



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXII No. 118 - 37th year

Monday, June 20, 1955

## Z. O. A. CONVENTION ASKS U. S. TO CONCLUDE DEFENSE TREATY WITH ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America adopted today a resolution deploring "recent actions of our State Department" in arming Iraq and making other offers of "arms or military arrangements" which "have only encouraged the Arab governments to believe that an Arab-Israel peace is not imperative and that they may continue to provoke tensions and outbreaks along Israel's borders with impunity." (A statement revealing the existence of a split within the ZOA was issued by Louis Lipsky. See Page 3.)

The ZOA called on the United States "to alter this policy, particularly in view of the fact that no arms or mutual security pact have yet been offered to Israel." The resolution said the ZOA was "deeply disturbed by the unabated tension." A defense treaty linking Israel with the United States was urged as a solution for and means of strengthening Middle Eastern stability. The U. S. Government was commended for continuing economic and technical assistance to Israel and working toward a regional water agreement.

Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr. addressing the convention yesterday, assured the delegates that the United States was "not unmindful" of Israel's security. "It is our hope and our desire," he stated, "that area defense arrangements will develop through which all countries in the area can contribute toward their mutual protection against aggression from the Communist menace. This is definitely in our own interest and represents a major element in our policy for the Middle East and for strengthening the defense of the free world."

Mr. Brownell said the "issues of the Arab-Israel conflict can be resolved through patience and understanding. It is the task of everyone to recognize this and to work toward it." He cited a recent message by President Eisenhower requesting Congressional approval for Mutual Security legislation, in which the President indicated economic aid and regional water development would do much to eliminate the causes of Arab-Israel tension.

### Brownell Links Israel's Destiny with that of U.S.

Stating his belief that "Israel's destiny will remain linked with that of the United States," Mr. Brownell said: "Now, I am persuaded that in our relations with Israel, any differences which may arise from time to time will undoubtedly be resolved to the mutual satisfaction of both countries. Occasional differences are bound to arise between the friendliest of nations, and the government of the United States has encountered this even in its dealings with its closest allies. But while there are strong ties of mutual interest, identity of outlook and common aspirations, the disagreements are bound to be temporary. The geographic distance between the Potomac and Jordan Rivers may be great, but there is certainly little difference in spirit between the two countries."

Mr. Brownell assured the ZOA delegates that "Israel stands high on the list of nations whose friendship is of great importance to the American Government and people. We see in Israel a pilot-plant of American ideas in an area of the world that sorely needs these concepts, a striving after goals that are similar to our own," he stated.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, Minnesota Democrat, addressing the ZOA parley, called on the Administration to conclude a defense pact with Israel and support direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states.

### Eisenhower Asked for Immediate Pact with Israel

Dr. Emanuel Neumann told the convention that "a full explanation of the Administration's Middle Eastern policy and course of action is long overdue." He said: "To temporize is only to aggravate a critical situation which is rapidly deteriorating. The State Department has officially declared that a defense pact with Israel would be highly logical. Let then President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles have the courage and leadership to take this constructive step and do it now."

"Many months ago," Dr. Neumann continued, "the Administration through its authorized spokesmen promised to reconsider American official policy toward Israel and to announce in due course the result of such a re-examination. We take the liberty of reminding the Administration that this promise is still unredeemed. Now and then there

are signs of a sounder and more realistic approach to the problem but thus far the State Department has not come up with any plan calculated to remedy the dangerous situation basically and permanently."

Joseph Serlin, Israel Minister of Health, who came from Jerusalem to address the ZOA convention, appealed to the American Zionist movement to educate Jews in this country for "personal aliyah." He said that Israel needs more Jews for security and for political and national reasons. "The free countries contain the reservoir of Jewish manpower. The task of the State of Israel must be to create a regime in the country which should attract these Jews. The regime cannot be a socialistic one," he declared.

Jacques Torczyner, chairman of the ZOA's world Zionist affairs committee, reported to the convention on what he termed "a widening gulf between the Jews in Israel and the United States." He attributed "this condition partly to Israel for denying the importance of the Zionist movement and by-passing it consistently and steadily." He warned that "if there is no Zionist feeling in a community, if there is no Zionist guidance, the Jewish consciousness disappears."

#### Rabbi Miller Appeals for "Conciliatory Move" by Russia

Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, expressed a view that it is time for a conciliatory move by the Kremlin "insofar as the status of Zionism and Zionists in Soviet Russia is concerned," in view of the conciliatory attitude toward the West "professed by the present rulers of Soviet Russia aimed at the easings of world tensions."

He appealed to the Soviet Union to permit contact by world Jewry with Iron Curtain Jewry and to remove "the unjust and cruelly repressive measures against those Jews who are suspected of harboring sympathies toward Zionists and Zionism." He urged that Soviet Jews wishing to emigrate be permitted to do so. The freeing of Soviet Jewry from anti-Zionist restrictions and other such moves, he said, "will constitute a major test of the genuine intentions on the part of the Soviet Russian Government in their professed desire for co-existence and the restoration of an atmosphere of peace."

Israel Ambassador Abba Eban told the ZOA delegates that "President Eisenhower's direct assurance to American Zionists that he attaches great value to firm friendship between America and Israel is matched by the Israel Government's own desire to cherish and reinforce that friendship." Apparently commenting on assertions by State Department officials that no real Arab danger confronts Israel, Mr. Eban said: "Anybody who envisages himself and his country in our position of siege and regional solitude must judge for himself whether it is an illusory fear, or an apprehension soundly based."

"The existence of treaty relationships between some of America's allies and the Arab states further emphasizes the lack of equilibrium in the security structure of the Middle East," Mr. Eban stated. "It is out of concern for Israel's legitimate security that Prime Minister Moshe Sharett has publicly stated that we feel entitled to request binding, formal arrangements for maintaining the integrity of our frontiers. The United States," the Israel Ambassador emphasized, "has a unique opportunity to make a decisive contribution to the stability of the Middle East."

#### Mortimer May, Emanuel Neumann Re-Elected as ZOA Leaders

Mortimer May was re-elected national president of ZOA. Dr. Emanuel Neumann was re-elected chairman of the ZOA executive committee. Named associate chairmen of the executive committee were Dr. Max Nusbaum, Los Angeles, and Herman L. Weisman, New York. Dr. Harris J. Levine was re-elected chairman of the administrative council.

Dr. Levine, who is also president of the Jewish National Fund of America, reported to the ZOA convention that within the last five years 180 border settlements ringing the frontiers of Israel have been built on Jewish National Fund land as part of the contribution of the land development agency of the World Zionist Organization toward the security of Israel. He said that under a new five-year plan undertaken by the JNF \$53,000,000 will be required to "establish 200 security villages and the planting of 25,000,000 trees" in Israel. Seventy percent of this sum, he said, will have to be raised here. Mendel N. Fisher, executive director of the Fund, said that since its establishment in 1901 more than \$200,000,000 had been raised here for the purchase and development of land in Israel.

#### Moscow Warns Israel Against Concluding Pact with United States

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- The Soviet Government newspaper "Izvestia" has warned Israel against concluding any defense alliance with the United States, the New York Times reported from Moscow.

The Times dispatch said that "Izvestia" said that such a pact would be contradictory to the Israel undertaking given the USSR in 1953. The Soviet newspaper reminded Israel that in that undertaking, which restored Soviet-Israeli diplomatic relations which had been ruptured by the USSR in the wake of the bombing of its legation in Tel Aviv, Israel said that she would not enter into any pact that has aggressive aims against the Soviet Union.

# LIPSKY ANNOUNCES SPLIT IN Z. O. A. ; REVEALS SHARP INTERNAL DIFFERENCES

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- A split in the Zionist Organization of America was revealed today by Louis Lipsky, noted leader of the American Zionist movement. In a statement in which he announced that he and a number of other active leaders of the ZOA had decided not to participate in the ZOA convention now taking place in Washington. Mr. Lipsky indicated that the present ZOA administration had rejected a number of proposals offered for the purpose of "restoring unity" in the ZOA.

"I regret that I shall not attend the annual convention of the ZOA this year," Mr. Lipsky said in his statement. "It was not an easy decision to make, for I have attended our conventions for over 50 years. I feel, therefore, that I owe my fellow Zionists an explanation.

"For some time now I have felt that the ZOA was losing its sense of direction, that it was being confused as to its functions, that it was pursuing a purposeless existence; that it was avoiding through fear the courageous tackling of a problem which was being created for the Zionist movement as a whole by historic circumstances over which it had no control. It was taking up fragments of projects, trying to give them a uniqueness they did not possess, and was being lost in a maze of activities which did not add up to a program, but helped to maintain the facelessness of what was once a great creative Zionist organization.

"This conviction was fixed in my mind in July, 1952, when our annual convention, against the strong protest of a substantial minority, adopted a resolution identifying the ZOA with the Israel General Zionist Party. This was an act of escape. Instead of facing its problems, the ZOA sought in this way to lose itself in the political struggle of Israel by taking cover under the wing of one of the political parties in Israel. Since that fateful day in 1952, I have been distressed--as many other ZOA liberals of standing and friends of Zionism--to witness the ZOA leadership keeping faith with only one of its objectives--its identification with the General Zionist Party in Israel--and serving the interests of that party by attacking Israel political personalities with whom its Israel counterpart was not in agreement; and meddling in the internal Israel political affairs which are the legitimate province of the citizens of that state.

## Says ZOA Prestige Has Declined with "Shocking Rapidity"

"This concentration of zealous partisanship and an itch for controversy has inhibited the ZOA from taking up the causes that are its own immediate concern and acting effectively in areas in the United States that are within its natural competence. Its repetitious resolutions on education and culture have come to be regarded by the general public as the empty utterances of an impotent agency. Its declared allegiance to the promotion of Hebrew has remained a dead letter. As a consequence, the prestige of the ZOA has declined with shocking rapidity. Its membership has fallen disastrously. Its influence in Zionist circles has deteriorated and its influence on American Jewry has never been so feeble as it is today, although the challenges confronting it and the opportunities for historic achievement were never greater.

"Last December, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, as leader of world Zionism, after many preliminary meetings, succeeded in bringing together leaders of the ZOA administration and leaders of the liberal Zionist groups to discuss the problems with a view to the restoration of unity within ZOA ranks and as preliminary to the consideration of a radically revised program, functions and procedures. I personally was given the assurance by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the ZOA executive, that there was a fair chance for arriving at a reasonable understanding.

"Pursuant to these preliminary discussions, a meeting of the ZOA executive committee was held recently where it was agreed, to authorize Dr. Neumann to appoint a balanced subcommittee and to report back to the executive committee. This committee was composed of Dr. Neumann (chairman), Abraham Goodman, Harris Levine, Leon Kohn and Jacques Torczyner for the ZOA; and for the liberal group, Ezra Shapiro, of Cleveland, Dewey Stone, of Taunton, Judge Louis Leventhal, of Philadelphia, Dr. Samuel Margoshes and myself. In the course of the general discussion of the first meeting of the committee, our group proposed that the committee report unanimous agreement to a special committee of the convention on these points:

"1. That a high level commission - which might be called a Hoover Commission - be named by the convention which would in the course of about six months make a thorough study of ZOA problems - its organizational forms and funds and functions - and submit definite recommendations on how the ZOA could function, what its program would be, etc. in the light of present day circumstances. We asked that the naming of the commission at the convention should be made an occasion for a demonstration of unity and of the determination of the ZOA to face its problems in a comprehensive way.

"2. In order to create the proper atmosphere for the revision of certain matters that are definitely an issue within the ZOA, the ZOA administration should suspend--for the period in which the commission would be in existence--its special propaganda in connection with the General Zionist Party of Israel and that a temporary vacation be granted to its news bulletin, 'ZINS,' which has been a disruptive factor in Zionist affairs.

"3. To further the general impression of a desire for a united front, the election of Mortimer May as president for a second term would take place as planned, but that the

liberal group should be given the privilege of nominating the chairman of the executive committee, and name one that would be acceptable to the present ZOA administration.

"Our impression was that these proposals raised a possibility of some agreement, but as the discussion continued over many hours it became evident that the ZOA leadership was disinclined to raise the issues involved at the convention in Washington, that they were adamant about the identification suggestion, and were reluctant to build up the high level commission, feeling that the effect of the appointment of such a commission would be to raise all sorts of questions that would be reflected in the imminent Israel political campaign. I moved to end the discussion at the first meeting and to adjourn sine die, without a report. But Dr. Neumann still felt that it would be worthwhile to continue the discussion at a second meeting, which he called to take place on Tuesday, July 14, two days before the opening of the convention.

"At this second and last meeting, the ZOA representatives practically rejected the three points that were made. In other words, after all the assurances that were given that some feasible way would be found to restore unity in the ZOA, and to help raise the prestige of the ZOA, in the last analysis the ZOA administration was unwilling to go further in the direction of revision which had been indicated over a period of about a year.

"Under these circumstances, it is my painful duty to declare on my own behalf, and on behalf of my colleagues, and on behalf of large numbers of Zionists throughout the United States, that participation in the ZOA convention at this time would have been without purpose and that steps would have to be taken after the convention has adjourned to express our views on the frustration of legitimate hopes for peace and revision that had been raised."

#### U. S. LABOR ZIONIST ORDER CONCLUDES THREE-DAY NATIONAL PARLEY

HIGHLAND MILLS, N. Y., June 19. (JTA) -- The three-day national conference of the Farband-Labor Zionist Order concluded here today with the adoption of resolutions designed to strengthen Jewish life in the United States, to help in the upbuilding of the State of Israel and to further the growth of the organization.

The delegates voted to expand their political and economic support to the Jewish State and urged the State Department to reverse its policy of arming the Arab states. The conference unanimously called for repeal of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Naturalization Act. It was also decided to exert every effort to the sale of shekolim to give the Labor Zionist movement adequate representation at the 24th World Zionist Congress, which will be held next May.

Louis Segal, general secretary of the organization, in his report to the convention, disclosed that 3,000 new members had been enrolled since January 1, 1954, bringing the organization's total membership to 30,000. Among the other speakers at the conference were: Reuven Dafni, acting consul general of Israel in New York; Meyer L. Brown, Farband president; Baruch Zuckerman, member of the Jewish Agency, and Abraham Dickstein, president of AMPAL.

#### UNITED HIAS SERVICE TO HELP GREEK JEWS EMIGRATE TO UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- A special emergency program to bring swift rescue through emigration to Greek Jews has been inaugurated by United HIAS Service, the Jewish international migration agency, it was announced today by Ben Touster, president of the organization.

Under special provisions of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, Mr. Touster said, special priority is granted to victims of natural disasters, and by the terms of these provisions the survivors in the earthquake area in Greece may qualify specifically for entrance to the United States as speedily as they can be processed and documented by the United HIAS aides who are working feverishly now to speed their immigration to our country.

Special attention is being paid to the 400 Jews of Volos who recently suffered the full force of the earthquake, which practically leveled the town, leaving thousands homeless, Mr. Touster reported. The United HIAS office in Athens has petitioned the U.S. Consul to grant priority to the applications of 100 Volos Jews who had registered with the agency for immigration to the U.S. under the Refugee Relief Act before the disaster, and whose visas have been held up in the processing pipeline for several months.

#### FRATERNITY BIAS ATTACKED AT BOWDOIN COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

BRUNSWICK, Maine, June 19. (JTA) -- An attack on fraternity bias at Bowdoin College here was made at the 150th commencement exercises of the school this week-end. The attack was made by a member of the graduating class, G. Curtis Webber 2nd., son of a Maine Superior Court Justice.

Speaking to an audience which included Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson and British Ambassador Roger Makins, Mr. Webber called upon the college to set a time limit, of perhaps three years, after which the fraternities would have to end all bias. Mr. Webber charged that the college is failing in its "responsibility to its students and to the community as long as discrimination is condoned within the ivied walls."