



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

560 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIII No. 2 - 38th year Wednesday, January 4, 1956

BRITISH CABINET MEETS ON MIDDLE EAST; WILL ISSUE WHITE PAPER ON ARMS

LONDON, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- The British Cabinet met in an extraordinary session today to consider the growing crisis in the Middle East and Britain's role in that situation. The Cabinet decided at that meeting to issue a White Paper detailing British arms shipments to the Middle East states, but turned thumbs down on an early recall of Parliament to debate the government's Middle East policy.

The Cabinet meeting followed a visit today by Liberal Party leader Clement Davies on Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden to discuss the problem of British arms supplies to the Middle East. This visit had been preceded by one yesterday by Hugh Gaitskell, recently elected leader of the Labor Party, who urged Sir Anthony to recall Parliament for a debate and to issue a White Paper to clarify Britain's role in the shipment of arms to Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries.

The Cabinet meeting was preceded by one at 10 Downing Street, residence of the Prime Minister, of Mr. Eden and the chiefs of all the British armed services. It is understood that the question of arms supplies to the Middle East was discussed. Tomorrow, the new Foreign Secretary, Selwyn Lloyd, will confer with eight British diplomats accredited to Middle East capitals who were hastily summoned to London this week.

After the meeting between Mr. Davies and Sir Anthony this morning, the Prime Minister's office issued a communique noting that Sir Anthony had pointed out to Mr. Davies that "control of the export of surplus war materials had been stringently revised last summer." The Prime Minister also drew Mr. Davies' attention to "earlier statements concerning this matter and to the fact that for the first time since 1945 licenses for the export of material which had been reconditioned and re-exported for military purposes had been suspended unless a guarantee was given that it would not be put to military uses."

Meanwhile, informed circles here stated that the British Government is satisfied that the new arrangements now in force will effectively prevent military equipment sold as surplus from reaching the countries of the Middle East from British sources. The British press has in recent weeks kept up a continuous drumfire of criticism over the export of "surplus" tanks and other materiel from Britain to Belgium where it is reconditioned and sent to Egypt.

U. S. "SURPLUS" ARMAMENTS REPORTED SOLD TO EGYPT IN EUROPE

LONDON, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- British newspapers, strongly critical of the sale of British surplus war goods to Egypt, reported today that American "surplus" armaments are also being shipped to Egypt. These weapons, the report said, are being handled by a large syndicate of European dealers in war surpluses. They include all types of combat materiel, the report stated.

According to the report, there are 50 places in West Germany and France where American "demilitarized" war materiel is being sold. One of the centers for this trade is in Heidelberg. A spokesman for the United States Army headquarters at Heidelberg was quoted as conceding that "demilitarized" war materiel is being sold, but when he was asked how these goods have been "demilitarized" he is quoted as having replied: "We don't know the answer."

Washington Confirms Sale of "Demilitarized" Weapons to Egypt

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- A Defense Department spokesman said today that the United States Army in Germany is authorized to sell "demilitarized" military equipment to Egypt under the same provisions governing the sale of such equipment in the continental United States to foreign nations.

He said that regulations required that weapons sold under these requirements could only be used for their "basic metal content" for scrap rather than military purposes. No statistics were available here as to the type or amount of American equipment sold to Egypt by the U. S. forces in Germany under "surplus" sales arrangements. Normal export permits required for munitions are not required for such "scrap" items, the spokesman made known.

JERUSALEM, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Israel Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, "in a scathing attack on Soviet Communist Party chief Nikita Khrushchev," said last night that Mr. Khrushchev's labelling Israel an aggressor in the Middle East had "imposed an additional heavy strain on relations with the Soviet Government."

Taking the Communist Party leader to task for his remarks at the Supreme Soviet in Moscow that Israel and "imperialists behind Israel" were threatening Arab nations' independence, Mr. Sharett declared in the Israel Parliament that the Khrushchev declaration had "aroused not only deep regret, grievous offense and bitter ridicule in Israel, but amazement and revulsion in the hearts of lovers of truth throughout the world."

Our demand for arms first and foremost," the Foreign Minister continued, "makes others think twice before attacking Israel. We absolutely reject allegations that arms for Israel means an arms race in the Middle East--there is no moral basis for such allegations." He also reported briefly on his conversations with Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov in Geneva and said that Mr. Molotov's replies to his requests for assurances that arms would not be funneled to the Arab states had "not satisfied" him.

Says Israel Will Continue to Seek Defensive Arms in U.S.

Mr. Sharett placed on the record the American public's sympathy for Israel's cause and its "lively awareness of our problems." Relating his impressions of the attitude of the public and governmental leaders obtained during his recent visit to the United States, he said there was no reason to fear American pressure on Israel to give up the port of Eilat, at the head of the Gulf of Akaba, but there might be continued pressure for other territorial concessions by Israel. Of Israel's arms request to the U.S., he said the reply had been delayed and that Israel would renew its efforts to obtain defensive weapons from Washington.

Together with Israel's demand for defensive arms, Mr. Sharett went on, "we must intensify our opposition to the arming of the Arab countries which, in blind hostility, refuse to make peace." He voiced "warnings" against further arming of the Arabs and against attempting to force Jordan into the Baghdad Pact and denounced the shipment of British arms to Egypt.

Israel's opposition to the arming of the Arabs did not constitute provocation, Mr. Sharett said. He warned that Israel stands ready to beat off any hostile campaign against it. However, he stressed that while the Jewish State was arming itself for defense, it would still make every effort for peace, although "we will not buy peace at the price of concessions that sap our ability to live and encourage further encroachment and destructive scheming against us."

He reported serious discussion in Washington with U.S. Government leaders on the problem of peace in the Middle East, as well as a discussion with the British. He rejected Prime Minister Eden as a mediator in the Middle East, noting that the British leader had disqualified himself because of his attempt to "fix in advance the nature of the settlement." Mr. Sharett did admit the necessity for concessions, but insisted they must be mutual.

Israel to Reject U.S. Demands for Territorial Concessions

He said that in Washington there had been discussion of the southern Negev and that "we stated unambiguously" that there could be no question of Israel renouncing any part of its territory and that it was "inconceivable" that Israel surrender Eilat or unbroken access to the port. While there is no reason to believe that the U.S. will pressure further on the Eilat question, he said, it is likely Israel will be asked to make other territorial concessions. "We are determined to reject them all," he concluded.

Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, who spoke before Mr. Sharett, told the Knesset that "there is only one certain method to prevent war in the Middle East--a speedy supply of defensive arms to Israel." He said Israel demands and has the right to arms equal to those received by Egypt.

Mr. Ben Gurion declared that the Czech-Egyptian arms deal had transformed the Middle East situation in the "gravest and most dangerous manner. The character and political objectives of the deal were clarified in a most explicit and unreserved manner by Khrushchev," he said in a reference to the Soviet leader's attack on Israel last week. He drew the attention of the deputies, Israel public opinion and the world to the "terrible danger" of the arms deal.

ISRAEL DISCLAIMS ALLEGATIONS OF TRUCE CHIEF; SUBMITS FACTS TO U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Israel today continued its counter-offensive against Syria's complaint to the United Nations Security Council by submitting to UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld another letter disclaiming allegations that during the recent clash on the shores of Lake Tiberias it had occupied as much Syrian territory as Gen. E. L. M. Burns, UN truce chief, has reported, or that it had been responsible for a number of civilian Syrian casualties. The Israeli letter was signed by Mordecai R. Kidron, deputy chief of the Israel delegation here.

POUJADISTS SECURE 49 SEATS IN NEW FRENCH PARLIAMENT; JEWS WORRIED

PARIS, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- The striking success of the Poujade movement in the French national elections of yesterday is causing some concern in liberal and Jewish circles in France today.

The Poujadists, who started from scratch two years ago as a protest movement against the system of taxation of small businessmen, emerged with at least 49 seats of the 544 elected by metropolitan France. In their election campaigns, Poujadist candidates centered a good deal of fire on Pierre Mendès-France, the Jewish ex-Premier of France, and anti-Semitic propaganda featured largely at all their election rallies.

The strong arm and disruptive tactics of the Poujadists at election rallies of rival parties were all too reminiscent of the early days of the Nazis and other Fascist parties.

JEWS IN ATLAS MOUNTAIN REGION OF MOROCCO REPORTED IN DIFFICULTIES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Delegations from Jewish villagers in serious economic difficulties in the Atlas Mountain region of Morocco are arriving in Casablanca to seek aid from Jewish organizations, the Jewish Agency reported here today.

Information reaching the Agency spells out the near tragic situation of Jews in the smaller towns and villages of Morocco who are the victims of raids by their Moslem neighbors in the same towns. Some have been beaten, some have lost their homes and shops in attacks by mob and fire. In many cases, where there has been little or no open violence, the Jews are the victims of an economic boycott by the Arabs.

U.S. ORTHODOX LEADERS TO INVESTIGATE JEWISH SITUATION IN MOROCCO

LONDON, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- The World Agudat Israel Organization has delegated two American Agudist leaders, Rabbi S. Elberg and Michael Tress, to fly to Morocco and investigate the situation of Jews there, Agudah headquarters here announced today. The decision to send the delegation to Morocco was taken at the recently concluded meeting of the Agudist world executive at Zurich.

That same meeting also went on record as asking for "cessation of the arms race and for the despatch of arms to Israel to assure its defense." It was decided to approach London and Washington, in advance of the January 31 meeting of President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Eden, to urge that every possible attempt be made to pacify the Middle East.

VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY PROTESTS RELEASE OF AUSTRIAN WAR CRIMINALS

VIENNA, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Minister of Justice Dr. Alfred Kasper has been asked by the president of the Jewish community here, Dr. Emil Maurer, to explain why the Austrian Government has released H. Sanitzer, a convicted war criminal, as well as several policemen responsible for atrocities committed against Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland.

In intervening, Dr. Maurer told the Justice Minister that Austrian Jewry was highly alarmed by the release of the criminals. He told Dr. Kasper that he wanted to see the legal documentation for the release of the war criminals. The Justice Minister was reported to have promised that he would send a written reply to the questions, but so far that reply has not been received.

U.N. BODY STARTS THREE-WEEK PARLEY ON RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS BIAS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Reports on racial and religious discrimination all over the world will be discussed here for the next three weeks before the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities which opened its eighth session here today.

Judge Philip Halpern, of Buffalo, active in Jewish communal leadership in this country, is the United States representative on the Subcommittee. Members of the group serve in their individual capacities as experts, but are approved for membership by their respective governments. Eleven other countries besides the U. S. A. are represented on the Subcommittee.

Max Sorensen, noted Danish political scientist, was re-elected to the chairmanship of the group at its first session this morning, while Mohamed Awad, of Egypt, was re-elected vice chairman. The principal report to be discussed at this year's session--comprising the first global study of discrimination in education--has been prepared by Charles D. Ammoun, of Lebanon.

At the opening session, a proposal by Judge Halpern was adopted, putting the Subcommittee on record as desirous of making use of the work of the United Nations advisory services in the field of human rights, which were established last month by a vote of the General Assembly.

"ARYANISM" STILL BASIS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN MANY U. S. COLLEGE FRATERNITIES

NEW YORK, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- Although restrictive membership clauses are disappearing from constitutions, America's college fraternities are still choosing their members on the basis of "Aryanism," it is charged in a survey conducted by the National Committee on Fraternities in Education and published today.

Written by Dr. Alfred McGlung Lee, president of the NCFE and chairman of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at Brooklyn College, the survey discloses that most college fraternities--and sororities--continue to accept and reject applicants on grounds of race, religion and national origin. The survey encompassed 125 leading colleges which have twelve or more fraternities on their campuses.

"Although it is disappearing from formal documents," Dr. Lee reports, "Aryanism has not died out; in most cases it is very much alive even though underground. To the extent that Aryanism persists in them, social fraternities represent a basic threat to democracy in the United States and to the effectiveness of American leadership in world affairs. If men's and women's fraternities will rid themselves of this disastrous theory and practice, they will contribute to the development of democratic leadership."

The NCFE, which includes prominent educators throughout the United States, finds only 10 of the 61 leading national men's fraternities and only one of the 32 leading women's sororities continue to retain formal religious and/or racial restriction. "Very quietly--and, in all but one case, without written statements of policy--sororities segregate themselves even more effectively than fraternities do," Dr. Lee asserts.

Based on the trend revealed in the survey, only two or three national fraternities will still have discriminatory clauses by 1960, according to Dr. Lee, who expresses satisfaction that "among the 61 men's national fraternities in the National Interfraternity Conference, the number with discriminatory clauses fell from 25 to 10 between 1948 and 1954."

Dr. Lee points out that although student and faculty opinion is preponderantly against discrimination, only eight college administrations have taken positive steps against discriminatory membership practices in fraternities. "College administrators thus do not, in most cases, use their institutional authority to prevent the nationals from perpetuating biased practices in local chapters," he explains.

HADASSAH LEADERS COMMEMORATE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF YOUTH ALIYAH

NEW YORK, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- More than 600 Hadassah leaders from all sections of the United States assembled in the grand ballroom of the Plaza Hotel today to commemorate the 22nd anniversary of Youth Aliyah, the child rescue and rehabilitation movement of which Hadassah is the official American representative.

Since its inception in 1934, Youth Aliyah has resettled in Israel more than 74,000 Jewish children, the majority of them homeless and orphaned, from all parts of the world. Speakers at the conference, which was dedicated to the rescue of Jewish children from North Africa, included Henry L. McCarthy, New York City Commissioner of Welfare; Semah Cecil Hyman, Israel Consul General in New York, and Mrs. Serge Koussevitzky, honorary co-chairman of Music for Israel.

UNITED HIAS TO PRESENT AWARD TO PRODUCER OF "DIARY OF ANNE FRANK"

NEW YORK, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- The board of directors of United Hias Service has voted to present the organization's 1955 Award of Honor to Kermit Bloomgarden, producer of "The Diary of Anne Frank," current Broadway dramatic hit which forcefully portrays the Nazi persecution of Jews, it was announced today by Ben Touster, president. The award, an illuminated and engrossed scroll, will be presented at the United Hias annual meeting, at the Hotel Biltmore, on February 5.

In a letter informing Mr. Bloomgarden of the honor to be bestowed upon him, Mr. Touster said: "By exhibiting to human beings everywhere the inhuman face of the Nazi reign of terror in such graphic form that its memory will never be erased from the minds of all right-thinking human beings, and thus stressing the importance of taking the most proper and effective steps to prevent a recurrence of this bestial tyranny, you have performed an enormously vital service, the value of which can never be overestimated, and for this you deserve the thanks of all humanitarian peoples."

B'NAI B'RITH ESTABLISHES LODGE IN VENEZUELA; 25TH IN SOUTH AMERICA

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. (JTA) -- A B'nai B'rith lodge, named after Simon Bolivar, the great liberator of South America, has been organized in Caracas, capital of Venezuela, it was announced here today by B'nai B'rith headquarters.

"Loja Simon Bolivar," as the new lodge will be called, is the 25th B'nai B'rith lodge established in South America in 25 years. There is at least one B'nai B'rith lodge in every South American country, but those countries where more than one lodge exist are Argentina and Brazil, with five each; Chile, four; Colombia, Bolivia and Uruguay, two.