



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXII No. 187 - 37th year Thursday, September 29, 1956

HIGH U. S. OFFICIAL FLIES TO EGYPT TO HALT ARMS DEAL WITH SOVIETS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, left by air today for Cairo to make a dramatic last-minute personal appeal to Egyptian Premier Abdel Nasser in an attempt to persuade Egypt not to go through with its announced munitions agreement with Czechoslovakia.

The State Department disclosed the Allen trip only a few minutes before he boarded a plane at Washington's National Airport. State Department sources said it was likely Mr. Allen would offer Col. Nasser U.S. arms on terms desired by Egypt as an alternative to allowing the Communist Bloc to gain influence in Egypt.

Mr. Allen's action came as a result of rapid decisions taken at top levels in the government following Col. Nasser's announcement in Cairo last night that Egypt has concluded an arrangement with Czechoslovakia in which surplus Egyptian cotton would be bartered for Czech munitions of war. Informed government sources reported that Henry A. Byroade, U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, is urging the State Department to expedite a grant of munitions to Egypt to offset the Czech deal. Mr. Byroade reportedly urged an outright free grant to Egypt to avert a "Communist bridgehead" in Egypt.

Vice-President Nixon Consulted on Allen's Flight to Cairo

The sudden departure of Assistant Secretary Allen for Egypt was decided upon after consultation with Vice President Richard M. Nixon, it was learned. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Herbert Hoover, Jr., Under Secretary of State, urged the emergency flight to Cairo. The nature of counter-proposals Mr. Allen took with him could not be immediately determined.

Mr. Allen only yesterday reassured Israel Ambassador Abba Eban that the United States had not made an arms deal with Egypt. Israel sought clarification of reports that the United States might provide Egypt with arms. It is believed by informed government sources that decisions have been taken by the Department regarding the supply of arms to Egypt since early this morning.

The main element of strategy now, according to these sources, is to head off the Egyptian-Czech arrangement. It remains to be seen if this will be done at the expense of Israel. Meanwhile, it was learned here today that in view of the Czech-Egyptian arms deal, Israel wants to know if the United States will supply arms to Israel under terms of the Tripartite Declaration of 1950 under which the United States is committed, along with Britain and France, to the maintenance of a balance of power in the Middle East.

Informed sources revealed that Ambassador Eban directed this question yesterday to Mr. Allen when he met with him. No action has been taken for three years on an Israel request filed in Washington for a free arms grant although such a grant was made to Iraq. Israel is permitted to buy certain categories of arms here, a program also available to Egypt and other Arab states. But many export licenses requested by Israel are still pending and the amount of munitions approved for sale to Israel is small.

ISRAEL PREMIER SEEKS CLARIFICATION FROM U. S. ON ARMS TO EGYPT

JERUSALEM, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Premier Moshe Sharett summoned United States Ambassador Edward B. Lawson today and requested clarification from the American Government of the reports that the United States is ready to sell arms to Egypt.

It is understood that Mr. Sharett specifically pointed out that U.S. supplies of arms for Egypt would inevitably intensify the arms race in the Middle East. He also asked for assurances that the U.S. would not only not start a new arms cycle between Israel and Egypt, but would also not engage in competition with any other power to supply Cairo with the weapons of war.

It is understood that Mr. Sharett has asked Nikolai Klimov, the Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Israel, to call on him tomorrow. The Premier is believed ready to question the representatives of each of the Communist countries represented here whether their governments have agreed to sell Egypt arms.

ISRAELIS WELCOME BRITISH-U. S. STATEMENT AGAINST ENCOURAGING ARMS RACE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Israel circles here today welcomed the statement by U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Britain's Foreign Minister Harold Macmillan in which they appealed to Russia against encouraging an armament race and expressed a desire "to correct the impression that the United States is going to offer arms to Egypt to forestall the Soviet Union in supplying them."

The Israel circles understand that Assistant Secretary of State George V. Allen, in his conversation yesterday with Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, made what amounted to a denial of press reports ascribing to the U. S. an intention to supply arms to Egypt. Mr. Allen is believed to have pointed out that both Israel and Egypt are eligible for reimbursible military aid under 1952 agreements with the U. S., but that Egypt had not been offered any special consideration beyond insignificant amounts which have been sold to each of the countries under these agreements in the past.

Israel circles, however, are understood to be studying the implications of the Egyptian-Czech arms agreement which they view gravely. They consider this agreement a new threat to stability in the Middle East and feel that now the Western Powers should move swiftly to repair the arms balance in the Middle East and to underwrite Israel security.

American and British reactions to the reported Soviet arms offer to Egypt were given to Russia's Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov last night by Messrs. Dulles and Macmillan. Mr. Molotov is reported to have listened to the Dulles-Macmillan reactions and promised to relay them to his government.

U. S. Zionists Express Concern Over Soviet Supply of Arms to Egypt

NEW YORK, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Concern over the reported agreement by Communist countries to supply arms to Egypt was expressed here today in a resolution adopted by the national executive committee of the Zionist Organization of America.

"Such arms, in large quantities and in heavy type suitable for aggressive warfare, in the hands of a government which has vowed to resume full-scale military action against Israel constitute a most serious threat to peace in the Middle East," the resolution said.

Noting, with satisfaction, "the categorical denial of a previously announced offer of American arms to Egypt on the part of our State Department," the resolution calls for a mutual security arrangement between the United States and Israel, stressing that "the stability which our government wishes to maintain in the Middle East can best be achieved" by such an arrangement and that "the new threat created by the Egyptian-Czech arms agreement represents the most cogent argument for the speedy conclusion of such an arrangement."

An appeal to the U. S. Government not to send any arms to Egypt was voiced today on behalf of all Zionist groups in this country by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, chairman of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs. The appeal noted "the fact that Egypt is now negotiating with the USSR for the purchase of arms should deter us from making weapons available to the Egyptian Government which has seen fit to take a strong anti-American position in public declarations in the United Nations and which has revealed itself to be oblivious to free world principle and defense."

"On the other hand, Egypt's acquisition of arms from the Soviet Union and the entry of the government into the Near East may be an ominous development. Against whom would these arms be used? Is there not real danger they would be used against Israel, a democracy completely committed to the free world."

Rabbi Bernstein's statement concluded: "We trust that our government will quickly reassure us that it does not plan to send arms to Egypt. A new and costly arms race would stimulate new tensions in that region and would completely subvert the constructive policy for peace and stability eloquently formulated by Secretary Dulles one month ago."

ISRAEL INCREASES DOLLAR RATE FOR ORGANIZATIONS, CANCELS SCRIP OPERATIONS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- The Israel Treasury announced today that effective October 2 all public organizations which bring dollars into the country will receive one and one-half pounds for each dollar instead of 1.3 pounds per dollar as previously.

In a parallel development, the Treasury announced deadlines for the ending of activities of gift and "scrip" companies operating abroad and in Israel under Israel Government license. The gift companies must end their activities overseas immediately and the "scrip" companies must cease operations abroad in 3 months. Arrangements will be made for the delivery of bonafide gift parcels from abroad for Israelis.

WEEK-OLD STRIKE OF GOVERNMENT-EMPLOYED ENGINEERS ENDS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Engineers and other professionals employed by the government or national institutions called off their week-old strike today to enable their "action committee" to start negotiations with the government and Histadrut-operated institutions for a new wage scale which will partly meet their demands.

MOSLEM NATIONALIST LEADER PUBLICLY REASSURES JEWS IN TUNISIA

TUNIS, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- High praise for the support given by Tunisian Jews to the Tunisian nationalist movement was sounded by Habib Bourguiba, leader of the Neo-Destour--nationalist--party in an address to a meeting at Sfax. He singled out Andre Barouch, director of the newspaper, "Petit Matin," whose activities, M. Bourguiba said, had consolidated Jewish-Moslem solidarity. "In this country," the nationalist leader said, "Jews are Tunisians in exactly the same way as Moslems are."

Meanwhile, the appointment to a Cabinet post of Jewish leader Albert Bessis has been welcomed by the Jewish community here. The Bey of Tunis, in his capacity as head of the state, has received a number of messages expressing gratitude from the heads of various Jewish communities. Local observers tended to see in M. Bessis' appointment an assurance that Tunisia will not follow the anti-Jewish line being urged on it by other Arab countries.

JEWISH COMMITTEE URGES U. S. TO AID NO. AFRICAN JEWISH MIGRATION

NEW YORK, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- The United States Government was strongly urged today by the American Jewish Committee to recommend financial assistance from the intergovernmental Committee of European Migration for moving Jewish migrants from areas of North Africa, particularly French Morocco. The Council of the international agency meets in Geneva Oct. 17-21.

In a message to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Irving M. Engel, president of the Committee, said his organization approved the recommendation of financial assistance made by the House Immigration Subcommittee, of which Rep. Francis E. Walter is chairman. Mr. Walter, who is now enroute to Israel at the Israel Government's invitation, will attend the Geneva meeting.

"The fundamental position of the American Jewish Committee is that the right to live peaceably as equal citizens in the countries which have been their homes not only for generations but for centuries should be guaranteed to the Jewish population of North Africa," Mr. Engel said in his message to Mr. Dulles. "While this is an aspect of AJC's general philosophy concerning human rights, it has also been part of AJC's position that these persons should be allowed to emigrate freely with their possessions should they desire to do so.

"Within these principles, the American Jewish Committee feels that it would be desirable to give every financial assistance possible to those persons who desire, for whatever reason, to emigrate," Mr. Engel concluded.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES REPORTS DECLINE OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- The past year has been one of "comparative calm" in the sphere of anti-Semitism and Fascism in Britain, the annual report of the Board of Deputies of British Jews states. The 1954 report has just been issued here.

The Board says that Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement has failed to stage a comeback and the open-air meetings of the Fascists have been poorly attended. The Board insists that the chief reason for this poor attendance is the fact that Jews have generally accepted its advice to stay away from the rallies and not to furnish the Fascists with publicity. At the same time, the report notes that the Board has protested to the London County Council against its granting the Union Movement and similar groups the use of the schools for meetings for "the propagation of doctrines which aim at overthrowing democracy."

The report says that there still exist--though with a very limited circulation and quite unknown to the majority of the English people--"several publications of a viciously anti-Semitic character" which base their policy on anti-Communism, anti-Americanism and on the "hoary fiction that the Jew is the power behind all of the world's trouble." It calls on the Jewish community to remain on its guard because the very fact that financing can still be found for such publications is "lamentable evidence of ingrained racial hatred."

The report also reveals that the Board's education committee conferred with a publisher of a schoolgirl's book which contained derogatory passages about Jews. The publisher agreed to halt further sales of the book, to accept for return a large order shipped to one of the best known lending libraries in Britain and to rewrite the offending passages for future editions.

CENTRAL JEWISH BODIES PRAY FOR EISENHOWER'S SPEEDY RECOVERY

NEW YORK, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- A statement expressing the "fervent and prayerful hope for the speedy and full recovery" of President Eisenhower was sent to the White House today by the American Zionist Council, which represents 750,000 American Zionists.

The Synagogue Council of America, representing all the three sections of the Jewish faith, issued a similar message which prayed that "healing may be vouchsafed to our President and that the Great Healer may bless the skill and effort of all who administer unto him."

FORMER NAZI ELECTED MAYOR OF MANNHEIM; NAZI VICTIM DEFEATED

MANNHEIM, Germany, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- The voters of this city of 280,000 have, by an absolute majority of 51.2 percent, elected Dr. Hans Reschke Mayor and rejected Social Democratic Bundestag deputy Werner Jacobi, even though Mannheim is normally a Social Democratic town with a substantial Social Democratic majority in the Municipal Council.

Herr Jacobi was held in Gestapo custody from 1937 to 1945 because of his stand for human dignity. Reschke, the candidate of an "Electoral Bloc"--consisting of the Christian Democratic Union, the Free Democratic Party, the German Party and the BHE refugee party--was an important government county administrator during the Nazi regime and member of a hand-picked party board working under the direct supervision of Martin Bormann, Hitler's deputy in charge of Nazi Party affairs.

PRESIDENT OF WEST GERMANY VISITS JEWISH INSTITUTIONS IN BERLIN

BERLIN, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Professor Theodor Heuss, President of the West German Republic, paid an official visit to the Jewish Hospital and to the Jewish old age home here, through both of which he was conducted by Heinz Galinski, head of the Berlin Jewish Community Council. He was accompanied by Berlin's Mayor Otto Suhr.

In the hospital, whose 300 patients are today for the most part non-Jews, Prof. Heuss singled out a number of the Jewish invalids for chats, in which he reminisced about the time his half-Jewish daughter-in-law was a patient there during the Nazi regime. She is a former concentration camp inmate whom his son, Dr. Ludwig Heuss, married after the war.

Prof. Heuss then proceeded to the home, where he asked to be shown the small synagogue. Ninety-two-year-old Anna Schmersenz handed him a flower bouquet. Stirred by the encounter with the 160 elderly residents, he expressed his confidence that, after the suffering they had undergone, they would be privileged to spend the remainder of their lives in freedom from fear.

Z. O. A. LEADERS BRIEFED ON ISSUES AFFECTING ISRAEL AT U. N. ASSEMBLY

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Members of the national executive committee of the Zionist Organization of America, in New York to attend a ZOA meeting, met here today to obtain firsthand information about issues affecting Israel at this year's General Assembly.

About 50 Zionist leaders convened this morning under the chairmanship of ZOA president Mortimer May and were given a picture of Israel's position by Mordecai R. Kidron, deputy chairman of the Israel delegation. Another speaker at the session, who gave the Zionists information about the Far East and Asia in general, was Dr. Frank P. Graham, United Nations mediator for India and Pakistan.

PREHISTORIC ALTAR DISCOVERED IN ISRAEL; INDICATES HUMAN SACRIFICES

TEL AVIV, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- A prehistoric altar has been discovered by Dr. M. Steckelis of the Hebrew University in a cave not far from the main road between Tel Aviv and Haifa. The altar consisted of several circles, one inside another. Other circular altars were pointed in all directions of the compass.

Axes and other tools dating to the middle Stone Age were also found at the site. The site of the new discovery is the same as the place where the same archaeologist discovered a 10,000 year-old skeleton 13 years ago. The bones of a bull and two human skulls were found in such a position as to have suggested sacrifices.

MAIMONIDES' WORKS APPEAR IN ARGENTINA IN SPANISH TRANSLATION

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- A complete Spanish-language edition of Moses Maimonides' "Guide for the Perplexed" has been published here in a three-volume edition. The translation, which was completed over a three-year period by Dr. Leon Dujovne, also carries an introduction and notes by the translator. The Maimonides work is published by S. Sigal, as a special effort to commemorate Maimonides Year--the 750th anniversary of his death.

ISRAEL BONDS TO BE SOLD IN LUXEMBURG; CAMPAIGN TO START NEXT MONTH

BRUSSELS, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Israel bonds will go on sale in the neighboring Duchy of Luxemburg at the end of October, it was announced here. Dr. David H. Orgler, representing the Israel Finance Ministry, has arrived in Luxemburg to make arrangements for the bond sales campaign there.

ISRAEL-TURKISH TRADE PACT RENEWED; TURKEY TO SELL WHEAT TO ISRAEL

ISTANBUL, Sept. 28. (JTA) -- Israel and Turkey have signed a new trade pact which calls for Israel to purchase 50,000 tons of Turkish wheat. In return, Turkey is expected to be able to purchase from Israel corporations goods amounting to \$2,500,000 in value. Delivery of the wheat is scheduled to begin immediately.