the streets outside Moscow's synagogue when she went to services there," he says.

Mr. Salisbury reveals in his article that many Jews from the Ukraine and Byelorussia have been sent to far northern Yakutia, with its permanently frozen subsoil and its dark and frigid winters, while Tartars are being exiled to Birobidzhan. He says he saw many Jews in the city of Yakutsk during his recent visit there and that some of them have found work in small factories and service industries there.

#### A.F.L. URGES U.S. GOVERNMENT TO STIMULATE ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- The American Federation of Labor national convention here, in a resolution, called on the United States Government to be "unsparing" in its efforts to bring about peace between Israel and the Arab states on a basis of mutual recognition of each other's existence.

The resolution also urged the U.S. to reject every move to organize the Middle East's defense without taking into account every country in the area. It demanded that before arms are granted to any country in the Middle East it "must demonstrate its earnest desire" to live in peace with its neighbors. Further, the AFL resolution called for free and undisturbed use of the Suez Canal as an international waterway.

#### 58-MAN DELEGATION FROM LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- A 58-man delegation from the Los Angeles Jewish community is spending the High Holy Days here, and will be received by President Itzhak Ben Zvi. The group is the first "Caravan to Israel" delegation sent here by an organized Jewish community, and represents 400 organizations in Los Angeles.

Arriving at Lydda Airport, the delegation was given an official reception by representatives of the Israel Foreign Office, the Jewish Agency and the United Jewish Appeal. The group will tour Israel this week, spending 18 days visiting many parts of the country.

#### HARRY LANDAU, SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER, DIES AT 72

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 29. (JTA) -- Harry Landau, well-known South African Jewish community leader, died here today at 72. During World War II, Mr. Landau was chairman of the South African Jewish Appeal which raised large sums to help Jewish war victims.