



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Replication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIII No. 28 - 38th year

Thursday, February 9, 1956

## "BIG THREE" TALKS ON AVERTING ARAB-ISRAEL WAR OPENED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- American-British-French talks on how to prevent the outbreak of a second round of warfare between the Arab countries and Israel started at the State Department today. It is expected that they will continue for several weeks.

At the same time, President Eisenhower told a press conference today that everything he could do constitutionally would be done to prevent an Arab-Israel war. Asked about the possibilities of averting a Middle East conflict through tripartite or United Nations action, the President cited the joint communique issued by himself and British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden last week.

Informed circles said that the British Ambassador and State Department officials who, together with the French Ambassador, participated today in the opening session of the tripartite talks, urged that private negotiations be started with Israel and the Arab states in the "hope of compromise" on both sides. The British and American representatives stressed the need for strengthening the United Nations' truce supervision organization in Palestine.

(The question of Israel's application for defensive arms from the Western Powers will not be among the questions discussed in Washington by representatives of the United States, Britain and France, it was indicated in the British Parliament today by Anthony Nutting, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. In response to a question by Labor Party chairman Hugh Gaitskell whether the problem of supplying arms to Israel would be discussed at the tripartite talks, Mr. Nutting said that this point was not on the agenda.)

It was learned here today that stationing of American or British troops on the borders between Israel and the Arab countries is not seriously envisaged by the tripartite conferees, despite widespread reports that military forces of the Western Powers might be summoned to action in the event of trouble.

## AMERICAN POLICY ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE PROVOKES DEBATE IN HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Republican and Democratic members of Congress, on the floor of the House, called upon the U.S. Government today to permit Israel to acquire arms in this country. Of the more than 20 speakers, only two expressed views unfavorable to Israel. Many of the Congressmen who did not have an opportunity to express their views on the floor during the three-hour debate announced they would have such views published in the Congressional Record.

The two who took a stand against Israel are Rep. Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia, and Rep. Arthur Winstead, of Mississippi, both Democrats. The former alleged that American arms sale to Israel were not in the interest of the United States, and the latter urged that Israel "go back" to the 1947 United Nations partition borders.

In a powerful reply, House Majority Leader John W. McCormack, Massachusetts Democrat, told the two dissenting Democrats that American national interests were more identified with Israel than with Egypt. He pointed out that Egypt had identified its "national interest" with the Kremlin and that it was Egypt and Russia, not Israel, that brought about the present arms imbalance. He described Israel as a "real democracy" which had taken action consistent with peace. He said that an imbalance in arms already existed and called for arms sales to Israel to redress the balance.

The McCormack address highlighted demands for arms sales to Israel, but Rep. Edna F. Kelly, a New York Democrat and member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, took leadership of the session. Mrs. Kelly made the opening speech and throughout the session answered questions and offered information favorable to Israel's cause. She drew commendation from virtually all other participants in the day's discussion.

Mrs. Kelly made it plain that Israel should not be called upon to sacrifice territory. Referring to Rep. Winstead's demand that Israel retreat to the 1947 partition lines, Mrs. Kelly said the boundary question, and other questions, could be settled at the peace table but that the Arabs refuse to talk peace.

Rep. Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican, reported on a meeting of a number of Republican Congressmen with Secretary of State Dulles earlier this week. He defended Mr. Dulles' position but nevertheless said he (Scott) still favored arms for Israel.

## ISRAEL CABINET MEETS TO CONSIDER TWO-DAY-OLD STRIKE OF PROFESSIONALS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet met in an extraordinary session today to consider the consequences of the two-day-old strike of doctors, engineers and other professionals employed by the government and the national institutions and universities. The Cabinet also wrestled with the problems raised by the Progressive Party, which supports the strikers, quitting the coalition yesterday.

Meanwhile, senior civil servants, who joined the strike yesterday, returned to their desks today. Tomorrow, all civil servants will stage a two-hour protest walkout because the government has been negotiating directly with the striking doctors and academic personnel rather than through the Civil Service Association.

The Progressives' withdrawal from the Cabinet has not endangered the government's Parliamentary working majority, which still numbers 71 deputies in the 120-seat House. However, this crisis, paralleling as it does, the strike, has disturbed the Mapai Party, leader of the coalition. Thus far Mapai circles refuse to discuss naming a successor to Dr. Pinchas Rosen, Progressive leader and Justice Minister until he resigned last night.

When Dr. Rosen quit, he told Premier David Ben Gurion that his action was in protest over the government's reversal of a decision to grant the professionals as much of a raise as a government investigating commission had recommended. Meanwhile, Histadrut, the Israel federation of labor, has issued a statement condemning the strike as "anti-government" and "anti-Histadrut." It had no visible effect as far as bringing the strikers back to work was concerned.

## CANADIAN PARLIAMENT APPROVES SENDING ARMS TO MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES

OTTAWA, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government's policy of shipping arms to the Middle East was upheld in Commons yesterday when a Conservative motion of non-confidence in the Liberal Government of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent was defeated 140-79. The Conservatives had accused the government of "trafficking in tools of death."

Meanwhile, at a press conference here yesterday, British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden reiterated his "conciliation and compromise" advice to Israel and the Arab states. Sir Anthony also repeated his suggestions for augmenting the size of Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns' United Nations truce observer staff and for the creation of a two-kilometre buffer zone between Israel and Egypt which would be administered by UN observers.

A Foreign Office official accompanying the Eden party told newsmen that Britain had no intention of forcing the Eden proposals on either the Israelis or the Arabs. The spokesman noted that the British proposal called for unarmed UN observers to be sent to the two-kilometre zone, but at his press conference Sir Anthony said that the decision on arming the observers should be left to Gen. Burns.

## MORE U. N. OBSERVERS IS NO SOLUTION TO BORDER TENSION, ISRAEL SAYS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Israel rejected last night proposals by British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to "solve" border tension by stationing augmented forces of United Nations observers on the borders between Israel and the Arab states and by having Israel and Egypt each withdraw their forces a distance of one kilometre from the border thus creating a one and one-quarter mile wide strip to be administered by the UN truce supervisory organization.

In a statement by the Foreign Ministry, Israel insisted that Sir Anthony's recent remarks in Ottawa and Secretary Dulles' statement at a press conference yesterday were attempts to divert public attention from the "real danger threatening peace" in the Middle East. That danger, the Foreign Ministry said, was the military imbalance created by arms shipments to the Arab states. The border problem, with which the Anglo-American statesmen are so concerned, the Ministry characterized as "limited."

Specifying its objections to the border proposals voiced in Ottawa and Washington, the Foreign Ministry noted that it would require the abdication by the states concerned of their rights and duties to protect their borders and their citizens. In addition, increasing the number of UN observers, whose functions under the armistice pacts are limited to investigation of border incidents, would not increase their effectiveness in discharging such functions.

The only serious border trouble now consists of the practice of Egyptian troops opening fire on Israel units without the slightest provocation, the Foreign Ministry said. The solution for this problem, it held, would be for the Egyptian high command to issue a strict cease-fire and to enforce its observance.

## SYRIA "WARNS" STATE DEPT. OF ISRAEL'S PLANS ON JORDAN WATERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Syrian Ambassador Farid Zeineddine visited the State Department today to call attention to an allegedly forthcoming Israel "military action" to divert Jordan River water at Bnot Yaacov in the demilitarized zone. In a 90-minute talk with George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Mr. Zeineddine warned that Jordan diversion by Israel would alter the present military situation.

HUNDREDS OF JEWS REPORTED ARRESTED IN SOVIET UNION, CZECHOSLOVAKIA

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Purge trials of Jews in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia are being prepared by Communist secret police, the Associated Press reported today from Berlin. It said that this information emanates from "sources with contact behind the Iron Curtain."

The Moscow trials are slated for next month with the Prague trials to follow, the report stated, adding that hundreds of Jews have been arrested and are held in Moscow and Prague prisons.

The move is intended to discredit pro-Israel elements inside the Communist ranks in order to bolster Russian standing in the Arab world, the report asserted. The Communist leadership will seek to prove that Jews worked for Israel against Communist interests. Hungary and Rumania were reported preparing similar measures. But Poland, reportedly, is resisting the purge campaign, holding that it would be a mistake.

EISENHOWER ASKS CONGRESS TO CHANGE NATIONAL ORIGINS QUOTA SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower asked Congress today to re-examine the national origins quota system, facilitate the entry of 220,000 aliens annually, and to revise other aspects of the immigration laws.

Mr. Eisenhower pointed out that "the immigration laws presently require aliens to specify race and ethnic classification in visa applications. These provisions are unnecessary and should be repealed." This provision is of considerable interest to Jewish organizations which have at times been confronted with situations in which U. S. consuls have insisted that the immigration law required that Jews identify themselves as such on visa applications.

The President made his views known in a long-awaited message to Congress. He expressed belief that the annual quota could be boosted by about 65,000 to admit 220,000 aliens because of the nation's growth and economic condition. His message dealt mainly with recommendations for revision of provisions in the 1952 McCarran-Walter Act. The Act was passed over President Truman's veto. Leaders of both political parties have urged revision. But Congressional action during this session is regarded as extremely doubtful.

"Experience in the post-war world demonstrates that the present national origins method of admitting aliens needs to be re-examined, and a new system adopted which will admit aliens within allowable numbers according to new guidelines and standards," the President said.

Pending completion of such a study by Congress, the President said it was essential to take interim measures "to alleviate as much as possible inequities in the present quota system." Accordingly he recommended immediate enactment of proposals by raising the ceiling to 220,000 quota numbers annually. He said the additional quota numbers should be distributed among countries in proportion to their actual immigration to this country since the establishment of the quota system in 1924. Other steps to liberalize the flow of immigration were:

1. A recommendation that Congress set aside from the increased annual quota 5,000 numbers to be made available for admission of aliens without regard for nationality or national origin. This would pertain to persons with special skills and cultural or technical qualifications.
2. Quota numbers unused by countries to which they are allocated to be made available for use elsewhere.
3. Enactment of legislation to permit utilization of unused quota numbers in the succeeding year by pooling unused quota numbers.
4. Elimination of inequities imposed by mortgaging of quotas resulting from issuance of visas under the Displaced Persons Act and other special acts.

MRS. BENTWICH, NOTED JEWISH WOMAN, TO HEAD LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- Mrs. Helen Bentwich, civic leader who has long been active in Jewish affairs, will be the next chairman of the London County Council. Her nomination for the post by the Laborite majority of the Council was announced today. Mrs. Bentwich is the wife of Professor Norman Bentwich, attorney general in the Mandatory Government of Palestine and now prominent in the work of the British Friends of the Hebrew University.

Mrs. Bentwich's main interest on the Council has been education, and she has served as chairman of its education committee, as well as vice chairman. She is 64, and has served on the L. C. C. for 19 years. In addition to her active interest in Jewish affairs she is a member of four public bodies, and a member of the board of governors of four educational institutions. The Council has had a Jewish chairman once before, when Victor Mishcon, an attorney, held that post year before last.

## HEBREW UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS REVEAL CONTENTS OF DEAD SEA SCROLL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The contents of the last of the seven Dead Sea scrolls, heretofore known as the "Book of Lamech," was made public here at a press conference yesterday by Dr. Yigal Yadin, noted archaeologist and Dr. Benjamin Mazar, president of the Hebrew University, which acquired the ancient scroll last year through the generosity of S. D. Gottesman, an American Jewish philanthropist, and with the aid of the American Fund for Israel Institutions.

The name Lamech is mentioned in the Book of Genesis as the father of Noah. The part of the old scroll that has been deciphered shows it to be an Aramic version of several chapters of the Book of Genesis interwoven with stories and legends around the lives of the Patriarchs, Dr. Yadin revealed.

Despite the poor condition of the scroll, patient and painstaking work saved it, and in spite of the complete decay of most of the writing on the outer and inner pages the innermost part of the scroll has been preserved in excellent condition, Prof. Yadin said. The University now has four complete pages of the scroll, five pages with considerable sections preserved and an additional number of pages on which only a number of lines or single words are left, beside a number of pages which are completely illegible.

The last three complete pages deal with Sarah, wife of the Patriarch Abraham, and contain descriptions of Sarah's beauty. The scroll also deals with Lot's departure from Sodom and contains a rich and original description of the topography of the area. A third story in the scroll deals with the war of the five kings and contains a vivid description together with full names and descriptions which differ from previous versions.

The language of the scroll is in an Aramaic style resembling that of the Book of Daniel. The script of the scroll is similar to that in such scrolls as "The War of the Sons of Light Against the Sons of Darkness." Although the actual age of the scroll cannot be determined without further research, it is believed that on the basis of the above evidence the Hebrew University's scroll is probably 2,000 years old.

## TOMB OF HASMONEAN PERIOD UNEARTHED IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- An ancient tomb of "extraordinary importance" was uncovered in Jerusalem today by workers digging foundations for a new house in the center of the city. Archaeologists from the Hebrew University and the government archaeological service, who inspected the tomb, estimate its age at between 1,900 and 2,000 years.

The tomb was cut into solid rock and then an anteroom and two chambers were constructed in plaster. On two walls of the anteroom which have already been uncovered can clearly be seen drawings of Roman triremes and Roman and Greek inscriptions which have not yet been deciphered.

In the other two rooms are human bones and various artifacts including coins of the Hasmonean area, on which the estimates of the age of the tomb are based. On the walls are a number of inscriptions including some in ancient Hebrew, which also await deciphering. There are signs that the tomb was looted in ancient times, and the archaeologists guess that Roman legionnaires besieging Jerusalem may have broken into the chambers.

## DR. RABI HONORED BY HADASSAH; LAUDS ISRAEL'S SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- The 1956 Henrietta Szold Award for Distinguished Service was conferred today upon Dr. Isador I. Rabi, chairman of the General Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission and Nobel Prize winner in nuclear physics, at the closing session of the mid-winter conference of Hadassah. More than 1,000 Hadassah leaders, representing the organization's 300,000 members in 1,200 groups and chapters throughout the United States, attended the presentation ceremony at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel.

Referring in his acceptance speech, to Israel's keen interest in the development of atomic energy for peaceful uses, Dr. Rabi stated: "Many of the smaller countries like Israel have developed active programs aimed at the harnessing of atomic energy for industrial and scientific uses. Israel, with its supply of able scientists, and active scientific program, has an opportunity for service in the Middle East. It has already perfected a process of producing heavy water for atomic power plants which has been adopted in Europe, and has expressed a desire to participate actively in any international-exchange agency or program for the peaceful uses of atomic energy."

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR FROM GERMANY SINGS HEBREW SONGS IN U. S. APPEARANCE

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA) -- A German children's choir sang five modern Hebrew songs tonight in its first radio appearance in the United States. The choir, trained by the North German Radio Network in Hamburg and the only non-Jewish children's group with a repertoire of Jewish songs, was heard over station WCXR on a program called "Music from Germany." The Israeli songs included examples of both liturgical and secular music.