



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

VOL. XXI No. 245 - 36th year

Tuesday, December 28, 1954

WASHINGTON IMPOSES "SECURITY BLACKOUT" ON U.S. ARMS SENT TO IRAQ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Defense Department today said that details concerning the arms furnished by the United States to Iraq will be withheld under a "security blackout." The type, nature and amount of weapons supplied to Iraq will not be made public, a spokesman for the Defense Department stated.

Conflicting reports have emerged concerning the cargo of the freighter which arrived at Basra last week with the first American military aid shipment for Iraq. A British news agency dispatch from Baghdad said the cargo included arms and ammunition, while government sources in Washington said the initial shipment included military vehicles and engineering equipment.

A report reaching here today from Cairo said that official circles there have made it known that the Arab states agreed that each of them will endeavor separately to obtain free military aid from the United States, provided they do not enter into commitments interfering with Arab security pact obligations. The report added that the Arab states agreed to cooperate in avoiding the manufacture of similar types of arms when establishing arms factories.

Z. O. A. Appeals to Eisenhower to Suspend Arms Aid to Iraq

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Prompted by the officially announced arrival in Iraq of the first shipment of U.S. arms, the national executive committee of the Zionist Organization of America, meeting tonight, unanimously endorsed an appeal by its chairman, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles, "to avert disaster in the Middle East" and for the "immediate suspension of further shipment of military supplies while the re-examination of our policy is taking place."

Addressing members who attended the session from all parts of the country, Dr. Neumann declared that, in spite of "recently inspired statements about impending re-examination of U.S. official policy in the Middle East and intimations that some reassuring words might be expected, the State Department is proceeding to implement a policy fatal to the stability of the Middle East and destructive of our avowed purposes in that region." He emphasized that "no conditions have been made and no guarantees have been exacted" that Iraq will refrain from carrying out her threats of aggression against Israel.

"The shipment of military supplies, which has now begun, will encourage Arab politicians and fire-eating demagogues everywhere to indulge in more saber-rattling and inflammatory propaganda. It is an American invitation to Arab violence," Dr. Neumann said.

ITALIAN CHURCHES APPEAL TO EGYPT AGAINST TRIAL OF THIRTEEN JEWS

ROME, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- An appeal on behalf of the 13 Jews now on trial in Egypt on charges of "Zionist espionage" was sent to the Egyptian Government today by the Federal Council of Italian Evangelical Churches.

The Federal Council acted following the receipt of a message from the rabbis of all Italian Jewish communities asking support in a protest movement against the trial of the 13 Jews. A similar appeal was addressed by the rabbis also to the Vatican.

In their appeal, the rabbis asked the Christian churches for aid in "saving these young people from martyrdom." They denounced the "methods used by the Egyptian military court to extort confessions" as "an offense against humanity and justice."

EMIGRATION OF ELDERLY JEWS FROM RUSSIA TO ISRAEL PREDICTED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Israel can expect a large number of elderly Jews from the Soviet Union, it was reported here today by M.M. Friedman, an Israeli who returned from a visit to Kiev. He made this statement at a meeting arranged by the Israel Information Service, which is a government institution.

The Voice of Israel radio today reported the arrival in Haifa of 10 Hungarian Jews. The broadcast emphasized that this is the largest group of Hungarian Jews permitted to leave Hungary for Israel since the arrival of 197 Jews from Budapest a year ago.

ISRAEL GRANTS CREDIT FACILITIES TO TURKEY; EXPANDS TRADE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Israel has furnished credit facilities to Turkey in order to expand trade and re-emphasize her ties with that country, the New York Times reported today in a cable from Ankara.

The report said that Israel has also sought and received assurances that Turkey's new friendship with the Arab states does not imply impairment of Turkish-Israeli diplomatic and commercial relations. Israel is particularly concerned about maintaining Turkey as the largest market for her industrial exports, the report stressed.

Trade between Turkey and Israel jumped from 9,000,000 liras (\$3,214,000) in 1951 to 65,000,000 liras last year. Exchanges this year are expected to exceed 80,000,000 liras despite Turkey's failure to export wheat following a bad harvest. According to the Times report, Israel has now raised the debt ceiling under the 1950 clearing agreement with the Turks to enable Ankara to continue importing sizable quantities of Israeli cement, construction materials, automobiles, electrical appliances and pharmaceuticals.

ISRAEL'S VIEWS ON USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY LAUDED IN SWITZERLAND

ZURICH, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Israel's efforts to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes were hailed today by Swiss newspapers as "a revolutionary factor" in the country's economy.

The Tagesanzeiger, Zurich German-language daily, which called the Israel announcement of its atomic energy activities a "timely" one, saw great significance in a Franco-Israel agreement on atomic energy and in what it termed improvement of relations between Paris and Jerusalem, "particularly in view of French difficulties with the Arab countries."

FINLAND'S DEFIANCE OF NAZI ORDER TO DEPORT JEWS REVEALED

BOSTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- How the Finnish Government defied Hitler's orders to deport the Jews of Finland to extermination camps is reported today from Helsinki in the Christian Science Monitor. The story was told for the first time in authentic detail by the chief of the wartime Finnish censorship, Prof. Kustaa Vilkuna.

In July, 1942, during the height of the campaign on the Eastern Front, Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler visited Finland. The relatively few who knew of the visit were sure it was no pleasure or vacation trip, but what his objective was, neither the President of the Republic nor any of the Cabinet officers would divulge.

It was observed, however, that for months after Himmler's departure members of the Finnish Government labored under a heavy burden of anxiety. Hitler had demanded the surrender of the Jews who had sought sanctuary in Finland from Nazi terror--this could be surmised and it is now confirmed by Professor Vilkuna.

Beyond this, however, was the awful knowledge of what Himmler's black portfolio contained. Himmler had brought to Finland with him a complete catalogue of Finnish citizens of the Jewish faith. There were nearly 2,000 names. It was clear to the Finnish Government that Hitler's demand for Jewish refugees was only a preliminary measure to a mass liquidation of Finland's Jews.

"In the fall of 1942, it was obvious that, since no general deportation could be organized," Professor Vilkuna writes, "the Gestapo could demand our Jews in small groups on various grounds and charges for examination and trial in Germany. This grave knowledge seems to have given additional strength to the determined reaction following the police measure leading to the first surrender."

Secret Decision of Finnish Government to Protect Jews

How the Finnish authorities gained their knowledge was through "an incredible brave and successful coup." Silently operating soldiers, "who were alert to every danger photographed the contents of the portfolio belonging to Himmler, the world's best-guarded police chief." The wartime Finnish military intelligence, incidentally, is reputed to have been far more efficient in many respects than the German.

Nazi pressure on Finland concerning the Jews was exerted at a bad time. The Third Reich was still at the height of its power. North Finland was full of German troops engaged against the common Soviet enemy. The Finns were critically short of supplies and dependent on German imports. To rebuff Hitler would have been to invite dire consequences.

The Finnish Government did make a courageous secret decision not to surrender a single Jew, refugee or native. But in its response to Himmler it hemmed and hawed, bidding for time. It was pointed out that Finland was a parliamentary state and no measures of the kind proposed could be taken until Parliament met in the fall.

When fall came and the Finnish Government did nothing toward implementing Himmler's proposals, "some genius in the ranks of the Gestapo hit on the idea of 'police action' requiring neither Parliament nor even leave from the government." Four Jewish refugees accused of various crimes were surrendered to the Gestapo by the Finnish State Police strictly in line with collaboration on the police level.

As soon as it reached the knowledge of the government, prompt steps were taken. Preparations for the surrender of more "criminals" among the Jewish refugees were halted by vigorous intervention on the part of government authorities.

REMOVAL OF CATHOLIC BAN ON COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS SOUGHT

LONDON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The British Council of Christians and Jews is trying to work out a formula that might remove the ban against Roman Catholic membership in the organization imposed recently by Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, according to a report by Reuters here.

The reason for the Catholic ban has not been disclosed and the Council of Christians and Jews is reported trying to work out ways to resolve differences between its executive committee and the Catholic leaders. Cardinal Griffin, who was at one time a president of the Council, had resigned as a result of the Catholic ban, and other prominent Roman Catholics followed suit. The London press reported that the ban was ordered by the Vatican.

BIAS IN EMPLOYMENT COST U.S. THIRTY BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The cost of discrimination to American business and industry is thirty billion dollars annually, Elmo Roper warns in a new pamphlet issued today by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Mr. Roper, nationally reputed analyst of public opinion, marketing trends and employee attitudes, presents his warning in an 18-page booklet entitled "The High Cost of Discrimination." On the basis of research conducted over the past 12 years, he concludes that "any firm which does not hire on merit and merit alone is not only guilty of injustice but of woeful extravagance as well."

Decrying the huge loss in billions to our economy every year he says that discrimination in employment wastes "ten dollars out of every \$75 paycheck on the phony luxury of indulging in our prejudices."

Though the cost of discrimination today is a "woeful extravagance," its days are numbered, thinks Mr. Roper, who optimistically forecasts its abolition in 25 years. "By 1980," he predicts, "industrial concerns will no longer even think in terms of race, religion or nationality when they hire or promote their employees. The days of discrimination in this country are numbered."

ROLE OF EAST EUROPEAN JEWS IN U.S. DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- An appeal for stronger bonds between the younger and older elements in the Jewish labor movement in this country was made here by Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee, addressing a conference of 500 leading members of the Workmen's Circle, largest Jewish fraternal order.

Hillel Rogoff, editor-in-chief of the Jewish Daily Forward, told the delegates that the Jewish worker in the United States "brought to the Jewish community and the American community a love for human freedom and dignity and has left his imprint deeply in the community."

Isaiah Minkoff, executive director of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, stressed the historical rise of Jewish communal life in this country. He said that Eastern European immigrants, and much more markedly the second generation, have in many cases succeeded to the leadership formerly held by the German Jews. Many of them, he emphasized, have become big contributors; many plan an important role in Jewish communal life, and exercise a substantial influence on the policies of the Jewish community.

MEXICAN SENATE RATIFIES COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH STATE OF ISRAEL

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Mexican Senate has ratified a commercial agreement between Israel and Mexico. The agreement, which was negotiated some time ago, is expected to lead to intensified trade between the two countries.

U.S. JEWS URGED "NOT TO PROFANE THE SABBATH" ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America, representing the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbinic and lay movements of American Judaism, today issued a statement calling upon the American Jewish community "not to profane the sanctity of the Jewish Sabbath which this year falls on New Year's Eve."

The statement urged Jews to use this Sabbath as an "occasion for stimulating serious consideration of our own progress, of the welfare of our country, its position in a world desperately ill, and what we can do to help," rather than "indulging in a New Year's bacchanalia."

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CONDUCTS JOINT CHANUKAH-CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

BOSTON, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of Boston University, joint Chanukah-Christmas festivities were held in the University Chapel, while the main plaza of the University was decorated with a huge Christmas tree and a 10-foot high brass menorah.

The joint Chanukah-Christmas Sing was arranged by the Boston University Brotherhood Council. Words to all songs were flashed on a large screen for all to see as choral groups of Boston University sang Christmas carols and Chanukah songs which included "Mooz Tsur," "Al Hanissim" and "Mi Y'Mallel." Mark Finer, chairman of the Hillel dramatics committee, read the story of Chanukah.

GENERAL JULIUS OCHS ADLER TO RETIRE FROM U.S. ARMY AFTER 40 YEARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Julius Ochs Adler, first vice-president and general manager of "The New York Times," will retire from the Army Friday at the age of 62 after 40 years of service. For the last eight years, Gen. Adler has commanded the 77th (Statue of Liberty) Division, the Army reserve division in the New York military district.

Enlisting as a private in 1915, he was commissioned two years later as a Reserve Lieutenant. He served in France in World War I, was gassed at St. Juvin in the Argonne Forest and emerged from the war as a major with the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Purple Heart, Croce de Guerra from Italy and Commandeur Legion d'Honneur and Crois de Guerre with Palm from France.

ANNIVERSARY OF FRANZ ROSENZWEIG'S DEATH OBSERVED IN GERMANY

FRANKFURT, Dec. 27. (JTA) -- The 25th anniversary of the death of Franz Rosenzweig, noted Jewish philosopher who devoted himself to the instilling of a dynamic spirit into Jewish education, was observed by the Jewish Community here. Chief Rabbi Dr. R. R. Geis, of Baden, recalled that the last publication of the great religious thinker dealt with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Moses Mendelssohn who played such an important role in Jewish life.

West German President Theodor Heuss sent the meeting a telegram in which he praised Rosenzweig, whom he knew personally, as one who had in an exemplary manner demonstrated human forthrightness in the face of the greatest adversity. With his message, he had in mind that Rosenzweig was completely paralyzed from 1922 until he died in his 43rd year, in 1929, yet remained cheerful and creative although he was unable to speak or to move any part of his body other than his index finger. With it and the aid of a specially-constructed machine, he tapped out communications which his wife transcribed. In this fashion he carried on his Jewish literary as well as educational activities and, together with Martin Buber, produced the most important Jewish Bible translation to appear in the German language.

The Frankfurt meeting also commemorated the 150th anniversary of the "Philantropin" Jewish high school, in which many thousands of boys and girls received a modern education until it was closed by the Nazis in 1941. One of its headmasters was Hermann Baerwald, whose son, Paul, is honorary chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee and held its active chairmanship in two World Wars.