



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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VOL. XXI No. 199 - 36th year

Friday, October 22, 1954

BRITAIN ASSURES ISRAEL ON SUEZ PACT; SAYS IT WILL LESSEN TENSION

LONDON, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- The British Government recognizes Israel's concern over the Anglo-Egyptian pact on the Suez Canal, but is convinced that the agreement will result in a general easing of tension in the Middle East, Foreign Secretary Sir Anthony Eden told Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath in a letter handed the Israel diplomat last Tuesday.

The letter, published here today, said that in the agreement both governments have pledged that the pact has no aggressive purpose, that no great amount of armaments will be surrendered with the bases, and that the cornerstone of Britain's Middle East policy remains the Tripartite Declaration.

After noting Britain's recognition of Israel's concern, Sir Anthony declared that the British Government is convinced, however, that the Anglo-Egyptian agreement "will result in a general lessening of tension in the Middle East. By increasing confidence between the Arab states and the West it should facilitate a solution of the major problems in the area."

In this connection, Secretary Eden underlined that in signing the "Heads of Agreement" last July--preliminary to this week's signing of the full pact--"both governments declared that the proposed agreement had no aggressive purpose and was designed to contribute to the maintenance of peace and security, which was the objective of both governments."

"The agreement will contain a clause in which both parties agree to respect the Suez Canal Convention of 1888 in relation to freedom of navigation through the Suez Canal," Sir Anthony's letter continued. It then pointed out that Egypt claims to be entitled to take the measures it is taking against Israel under Article X of that convention. The British Government, the letter added, "continues to desire a settlement of this question in accordance with the resolutions of the Security Council."

Britain Will Not Hand Over Large Quantities of Arms to Egypt

In reference to the Israeli objections to the British handing the largest and one of the best equipped military bases in the world to the Egyptians, Sir Anthony repeated the "assurance given your Charge d'Affaires by Selwyn Lloyd on the 12th of July, that there is no question of handing over large quantities of armaments."

The Middle East policy of Britain "is governed by the Tripartite Declaration of 1950, particularly as regards the opposition of the signatory governments to the use or threat of force between the Middle East states as principles governing the supply

of arms to these states." The Israel Government may rest assured that the British Government "remains determined to give effect with all means in their power to the Tripartite Declaration," Sir Anthony stressed.

He also underlined the fact that Britain attaches "particular importance to the avoidance of incidents on the frontier which might exacerbate Israel-Arab relations," expressed happiness that there had been no serious incidents in the last few weeks, and added the hope that this situation would continue. He also expressed satisfaction with the Israel Government's decision to rejoin the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission and hoped that Israel's agreement to release blocked accounts of Arab refugees would contribute to a lowering of tension.

Stresses Readiness to Help Bring About Arab-Israel Peace

The British Government, Sir Anthony emphasized, attaches "great importance to friendly relations with Israel, as with all countries of the Middle East," and is prepared to do all in its power, "in cooperation with the United Nations and like-minded governments, to help bring about a peaceful settlement of the tragic disputes between Israel and the Arab states. Such a settlement is essential" the letter continued, "if the countries of the Middle East are to develop their full prosperity and be able to defend themselves against any threat of aggression from the outside."

The Israel Government can count on the "sympathy" of the British Government in its efforts to promote the peaceful progress and welfare of the Israel people. The British Government, the letter concluded, "remains willing to cooperate in all measures designed to end the present state of tension with Israel's neighbors and to help them pave the way for a wider settlement."

Eden's Attempt to Allay Israel's Fears Welcomed by Israelis

LONDON, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Foreign Secretary Sir Anthony Eden's letter to Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath attempting to allay Israel's concern over the consequences of the British surrender of the Suez Canal and its military bases to the Egyptians was welcomed today by Israeli diplomatic circles here as an important and positive landmark in the development of Anglo-Israeli relations.

It is believed that the letter opens avenues for further, friendly discussion of the issues which continue to give Israel cause for concern, particularly in view of Anglo-American plans for arming the Arab states and the issue of free passage through the Suez Canal.

Although Sir Anthony's letter stated that there is no question of handing over large quantities of armaments to Egypt, it was pointed out that what Britain might not consider large quantities might considerably strengthen the Egyptian armed forces and overweight the balance of power in the Middle East.

There is a feeling that responsibility has been placed indirectly on the Arab states for the future direction of Middle East developments. In this connection, Israel diplomatic circles welcome Britain's affirmation of her intention to continue efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement.

While the Foreign Secretary's reference to the Suez Canal was rather vaguer than Israel might have hoped, the restatement of Britain's views on this matter are considered timely in view of the impending debate in the Security Council.

The letter, taken as a whole--and particularly the friendly reference to Britain's interest in the progress of the Jewish State--is seen as an heartening response to the efforts of the Israel Government and Israel diplomacy to further strengthen friendly relations with Britain. While it cannot be said that Israel's fears have been calmed, it is felt that further discussions and representations will be received with sympathy.

VICE PRESIDENT NIXON REVEALS DULLES' VIEWS ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Vice President Richard M. Nixon today issued a statement here announcing that he had received a cable from Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who is now in Europe, expressing belief that "several steps can be taken" in the direction of bringing "a permanent and just peace between Israel and the Arab states," and that he will assist in efforts to that end.

"I have noted during the past few days," Mr. Nixon said in his statement, "that some of our political opponents, who apparently will stoop to anything in order to elect an anti-Eisenhower Congress, has engaged in a vicious whispering campaign designed to misrepresent the position of the President and Secretary of State Dulles with regard to our policy in the Near East.

"Just before Mr. Dulles left for Paris I discussed this problem with him. This morning I received a cable from Mr. Dulles in which he reaffirmed the position and the policy of this government that a permanent and just peace between Israel and the Arab states is ardently hoped for. He believes steps can be taken in that direction, and he will do all in his power to assist in such efforts to the end that permanent peace is reached in the Near East.

"He believes it is unwise to create such local military imbalances as might tempt extremists in any of the Near Eastern countries to attack each other. He vigorously emphasized that we shall constantly work toward the objectives of justice and peace in the Near East through the United Nations, and in addition our good offices are always available to assist in that body or outside of it in any move toward these objectives.

"In connection with Mr. Dulles' statement it will be noted that the President himself spoke out vigorously along these same lines in his speech at New York last night. He said: 'Our goal in the Near East, as elsewhere, is a just peace... and in helping to strengthen the security of the entire Near East, we shall make sure that any arms that we provide are devoted to that purpose, not to creating local imbalances which could be used for intimidation of, or aggression against, any neighboring nations. In every such arrangement we make with any nation, there is ample assurance that this distortion of purpose cannot occur.' "

Vice President Nixon expressed confidence, in his statement, that "as Mr. Dulles' diplomatic skill is applied to this troublesome area of the world, an early solution will be forthcoming." Pointing out that Mr. Dulles in the past 20 months had spectacular success in solving similar tough problems in Southeast Asia, Trieste and Europe, Mr. Nixon said: "There is no doubt in my mind but that this same patient, firm diplomacy will have similar beneficial results as it is applied in the Near East."

Provision for Free Passage Through Suez Pleases Dulles

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said today on the occasion of the signing of the Suez Canal agreement between Great Britain and Egypt that it was his "hope that this cooperation may now develop fully to the advantage of all concerned and will strengthen the stability and security of the area."

Mr. Dulles congratulated Egypt and Great Britain, saying he was pleased that Egypt "reiterated in the agreement its adherence to the principles of freedom of transit through the Canal in conformity with the 1888 convention."

Free Navigation Through Suez Canal Satisfies Italy

ROME, Oct. 20. (JTA) -- An expression of satisfaction that the Anglo-Egyptian agreement on the Suez Canal re-establishes the principles of free navigation through the Canal was voiced here last night by Italian Foreign Minister Gaetano Martino at the conclusion of a foreign policy debate in Parliament. Mr. Martino also stressed Italy's traditional friendship for the Arab states.

PLAN TO FIGHT INFLATION IN ISRAEL PRESENTED BY FINANCE MINISTER

JERUSALEM, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- A five-point plan to fight inflation in Israel, which has shown a tendency in recent weeks to spiral upwards again, was presented to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs today by Levi Eshkol, Israel Finance Minister. The plan will be discussed by the committee, but final action on it will come from the full Cabinet.

The plan, drafted by Treasury experts with the close cooperation of David Horowitz, governor of the Israel State Bank, proposes: a weekly balance, on the basis of which the Treasury will know what its income is each week and will not spend any more in a given week than it receives; the freezing of all credit for six months; the suspension of all emergency public works in some districts and the slowing down of public works projects in the rest of the country; a drastic cut in government public building; and, severe administrative measures to halt an increase in prices, especially for foodstuffs.

"FLYING SAUCERS" REPORTEDLY SEEN IN TWO AREAS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Inhabitants of two separate areas of Israel reported having seen flying saucers two distinct times last night. This is the first time flying saucers have been reported over Israel.

The first reports to the Israeli police came from the village of Mahne Yehuda where inhabitants claimed to have seen a flying saucer some 300 feet above the central market area. It was reported to look like a "round house" with smoke pouring out of its "windows" and flashing from the vicinity of Jordan-held Ramallah westward toward the Mediterranean Sea.

The second phenomenon was reported by Jerusalem inhabitants who described the flying saucer as cigar-shaped and moving "like lightning." It was also observed travelling westward toward the sea.

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES IN 24 STATES OPPOSE U.S. ARMING OF ARABS

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- A total of 131 candidates for the House of Representatives and the Senate in the current election have taken a definite stand opposing American arms grants to any of the Arab states, it was learned here today. The same candidates have also expressed their belief "that the Administration should make a new and vigorous effort to bring the Arab states and Israel to the peace table for direct negotiations."

Of the total of 131, 32 are Republican candidates and 99 are running on Democratic tickets. The 131 are distributed among 24 states. Eight of the signatories are candidates for the Senate. All of the candidates, it is understood, have sent to the State Department copies of a statement entitled "United States Policy in the Middle East" circulated by the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs.

Zionists Criticize Council for Judaism Stand on Arms to Arabs

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, today attacked the American Council for Judaism for its endorsement of the United States decision to send arms to the Arab states.

In a statement issued here, Rabbi Miller pointed out that the Council for Judaism's favorable attitude towards the arms program is harmful to the best interests of America. "Not a single Jewish organization supports this policy except the Council for Judaism," Rabbi Miller declared.

A meeting to protest against the shipment of American arms to the Arab states will be held next Monday evening at the Commodore Hotel under the auspices of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs. The theme of the rally will be "Stop the Arab War Against Israel--No Guns for the Arab States."

U. J. A. NATIONAL EMERGENCY CONFERENCE OPENS TODAY IN CINCINNATI

CINCINNATI, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- The wind-up phase of the United Jewish Appeal's 1954 nationwide campaign will be ushered in this week-end as more than 750 delegates representing campaign units in all parts of the country take part in an emergency UJA National Report Conference which opens at the Netherland Plaza Hotel here tomorrow.

The delegates have been urged to bring community checks with them to help meet the Appeal's present requirement for \$50,000,000 in cash. The cash fund is being sought to cope with a growing refugee emergency in North Africa, where 30,000 Jews have appealed to agencies of the UJA for swift help in emigrating to Israel, and to provide winter welfare aid for 90,000 recent immigrant newcomers to Israel.

Prominent figures in American and Israeli public affairs, among them Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, Israel Labor Minister Golda Myerson, Congressman Jacob K. Javits of New York and Israel Ambassador Abba S. Eban, will address the conferees. Others who will address the three-day conference include Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency; general chairman Edward M. M. Warburg of the United Jewish Appeal; Jules Braunschvig of Paris, vice-chairman of the Alliance Israelite Universelle of France; Morris W. Berinstein, chairman of the Appeal's current effort to raise \$50,000,000 in cash by year's end, and Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, UJA executive vice-chairman.

Senator Kefauver, who will address the final session of the conference next Sunday afternoon, will report on his recent visit to Europe and Israel, while Congressman Javits, speaking at a session Sunday morning, will discuss the need for continued aid to Israel. Ambassador Eban, also recently returned from Israel, Mrs. Myerson, and Dr. Goldmann, who will address the conference Saturday evening, will report on the new refugee problems confronting Israel as a result of increasing Jewish immigration from North Africa.

Mr. Warburg, the Appeal's general chairman, who will preside, will report on the progress of a special loan which the UJA has been raising since January 1 alongside its regular fund campaign. The loan, being raised entirely in behalf of the Jewish Agency, the UJA's principal beneficiary in Israel, has already raised upwards of \$63,000,000 and has had the effect of considerably stabilizing Israel's monetary situation.

JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING THIS WEEK-END IN N. Y.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- Several hundred communal leaders from all parts of the country will attend the ninth annual meeting of the Joint Defense Appeal which will take place here this week-end at the Hotel Roosevelt. The JDA is the fund-raising arm of the American Jewish Committee and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

MICHIGAN TOURIST COUNCIL BARS ADVERTISING OF "GENTILES ONLY"

DETROIT, Oct. 21. (JTA) -- The Michigan Tourist Council, a state-financed agency, has barred advertising in the 1955 Regional Guide Books of the Michigan Tourist Association of a group of resorts which distribute literature containing such phrases as "Gentile only" and other discriminatory language.

The Jewish Community Council of Detroit had called the attention of the Council to the activities of this group. Previously, the Council had agreed to the policy that resorts which either distribute discriminatory literature or actually discriminate on the basis of race or religion, would not be eligible for the promotional assistance of the Tourist Council.