



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

VOL. XXII No. 10 - 37th year

Friday, January 14, 1955

JEWISH STORES IN TUNIS ATTACKED; ANXIETY AMONG JEWS INCREASING

TUNIS, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Anxiety among the Jewish population increased today following reports received here from a number of towns in Tunisia indicating increased anti-Jewish terrorist activities by Arab youths in connection with Moslem opposition to the French administration.

In Tunis itself groups of young Moslems yesterday attacked Jewish stores when the owners refused to close them in a demonstration of sympathy with the Moslem movement against France. Some of the stores were looted, but no one was hurt. The nationalist Neo-Destour Party issued a statement condemning the attacks.

A report from Mendenine, Southern Tunisia, says that the Jewish cemetery there was desecrated. The attackers fled before the police arrived. Reports of activities against Jews in other small towns have been received here.

EGYPT DEFIES U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL; WILL NOT PASS ISRAEL SHIPS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Egypt today defied the Security Council by refusing to alter its position regarding freedom of passage for Israel ships through the Suez Canal. After seven members of the Council--including all the major Western Powers--had re-affirmed their support of the 1951 resolution of the Council guaranteeing freedom of passage through the waterway, Omar Loutfi, head of the Egyptian delegation, insisted that Egypt will interpret regulations regarding the Suez Canal as it sees fit.

Sir Leslie Knox Munro of New Zealand, president of the Council, told Egypt that it is inconceivable that Israel ships or crews would ever try to sabotage the Canal. Mr. Loutfi made such an accusation at the last meeting of the Council on January 4. Today, after Munro had called such suspicions groundless, Mr. Loutfi insisted that Israel sailors might mine the Canal, scuttle a ship to block it, send "terrorists" into Egyptian territory, or otherwise use the Canal for "sabotage or espionage."

Regarding the Israel vessel Bat Galim, seized by Egypt, the Egyptian delegate told the Council that Egypt would be willing to discuss with Gen. E. L. M. Burns, chief of staff of the United Nations truce supervision organization in Palestine, the matter of further disposition of the ship. Israel circles indicated that they would not enter into further discussions about the Bat Galim with Gen. Burns, insisting that Egypt must release it.

At today's meeting the 1951 resolution was re-affirmed by Fernand van Langenhove of Belgium, Dr. Victor A. Belaunde of Peru, and Sir Leslie. At the last

meeting of the Council similar reaffirmations were voiced on behalf of the United States, Britain, France and Brazil.

Israel delegation chief Abba S. Eban made a brief statement at today's meeting, reviewing his government's insistence that the Canal must be kept open for all shipping and recalling Egypt's violation of Mixed Armistice Commission rulings ordering it to release the freighter Bat Galim which it seized last September 28.

Mr. Eban pointed out that once the Israel-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission had ruled that the Bat Galim's journey was "legitimate, innocent and peaceful," there was moral and logical reason to expect Egypt to facilitate the journey of the vessel to Haifa, a journey which should never have been impeded in the first place, he added.

It was therefore disappointing to record, said Mr. Eban, that Egypt continued to frustrate an innocent and legitimate journey in an international waterway although the Security Council's resolution of 1951 and all other instruments affecting the Canal made clear that the right of free passage belonged to all nations - including Israel - and not just to nations on whom Egypt conferred it. Israel, he declared, was not prepared to renounce its right to equality with other nations in this regard.

Mr. Loutfi, in his answer, declared "my government has gone to the limit," and virtually defied the Council to get the Bat Galim released, except on Egypt's own terms.

Sir Leslie summarized the opinion expressed in the Council regarding reaffirmation of the 1951 resolution and pointed out that Gen. Burns would be willing to use his good offices if Egypt and Israel agreed to let him handle the Bat Galim case.

It was noted that A. A. Sobolev, acting chairman of the Soviet Union's delegation, has to date said not a single word in the Council chamber either for or against Egypt's stand regarding the Suez Canal. In 1954, the Soviet Union twice vetoed Security Council resolutions favoring Israel.

ISRAEL SOLDIER CAPTURED BY SYRIANS COMMITS SUICIDE IN PRISON

JERUSALEM, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- One of five Israel soldiers captured by Syrian troops last month committed suicide in prison, the United Nations truce organization in Palestine announced today on the basis of a message received by the UN chairman of the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission from the Syrian authorities.

Immediately after the news of the reported suicide was released, Dr. Walter Eytan, director general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, invited United Nations truce supervisor Gen. E. L. M. Burns to meet with him. The subject of their discussion has not been disclosed.

The dead soldier was named as Uri Ilan. A UN observer was immediately dispatched to the prison where he had been held, and efforts are being made to arrange for the Israel delegate to the MAC and an Israel doctor to visit the prison, too, and learn the circumstances of the soldier's death. The other four men held by Syria, identified today, are: Lt. Meir Moses, Sgt. Meir Yaakobi, Pvt. Yaacov Lind and Pvt. Gad Mastelanetz.

Last night, the MAC condemned Israel, charging that the five-man patrol, of which the dead soldier was a member, had been sent into Syrian-held territory in violation of the armistice agreement. At the same time, the MAC labelled them prisoners of war, asked they be given the treatment provided by the Geneva Convention on prisoners of war and, finally, that they be released.

AUSTRIAN GOVT. TO SUBMIT NEW PROPOSAL ON JEWISH CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

VIENNA, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government will submit a new, detailed proposal for the settlement of demands by world Jewish organizations for restitution for property confiscated by the Nazis and for a lumpsum payment for heirless Jewish property claims, a spokesman for the Austrian Government announced here today. The new offer will probably be made by the end of this month.

The spokesman said that Chancellor Julius Raab thinks that the differences between the Austrian Government and the Jewish claims committee are not unbridgeable. The Cabinet's failure to act on the new proposal has been laid to domestic problems which have held all its attention.

The spokesman denied reports that part of the negotiations between the Jews and the Austrian Government might take place in New York or Washington, but informed sources here place some hope in the possibility of renewing negotiations through the medium of diplomatic channels.

JEWS TO ASK BRITAIN TO SAFEGUARD JEWISH RIGHTS IN GERMANY

LONDON, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- A deputation from the Board of Deputies of British Jews will call at the Foreign Office next Wednesday to ask the British Government to use its good offices to safeguard the rights of the Jewish residents of West Germany under the new treaties to be written between Bonn and various Allied nations restoring sovereignty to West Germany.

The Jewish deputation is expected to raise the question of speeding up the handling of indemnification and compensation claims filed by individual victims of the Nazis. It will also ask that access to the files of the International Tracing Service at Arolsen, Germany, on which the legal validity of many of the claims are based, be safeguarded when they are handed over to Germany.

FRENCH COMMISSIONER UNDER NAZIS REITERATES HIS ANTI-JEWISH VIEWS

PARIS, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Xavier Vallat, former Commissioner on Jewish Affairs in the Vichy Government, who was responsible for the deportation of tens of thousands of French Jews to their deaths in Nazi camps and who forced French Jews to wear a yellow Star of David on their outer clothing, has stated publicly that he has not changed his views about the Jews one whit since the days of the Nazi occupation.

Writing in the publication "Aspects de la France," of which he is the editor-in-chief, M. Vallet says that he would be willing to do again what he did before in handling Jews "if I thought it useful for the good of France." Apologizing to an imaginary reader for failure to have attacked Premier Pierre Mendez-France as a Jew, he explains that he would be willing to do so if he could be assured of financial backing to pay court costs and a possible adverse settlement in a libel suit which would result.

"INFORMATION DAY" ON RACISM AND BIGOTRY HELD IN STOCKHOLM

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- A special "information day" during which problems of racism and prejudice were discussed in various parts of Sweden was held today. Four national organizations sponsored it.

One of the featured talks in this city was presented by Prof. Hugo Valentin, formerly of Upsala University, who spoke on anti-Semitism, its causes and means of fighting it.

JEWISH GROUPS SUBMIT SUGGESTIONS TO U.N. BODY ON DISCRIMINATION

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 13. (JTA) -- The importance which Jewish organizations attach to the proposed United Nations studies on racial and religious discrimination was emphasized today by Moses Moskowitz, representative of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations, in an address before the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, which is now in session here.

Mr. Moskowitz suggested to the group that the proposed studies on discrimination - in the fields of political rights, religious rights and practices, and emigration, immigration and travel - should attempt to accomplish the following objectives: 1. To establish the conception and scope given the rights in question in the various countries; 2. To establish the existence in kind and degree of any discriminatory practices; 3. To establish a common denominator regarding these rights; 4. To establish the common features of discriminatory practices.

"My organization," Mr. Moskowitz said, "attaches great importance to the proposed studies on discrimination. We believe that the very fact that a problem of such vital importance as discrimination is being studied and discussed in an international body of this kind is of great significance in itself. It helps to highlight the existence of the problem and compels worldwide attention."

U.S. DISTRICT COURT TO RULE ON EXTRADITION OF ARTUKOVIC

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Yugoslavian efforts to extradite Andrija Artukovic, Nazi collaborator who has been charged with the murder of Yugoslavian Jews, are now focused on the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to which the case has been returned following a series of legal events culminating in a Supreme Court ruling favoring Yugoslavia's bid for extradition.

The Supreme Court recently ruled that an old Serbian-American Extradition Treaty remains in force, thus supporting Yugoslavia's attempt to have Artukovic deported so that he may be brought to trial for the many war crimes and crimes against humanity with which he is charged.

In the latest development the case has been returned to the court of original jurisdiction which must now decide on a new question raised by Artukovic. It is whether his acts on behalf of the Nazis and against the Jews were of a political or criminal character. The extradition treaty covers criminal acts but not political offenses.

Artukovic has until February 18 to submit evidence to support his claim of being a political refugee and "fugitive from Communism" rather than a Nazi war criminal as charged by the Yugoslavian Government and major Jewish organizations. Having been exposed after entering the United States under a false name, Artukovic resides at present in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles District Court originally ruled in favor of Artukovic, maintaining that no legal extradition treaty existed under which he could be deported. But the Federal Court of Appeals at San Francisco reversed the decision and the Supreme Court upheld the Court of Appeals.

LACK OF QUALIFIED REFUGEES FOR U.S. VISAS CLAIMED BY OFFICIAL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Scott McLeod, State Department security officer and administrator of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, said today that 17,030 visas have been issued to date under the emergency refugee law of 1953 which provides for admission of over 200,000 refugees. He added that perhaps there were not enough qualified refugees in Europe to meet the quotas, thus seeking to explain the failure to admit more persons.

SO. AFRICAN JEWISH GROUPS DEFINE POLICY ON FUND-RAISING APPEALS

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- The South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the South African Zionist Federation today issued a statement bringing to the attention of Jewish organizations in other countries conditions governing fund-raising appeals in South African Jewry. The statement reads:

"For many years the South African Jewish Community has realized the necessity for regulating fund-raising and it is now the accepted practice that in alternate years there are campaigns for the Israeli United Appeal and the United Communal Fund for South African Jewry.

"All appeals for overseas causes must be approved by the South African Jewish Board of Deputies or the South African Zionist Federation. Unauthorized appeals can prejudice the two basic united campaigns.

"We have learned that several unauthorized appeals for various overseas causes are being made at present to the Jewish community in this country. We wish to stress that these appeals have not the approval of the Zionist Federation of the Board of Deputies and we urge the public to assist our efforts to regulate fund-raising by giving their support only to authorized appeals.

"The Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation once again emphasize that applications to conduct campaigns for overseas purposes should be submitted before the representatives of institutions arrive in this country."

On some occasions, overseas organizations, disregarding this procedure of getting advance authorization for fund-raising appeals, have sent emissaries on fund-raising missions, the emissary then taking up the line: "I am sorry, we did not consult before coming out, but now that I am here, I can not return without fulfilling my mission." The S. A. Jewish Board of Deputies and the S. A. Zionist Federation have nonetheless felt compelled to make it clear that these emissaries do not have the requisite communal authorization and their missions have, therefore, been a failure.

U. S. ASKED TO PLACE JEWISH COMMITTEE PAMPHLET IN ITS LIBRARIES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton asked the United States Information Agency today that it place in its libraries overseas copies of a pamphlet on civil rights published by the American Jewish Committee.

Congresswoman Bolton, in a letter to the agency, noted that the pamphlet, "The People Take The Lead," enumerates the "achievements which we have made in civil rights in the past seven years." Her letter called the AJC report a "positive account" of the advances made in the U. S. "in the field of justice and opportunity for all." She suggested that in U. S. Information Agency libraries abroad the pamphlet would tell the "positive and constructive story of our nation."

ANNUAL YIVO CONFERENCE OPENS IN NEW YORK TOMORROW

NEW YORK, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- A series of scientific papers on various aspects of Jewish life will be presented at a three-day annual conference of the Yiddish Scientific Institute - YIVO which opens here Saturday night.

At the opening session, papers will be read by Professor Horace M. Kallen on "The Jewish Community and the American Idea;" by Professor Simon Rawidowicz "On the 750th Anniversary of the Death of Maimonides," and by Dr. Jacob Shatsky on "Problems of Jewish Social Science."

250 CASES SETTLED BY JEWISH CONCILIATION BOARD; DECISIONS BINDING

NEW YORK, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- The Jewish Conciliation Board of America, a free court of arbitration whose decisions are binding under New York State law, satisfactorily resolved 250 cases during 1954, it was reported last night by Louis Richman, executive secretary, at the board's annual meeting.

In addition to the cases settled directly by the board, an equal number were submitted without hearing to the board's social service department. This department, in turn, referred many of the cases to psychiatrists, community agencies, homes for the aged and hospitals.

The board unanimously re-elected Dr. Israel Goldstein to his 26th consecutive one-year term as president. Mr. Richman was re-elected executive secretary and Nathan S. Sachs as treasurer. Since its founding 31 years ago, 6,250 cases have been handled by the organization without cost to the litigants.

AMERICAN COMPANY FORMED TO REPRESENT ISRAEL'S FILM INDUSTRY

NEW YORK, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- An American company to represent the Israel film industry in the western hemisphere has been organized here by Barry Hyams, a press agent, it was announced today. The company bears Mr. Hyams' name.

Mr. Hyams also concluded arrangements with the Israel Motion Picture Studios, in Herzliyah, to represent the studio in the distribution of a number of its productions. The arrangements also involve the production in Israel of 26 half-hour film stories of the Old Testament for general and educational distribution.

GRANITE MEMORIAL FOR EMMA LAZARUS TO BE ERECTED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- A granite monument will be erected at New York's Battery Park in memory of Emma Lazarus, the American Jewish poetess whose sonnet is inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, it was announced today by the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations.

The stone for the monument will come from Israel, probably this summer. Miss Lazarus' poem, which has become linked in the public mind with America's attitude toward immigrants, opens with the line "Give us your tired, your poor..."

ISRAEL MUSEUM ESTABLISHES PRIZES FOR RESEARCH ON GHETTO FIGHTERS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- The Itzhak Katzenelson Ghetto Fighters Museum here announced today the establishment of two prizes to encourage and advance research and documentation dealing with the tragedy of the annihilation of European Jewry during the Nazi regime.

The first prize will bear the name of Emanuel Ringelblum, founder and director of the Warsaw Ghetto underground history institute. The second prize will be named for Shoshana Pulmann and her two sons, Wolf and Marc, who died fighting in the Jewish underground in Poland.

KING OF SWEDEN FINANCES STUDY OF JEWISH TEACHER IN ISRAEL

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13. (JTA) -- Dr. David Tabachowitz, a Jewish high school teacher, has been awarded 5,000 Swedish crowns by King Gustav Adolf of Sweden to go to Israel to study Latin and Greek inscriptions in that country. The funds come from the King's "Seventieth Anniversary Scholarship Fund for Swedish Culture." Recipients of all awards from this fund are chosen by the King himself.