



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

VOL. XXI No. 235 - 36th year

Tuesday, December 14, 1954

ISRAEL RELEASES CAPTAIN OF SYRIAN AIRPLANE; FOUR STILL DETAINED

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Israel authorities today released the captain, two crew members and two passengers of the Syrian plane forced down over Israel yesterday after violating Israel air space. This brings to six the number released, since an American passenger was freed yesterday as soon as he identified himself.

United Nations observers began an investigation of the circumstances under which the four remaining Arabs were being detained. The Greek captain of the airplane, who was one of the persons freed, preferred to wait in Tel Aviv until all the passengers had been released.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian member of the crew and an Egyptian passenger were turned over to the Egyptian authorities in the Gaza area. A Syrian hostess on the plane and a Syrian passenger were returned to Syrian jurisdiction on the border near the Bnot Yaacov Bridge. The American passenger who was released yesterday has already left the country on another plane.

(Ahmed Shukairi, Syrian delegate to the United Nations, denounced today the Israel seizure of a Syrian civilian airplane as "a shocking act of aggression." He said Syria will follow through its complaint to the Mixed Armistice Commission with whatever other action is necessary, including possibly recourse to the Security Council. Mr. Shukairi called a special press conference here to deliver his attack on Israel.)

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE LEADER URGES ARMING OF ARABS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Support of the present U.S. policy of granting arms to Arab countries was indicated today by Rep. James P. Richards, South Carolina Democrat who will become chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in January.

Rep. Richards has just returned with Republican John M. Vorys, present Foreign Affairs chairman, from an Asiatic survey mission which included a tour of Israel and the Arab states. In addition to expressing favor for Arab arms aid, he said American policy in the Near East should be carried out "regardless of pressure groups."

Emphasizing his views, Rep. Richards said he was "not at all in favor of efforts to stop military aid to the Arab states." It was, he said, "in our national interest" to send munitions to the Arabs. He urged such arms aid in connection with global defense being erected by America against Communism.

Rep. Richards, who met with Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett and Arab League leaders, said he found "awful prejudice on both sides" with both Arabs and Israelis portraying "everything as either black or white." Israel should be considered as no more significant than any single Arab state, he said, and "no country should be considered better or worse."

STATE DEPARTMENT TO DEFINE OFFICIAL U. S. POLICY ON ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The Department of State will issue this week a pamphlet on Israel to define official United States views and explain the reasons for present policies relating to Israel.

The pamphlet is the first of its kind on any country in the immediate region. It is being produced as a consequence of the large volume of mail that has deluged the Department of State.

While the pamphlet will attempt to justify Department policies which Israel diplomats have opposed, it is anticipated that it will also serve to notify the Arab League states that the Department considers Israel a permanent entity in the Near East.

FIRST SHIP BUILT FOR ISRAEL IN GERMANY ARRIVES AT HAIFA

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The first passenger-freighter to be built for Israel by Germany as reparations payment arrived at the port of Haifa last night.

The vessel, Dagan, is one of six such vessels now under construction in German yards or being tested before acceptance by Israel crews. The Dagan will be assigned to citrus transportation immediately.

GENERAL ZIONISTS DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR ELECTIONS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The General Zionist Party executive has drafted a proposal for a new election law governing election of deputies to the Parliament, it was revealed here today. The proposal calls for a 71-member Knesset, 60 of whose deputies would be elected from 20 districts--into which the country would be divided. The other 11 would be elected on a nationwide list.

In order to be declared elected a deputy would have to receive at least 25 percent of the votes cast in his district. In the event the distribution of votes is such that three candidates in a district are not chosen because there are not three candidates who each obtained 25 percent of the total vote, the votes would be added to the national total of each party and the deputies would be named by the party on the basis of what it received on the national total.

Only parties which had elected at least four deputies from four different districts would be eligible to vote for the distribution of the 11 seats in the Knesset assigned to the nationwide balloting.

AGUDAH APPEALS FOR RELEASE OF NETUREI KARTA LEADER IN ISRAEL

LONDON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Israel Government to release from imprisonment Rabbi Amram Blau, Neturei Karta leader convicted of breaking the peace in the recent attempts by ultra-Orthodox elements in Jerusalem to prevent the movement of traffic on the Sabbath, was made by the World Agudas Israel Organization here today.

In a discussion between H. L. Goodman, Agudah leader, and Gershon Avner, Israel Embassy counsellor, the former also requested that the Laborite youth club and playground established on the edge of the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem--a source of friction between the Orthodox and Labor elements--be removed from Mea Shearim or that the administration of the club be turned over to a religious body. Mr. Avner promised to convey the Agudah views to the Israel Government.

WEST GERMANY TO ISSUE OFFICIAL "BULLETIN" IN ARABIC LANGUAGE

BONN, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- "The Bulletin," official mouthpiece of the Federal Government, will appear in an Arabic edition in 1955, the Press and Information Office of the West German Government has announced.

JOHNSTON TO RETURN TO RESUME TALKS WITH ISRAEL AND ARAB LANDS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's special envoy to the Near East, will return to that region again in January in another attempt to bring about agreement on a scheme for water development utilizing the Jordan River.

This was learned today from informed sources. Mr. Johnston's time of departure will be decided upon when he completes consultations with Arab and Israel diplomats here.

WASHINGTON ANNOUNCES \$5, 200, 000 IN AUTHORIZATIONS FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The Foreign Operations Administration today announced procurement authorizations for Israel amounting to \$4, 200, 000 and a \$1, 000, 000 authorization to finance the purchase of surplus agricultural commodities.

The procurement authorizations include \$3, 700, 000 worth of iron and steel mill materials and steel mill products. Also provided is \$500, 000 in cattle hides. The \$1, 000, 000 in surplus agricultural commodities is provided under the Mutual Security Act of 1954 and is made up of raw cotton, excluding linters.

FRENCH PREMIER AND ISRAEL ENVOY IN PARIS DISCUSS MUTUAL PROBLEMS

PARIS, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Israel Minister Yaacov Tsur today had his first audience with French Premier Pierre Mendez-France. The two diplomats conferred on political and economic problems of common interest to Israel and France.

Although no official statement has been made on their meeting, it is believed that this was a continuation of the talk between M. Mendez-France and Abba Eban, Israel Minister to the United States, in Washington during the French Premier's recent visit there. It is understood that M. Mendez-France gave Mr. Eban assurances that France will not officially recognize the Arab League.

TURKEY REITERATES STAND ON INTERNATIONALIZATION OF JERUSALEM

ISTANBUL, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The United Nations resolution calling for internationalization of Jerusalem remains Turkish policy on this matter, a spokesman for the Turkish Foreign Ministry declared here in comment on a report from the Jordan held sector of Jerusalem that Turkey was now supporting the Arab viewpoint on Jerusalem.

The Turkish spokesman noted that the recent presentation of credentials in Jerusalem by British and American envoys does not reflect any change in policy by London and Washington in reference to the status of Jerusalem. He further called on Israel and Jordan to abide by the UN resolutions on the city.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION TO OPEN TUBERCULOSIS CENTER IN ISRAEL

GENEVA, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The World Health Organization, United Nations affiliate, will open a new tuberculosis center in Jaffa this Thursday, the organization announced here today.

Heading the project, designed to aid Israel's fight against the dread disease through treatment and training of medical personnel, will be Dr. H. Papanikilaou, Greek medical consultant to WHO, and Miss M. Moltke, former director of the Copenhagen Central Dispensary. They will be aided by a staff of 15 doctors, 15 nurses and another 15 social workers and laboratory technicians. Sanatorium facilities will be available for medical treatment and a training program for local health personnel will be instituted.

A WHO report on Israel states that the Jewish State has a low TB death rate-- 10.5 per 100, 000--with good sanatoria and effective curative measures. The report adds that despite the low death rate "the actual occurrence" of the disease is "quite high" and the country does not have adequate facilities for preventative measures.

CATHOLIC WITHDRAWAL FROM COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS EXPLAINED

LONDON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Cardinal Griffin's instructions to British Catholics not to participate in the work of the Council of Christians and Jews has nothing to do with Catholic-Jewish relations, a spokesman for the Cardinal indicated today.

He explained that by "danger of indifferentism" - the reason given for the Cardinal's action - was meant "the attitude that one religion is as good as another." However, he added that such a "danger" did not arise between Catholics and Jews, but "rather possibly with some other people."

A representative of the Council of Christians and Jews said today that Cardinal Griffin's resignation as one of the co-presidents of the group was "under consideration." He refused to elaborate.

BRITISH JEWS OPPOSE "SHAKING HANDS" WITH GERMANY

LONDON, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- There is no reason for Jewish communities and Jewish organizations to "shake hands" with Germany because that country and Israel reached a reparations agreement, R. N. Carvalho, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, declared last night at a meeting of the organization.

It was "quite natural" for Jews to be "sensitive" about the many signs that Nazism was not yet dead in Germany, he said. Despite the fact that some of Germany's representatives were "fine men" who might have opposed the Nazis, this did not change the attitude of Jewish groups to the situation, he indicated.

In reference to Israel, Mr. Carvalho said that British Jews are concerned with the many serious problems facing Israel, and "it is the fervent hope of all of us that this coming year we shall see an easing of tension in the Middle East and a satisfactory and permanent armistice between Israel and its neighbors."

ONLY 790 JEWS REPORTED REMAINING IN CHINA; SEEK EMIGRATION

GENEVA, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- There are 790 Jews left in all of China according to a survey carried out by the Joint Distribution Committee, which has made the results known here. Everyone of the 790 has indicated a desire to leave China.

This 790 is the remnant of the 24,000 Jews living in China when World War II broke out. Of these, some 18,000 were refugees from Central Europe, practically everyone of whom was moved out of the country by the JDC in the years between 1945 and 1949. Since then, there has been a steady trickle to many other states.

The distinguishing mark of the group is its advanced age, with some 300 over the age of 60 and only 115 under 18 years of age. Only seven children are of school age. Of the remainder, some 500 are between 45 and 60, and 300 are between 18 and 45. Of the total, some 160 are "hard-core" cases, with some 50 hospitalized cases. Funds for the maintenance of the "hard-core" cases is supplied by the JDC, through the Shanghai Jewish Community Council.

Most of the Jews still in China fled Russia in 1919 and 1920 after the Bolshevik revolution--590 are in this category and 201 are classified as either stateless or coming from other countries of origin. Those with Soviet passports cannot receive visas except with the permission of the Soviet Consulate.

All except 10 of the 790 are living in three cities: 310 in Shanghai; 350 in Harbin, and 120 in Tientsin. The remaining ten are divided between Tsintao and Dalny.

In replying to the JDC questionnaire, more than half of the Jews indicated a desire to immigrate to Israel. Brazil was their second choice, while the United States was the fourth choice. Fifty-nine of them had no preference, as long as they got out of China.

CANADA STARTS BROADCASTS ON ELIMINATION OF BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT

MONTREAL, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government has begun a five-broadcast series of French-language explanations of the aims of the government in eliminating discrimination in employment and other fields.

The French-language series, which ends December 21, came after a program of eight English-language broadcasts which were carried over 80 stations in all parts of the country. The 15-minute discussions--by a college professor, an actor, a government representative, a labor leader and a Jewish community leader--deal with the anti-discrimination law, what discrimination costs the country at home and abroad, and other aspects of the problem.

C. I. O. CONVENTION OPPOSES SENDING OF U. S. ARMS TO ARAB LANDS

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The CIO national convention called on the United States Government to end its shipping of arms to the Arab states and to use its good offices with both the Arab states and Israel to bring about direct negotiations "so that peace may be established in the Holy Land."

The resolution warned that to supply the Arabs with arms at a time when they are blockading Israel and threatening her with new war "is to seriously weaken the cause of democracy in the Middle East." The convention also sent its "warmest fraternal greetings to the democratic State of Israel and to the Histadrut."

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY RAISES \$102,500 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- A total of \$102,500 in scholarship funds was raised last night at Yeshiva University's twenty-sixth Scholarship Fund dinner at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria. The University needs \$448,700 this academic year to assist 1,549 students.

Governor-elect Averell Harriman and Mayor Robert F. Wagner were the principal speakers. Other participants in the program included Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of Yeshiva University; Charles H. Silver, a member of New York City's Board of Education and a trustee of the University, and Max J. Etra, chairman of the University's Board of Trustees.

Women now comprise 25 percent of the student body at Yeshiva University, it was reported by Dr. Belkin. Total enrollment at the University is 2,672 students.

U. S. WOMEN'S GROUP TO BUILD TWO INSTITUTIONS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- The Pioneer Women, American Labor Zionist women's organization, today announced that it had begun construction in Israel of two buildings: a children's home near Hadera and a vocational school in Jerusalem. The work will be done in cooperation with the Women's Labor Council in Israel.

HARRY HERBER, SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER, DIES IN JOHANNESBURG

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 13. (JTA) -- Harry Herber, prominent South African Jewish communal leader and president of the Board of Jewish Education here, died last night at the age of 67. A philanthropist who took a great interest in educational matters, Mr. Herber also chaired many Zionist campaigns in South Africa and was at one time president of the Johannesburg United Hebrew Congregation.

Born in Lithuania, Mr. Herber arrived here as a youth and went to work as a clerk in a retail store. During the years he developed two of the four major retail chains in South Africa.