



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIII No. 37 - 38th year Wednesday, February 22, 1956

PROBE OF U.S. MID-EAST ARMS POLICY STARTED; STAND ON ISRAEL INDICATED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Eighteen additional tanks for Saudi Arabia, for which export permits are pending, may be held up until an equitable Middle Eastern arms policy can be worked out, it was revealed today by Rep. T. E. Morgan, head of a House subcommittee which met with Assistant Secretary of State George V. Allen in executive session for three hours. Rep. Morgan made it clear that he did not think U. S. arms sales for Israel would be forthcoming until an equitable arrangement emerges.

Asked if he was satisfied with the State Department's "on again-off again" policy toward Saudi Arabia, Rep. Morgan said he was not fully satisfied with the Department's explanation. He added that he was satisfied that the United States is treating and will treat the Arab states and Israel equally. Asked if he thought the State Department could formulate an equitable arrangement, Rep. Morgan said the State Department would have to answer that.

In its meeting with Mr. Allen today the subcommittee received a general review of the Middle East situation with particular reference to arms shipments to that area. Mr. Allen confined his remarks to shipments that has been made thus far. He deferred any answers as to future shipments until Secretary of State Dulles is consulted. Mr. Dulles will appear before the House Foreign Affairs Committee next week on this issue.

The subcommittee explored with Mr. Allen the possibility of relaxing tension throughout the area. This included the development of the Jordan Valley and other water resources. Mr. Allen said he was "happy to have had the opportunity to appear before the Middle Eastern subcommittee." He said the meeting was "full, frank and certainly as far as I am concerned, friendly." Asked whether he discussed the Israel arms application Mr. Allen replied: "You can be sure that every question was thrown out during the three hour meeting."

Secretary of State Dulles will appear Friday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in response to its demand that he explain the Saudi Arabian tank deal. On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Dulles will deliver a 30-minute policy speech for the Philadelphia Bulletin Forum on the Middle East arms situation. Under Secretary of State Herbert Hoover Jr., will also appear before the Senate committee on Friday.

It was learned, meanwhile, that six B-26 four-engine bombers have already been shipped to Saudi Arabia. Lincoln White, State Department press officer, disclosed today that a number of applications for arms for the Middle East have been approved but have not yet gone out. He said, however, that these came within the \$16,000,000 figure cited in the State Department's statement last week.

Mr. White said the State Department had no answer to Israel's request for arms and this was the status of the matter. He stated he had no information on Israel's supplementary request of last December for naval equipment, principally anti-submarine equipment, and added that he did not know whether a reply to Israel on arms could be expected soon.

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY CLAIMS BALANCE OF ARMS EXISTS IN MID-EAST

LONDON, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd will visit Israel early next month, after consultations in various Middle East capitals en route to and from SEATO meeting in Karachi, Pakistan, he announced in Commons today.

He also told the House that the British Government still upholds the right of a state to acquire legitimate defense arms and that as far as he is concerned the balance of arms has been maintained in the Middle East despite the recent increased flow of weapons to the Arab states. Mr. Lloyd rejected suggestions that the Soviet Union be invited to join the Western tripartite in attempting to keep the Middle East at peace. He revealed that United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld has still not commented on a suggestion by Mr. Lloyd that UN forces be used along the Arab-Israeli frontiers to keep the peace. Asked whether the United States Government had consulted the British Government before imposing or lifting its ban on the shipment of 18 army tanks to Saudi Arabia last week, the Foreign Secretary said Britain had been consulted.

DISSENSION WITHIN ISRAEL CABINET FORESEEN ON ARMS ACQUISITION POLICY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Growing dissension within the Israel coalition cabinet over Israel's foreign policy was foreseen today in an article by the diplomatic correspondent of the Jerusalem Post.

The correspondent reports that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Mapai, leading party in the coalition, to answer questions by its leftwing Socialist partners, the Mapam and Achdut Avodah, why the government has not asked the Eastern European states for arms in view of United States reluctance to supply Israel with defensive weapons. The Mapam and Achdut Avodah believe that such a request by Israel would prove whether or not the Czech-Egyptian arms deal was meant as a hostile act against Israel.

There is a theory current, the diplomatic correspondent says, that some Western quarters would not altogether object to a deal between Israel and the Communist bloc states which would tend to show that the Soviet Union is also a friend of Israel. This, the correspondent concludes, "is a degree of Machiavellianism that will not easily gain credence."

Meanwhile, Premier David Ben Gurion called yesterday for 150,000 volunteers, members of the Histadrut, to give up six working days of their vacation for building fortifications along the borders. He stressed the urgent need for a million man-days to build shelters and fortified points along the borders and in the new immigrant settlements established nearby.

The Premier, speaking to an emergency meeting of Histadrut and labor council leaders, announced his decision to draft Druze into the army. This decision followed requests by Druze chieftains that their men be taken into the Israeli Army on a basis of equality and that they be accepted as fully equal citizens in all respects. The Druze live along the Lebanese and Syrian frontiers where military requirements have restricted civilian movement.

ISRAEL AND SYRIA PREPARE LISTS OF WAR PRISONERS FOR EXCHANGE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- A United Nations spokesman was optimistic today over the likelihood of an exchange of prisoners of war between Israel and Syria. The spokesman told newsmen tonight that both governments were preparing lists of prisoners they now hold in preparation for an exchange.

The UN spokesman said that progress on this matter was made yesterday during a meeting between UN truce chief Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett. He added that the problem of easing border tension between Israel and Syria was under "active consideration by both parties," but refused to specify what proposals had been made or accepted by either side.

Five Israeli soldiers were wounded last night when the truck in which they were riding hit a landmine in the vicinity of Nir Itzhak, opposite the Gaza strip. The truck was a total loss. This is the first time in months that Israelis have suffered casualties from Egyptian infiltrators' activities, despite almost continuous attack in the Gaza strip area.

FRANCE PERMITS SHIPMENT OF HEAVY ARMAMENTS TO LEAVE FOR EGYPT

PARIS, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- "An important quantity" of tanks and heavy guns left Marseilles last Saturday for Egypt, it was confirmed here today despite the fact that the French Government announced earlier this week that it was banning arms shipment to Egypt.

It is understood that the ban concerns only light arms that might find their way from Egypt to anti-French rebels in North Africa, but not to heavy armaments which the Egyptian Government is now buying in preparation for war with Israel.

The Egyptian Ambassador to Paris conferred this week with Premier Guy Mollet and Foreign Minister Christian Pineau. It was indicated in French circles that Mr. Mollet told the Cairo envoy that "energetic steps" would be taken by France if Egypt did not show "concrete steps" of pro-French friendship within the next 15 days.

BEN GURION INVITES FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO RETURN TO CABINET

JERUSALEM, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion today invited former Minister of Justice Pinhas Rosen for a conference to discuss the return of Dr. Rosen to the Cabinet.

Dr. Rosen, representing the Progressive Party in the Cabinet, resigned from the coalition government ten days ago because he disagreed with the government's handling of the strike of physicians and other professionals. Now that the strike has been settled, it is predicted that the Progressives will resume participation in the government.

AUSTRIA AND ISRAEL TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS; OPEN EMBASSIES

VIENNA, Feb. '22. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government announced today that it would establish diplomatic relations with the State of Israel. An Israel Embassy will be established in Vienna while an Austrian Embassy will be opened in Tel-Aviv.

Mayor Franz of Vienna today awarded the honorary medal of the city to Theodore Feder, formerly director of the Joint Distribution Committee in Austria. The mayor praised Mr. Feder and the JDC for "helping heal the wounds inflicted by -- National Socialism."

GENERAL ZIONIST CONFEDERATION OPPOSES NEGOTIATIONS WITH HERUT

NEW YORK, Feb. 22, (JTA) -- The World Confederation of General Zionists, at a meeting of its executive here, adopted a resolution stating that "the negotiations now going on between the General Zionist Party and the Herut Party in Israel are inconsistent with the existence and purpose of the Confederation."

The meeting, at which issues confronting the forthcoming World Zionist Congress were discussed, decided to hold a two-day conference of the World Confederation in Jerusalem on the eve of the opening of the World Zionist Congress which is to start its session there on April 24. The conference will attempt to crystallize the position of the Confederation on the problems which the Congress is to take up.

Joseph Serlin, representing the General Zionist Party of Israel, and Moshe Kol, representing the Progressive Party in Israel, came from Israel to attend the Confederation meetings in New York, which were presided over by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president. Others who participated were: Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Mrs. Rose Halprin, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Mrs. Rebecca Shulman, Mortimer May, Mrs. Judith Epstein, Jacques Torczyner, Mrs. Miriam Freund, Abraham Goodman, Mrs. A. Tulin, A. Krumbein, L. Ilutovich, and Fred Monosson.

BAVARIAN BROADCAST REVEALS REVIVAL OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN GERMANY

BONN, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- A broadcast on the Bavarian Radio detailing evidence of a revival of anti-Semitism and Nazism throughout West Germany has shocked many Germans. It was reported here today:

The broadcaster, Helmut Hammerschmidt, in a 45-minute broadcast recounted some of the results of his research during the past three months. In that period, he told his German listeners, there had been innumerable expressions of Nazi sentiments in court rulings, in 40 newspaper articles, in eight new books and in some 200 public addresses.

He cited scores of Germans in influential and lesser positions who were spreading Nazi doctrine. He named one Munich schoolteacher who told her pupils that the letter "J" stood for the "Jews who killed Jesus."

Senior officials employed by the Nazi war criminals Heinrich Himmler, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Joseph Goebbels and Alfred Rosenberg were "creeping quietly back into government departments, provincial parliaments and universities," Herr Hammerschmidt charged in his broadcast. He listed a variety of Nazi officials, writers and military men who were drawing good-sized pensions despite their criminal records.

400 U. S. JEWISH SOLDIERS HOLD TORAH-CONVOCATION IN GOERING'S HOUSE

BERCHTESGADEN, Germany, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- More than 400 Jewish GI's and officers, from U. S. Army and Air Force units throughout Europe, gathered in this favorite town of Hitler's for two four-day "Torah Convocations" devoted to a better understanding of Judaism. The convocations were held in the former hunting lodge of top Nazi Hermann Goering.

This building was put at the disposal of chaplains of all denominations as a "religious retreat house" for servicemen by the U. S. Army. The two Jewish retreats were the 100th and 101st to be held in this scenic mountain spot. They had been arranged by Rabbi Oscar M. Lifshutz, who is the Jewish chaplain for the Munich area. Chaplain Lifshutz served as retreat master and, together with Chaplains Edward Ellenbogen and Harry Z. Schreiner made up the "faculty".

Prayer services alternated with an Israeli film festival, lectures with religious workshops on the forthcoming Passover festival, a family clinic for married personnel with lectures on Jewish ethics or "customs and ceremonies". The former kitchens of the gluttonous Nazi Field Marshal adhered to strict kashruth during the two retreats.

JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADER DECORATED BY WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT

MANNHEIM, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The Federal Cross of Merit has been conferred on Leo Alsbacher, a resident of Ludwigshafen and honorary president of the Jewish Communities in the Rhine-Palatinate, on the occasion of his 81st birthday.

U.S. TO DONATE \$4,000,000 IN LOCAL CURRENCY TO ISRAEL INSTITUTIONS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The United States Government has decided to distribute some six and a half million pounds--the counterpart of \$4 million accruing from sale of books and publications sold in Israel under the American media guarantee program--to institutions of higher learning in Israel, it was announced here today.

The announcement was made by Bernard Katzen, special representative of the State Department. He said the money would be donated as a gift to institutions like the Hebrew University, Bar Ilan and Tel Aviv universities, Haifa Technion and Weizmann Institute. He also voiced the hope that the settlements in Israel would accept his suggestion to permit the establishment of American cultural centers in the settlements.

PROF. ZEITLIN DISPUTES VALUE OF DEAD SEA SCROLLS FOR JUDAISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- The Dead Sea Scrolls "have no value for Judaism or the history of early Christianity", Dr. Solomon Zeitlin, professor of Rabbinic Literature at Dropsie College, said last night at a lecture here. He asserted that the scrolls are not of great antiquity, but were written in the Middle Ages by "none too literate writers and hence have no value for Judaism or early Christianity."

Dr. Zeitlin based his argument on his study of "the internal evidence" in the scrolls. He pointed out that the spelling of various Hebrew words and terms which occur in the scrolls did not come into usage among the Jews until the Middle Ages. He also indicated that the scrolls contained references to Jewish laws which were not in vogue during the pre-Christian period but were enacted centuries later.

"If one assigned to Shakespeare the authorship of a newly-found manuscript wherein there were words like 'Fabian', 'telephone', 'automobile', 'New Deal', and reference was made to laws which were enacted in the Victorian age, would any student of English literature regard the manuscript as that of Shakespeare?" Prof. Zeitlin asked. "Similar reasoning applies to the Dead Sea Scrolls," he said.

Prof. Zeitlin also disputed the importance of the famous "so-called Manual of Discipline" of the Essene sect, and the Commentary on Habakkuk and the Zadokite Fragments in which the expression "Teacher of Righteousness" is held to be significant for anticipating the ministry of Jesus. "Detailed study of these scrolls show that they were written in the Middle Ages by uneducated Jews who either belonged to one of the Karaitic sects or were influenced by one of them", he claimed.

JEWISH PROTEST BRINGS CHANGE IN CANADIAN POLICE HIRING POLICY

TORONTO, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- A protest by the Central Region of the Canadian Jewish Congress has changed the hiring policy of the police department of this city, it was revealed today.

When the Central Region learned recently that the Toronto Board of Commissioners for Police had demanded of police recruits that they be "of British parentage," it lodged a complaint with the Fair Employment Practices Branch of the Ontario Government. After investigating the incident and discussing it with the police authorities, the FEPC unit informed the Canadian Jewish Congress unit that the requirement had been withdrawn and the only qualification attached to the job of policeman now was that he be a "British subject," as is required by law.

VANDALS DESECRATE 100-YEAR OLD NEW YORK SYNAGOGUE; CAUSE DAMAGE

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Police today started investigation of the vandalism of one of New York's oldest synagogues--Congregation and Talmud Torah Adereth El. The synagogue, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year, was desecrated yesterday. Damage to the synagogue included the smashing of seats and stands and the tearing of prayer books, prayer shawls and phylacteries.

HEAD OF ISRAEL'S ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION ARRIVES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Dr. Ernst D. Bergmann, chairman of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission, arrived in the United States today on an official mission. While he is in this country, he will confer with scientists and educators.

EDWIN F. GOLDMAN, NOTED BANDMASTER, DEAD; WAS DECORATED BY GOVTS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22. (JTA) -- Edwin Franko Goldman, bandmaster and composer of band music, died here yesterday. He was 78 years old. Mr. Goldman, who was generally considered the successor to John Philip Sousa as America's outstanding bandmaster, is credited with having been the most important single factor in the continuation of public band concerts in New York, long after that institution had disappeared from most American cities. He had received a number of honorary degrees as well as decorations from foreign governments and New York City.