



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIII No. 59 - 38th year - Monday, March 26, 1956

U. N. TO MEET TODAY ON U. S. MID-EAST PROPOSAL; RUSSIA MAY OPPOSE IT

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 25. (JTA) -- The United Nations Security Council will meet here tomorrow afternoon to vote on a resolution presented by the United States suggesting a visit by UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld to the Middle East to mediate between Israel and the Arab countries in an attempt to prevent the outbreak of war in the area.

From Beirut it was reported today that the Syrian radio had announced that the Soviet Government had informed Syria that Moscow would oppose the American resolution at the Security Council. However, at the United Nations no such opposition was expected today, although no commitment on the American resolution was made by Soviet delegation members.

Diplomatic circles here see in the United States move only an effort to stall further on the application for defensive arms which the Israel Government submitted to Washington last November to offset the huge quantity of defensive arms received by Egypt from Soviet satellite. It is known that the Defense Department has established that the arms requested by Israel can be made available, but the State Department is withholding approval of the application or any part of it.

It is estimated in United Nations circles that--whether Mr. Hammarskjöld succeeds in his mission, or not--it will take him more than a month before he prepares a report on it for the Security Council. In the meantime, it is feared, the State Department will have an excuse to deny arms to Israel under the pretext that no decision on Israel's arms application can be taken while Mr. Hammarskjöld conducts his talks and until he submits his report.

Syria and Lebanon have meanwhile requested postponement of tomorrow's meeting of the Security Council. They asked for more time to consider the proposed United States resolution. However, it is expected that the request of the two Arab countries, which are not members of the Security Council, will be rejected. The Council does not intend to invite either Israel or the Arab countries to participate in tomorrow's session or to present their views on the American resolution.

STATE DEPT. MUM ON TRAINING OF EGYPTIAN OFFICERS IN POLISH PORT

WASHINGTON, March 25. (JTA) -- The State Department declined today to comment on a report by the British Foreign Office, confirmed last night in Cairo, that a considerable number of Egyptians are receiving military training in Poland. The British report estimated that about 200 Egyptian officers and noncommissioned officers are being trained in land, sea and air operations at a Soviet base near Poland's Baltic Sea port of Gdynia. Instruction was reported to include the use of radar, submarines and all forms of artillery.

A State Department spokesman said that the United States has not yet taken a decision on the suggestion advanced by French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau to hold a tripartite Foreign Ministers conference on the Arab-Israel question in Paris on May 5. It is understood that the State Department is awaiting elaboration of M. Pineau's proposal from the French Government.

The State Department indicated today that it is also awaiting details from London on an announcement by the British Government revealing that it has completed a "stand-by" plan for military action in the Middle East in case of an Arab-Israel war. The British report said that June and July were considered the most critical months in relation to a full-scale war between the Arab countries and Israel.

Meanwhile, reports reaching Washington from London say that the steady increase of Egyptian power has influenced British military authorities in favor of selling arms to Israel. The balance of power in the Middle East is being altered much more rapidly than these military men had estimated, the report state, and there is a belief that the moment when that balance will shift in favor of the Arab states is in sight.

These military circles see the growth of Arab power indicated in the reorganization and re-equipment of Egyptian armed forces, the establishment of a joint Arab military command under Egyptian leadership and the possibility that Jordan may swing from British to Egyptian influence in any action against Israel. Some British officials have come around to the Israeli view that continued Soviet arming of the Arabs while Israel receives no help will result in an attack by confident Arab states.

ISRAEL'S PROSPECTS IN CASE OF ARAB ATTACK EVALUATED BY ARMY CHIEF

TEL AVIV, March 25. (JTA) -- Aggressive Arab war, "which might break out this summer, if Israel does not receive defensive arms immediately," would inflict heavy damage upon Israel but would, ultimately, be repulsed, with an Israel victory at great expense, Gen. Moshe Dayan, Army Chief of Staff, declared at a rally last night at Beisan.

"Israel would win and repulse the attackers," said Gen. Dayan "though, in the first stages of the war, Israel would suffer heavily from the aggressor's barbaric bombardment of civic centers. Israel's ultimate victory, however, is assured because its morale and spirit are high."

SYRIA TO EXCHANGE WAR PRISONERS WITH ISRAEL; LINKS DEFENSES TO JORDAN

LONDON, March 25. (JTA) -- Syria and Israel agreed in principle to exchange prisoners of war, official Syrian sources reported here today. At the same time, it was reported from Damascus that Syria and Jordan have agreed to consider their borders with Israel as "one military frontier" and that both Arab countries will act jointly against Israel. This means that Jordan has indirectly joined the Syrian-Egyptian-Saudi Arabian military alliance.

The British Government has announced during the week-end that Britain will spend more than \$25,000,000 to support Jordan, mainly the Arab Legion and Jordanian frontier guards. There had been speculation about this British allocation following the ouster of General Glubb by the Jordanians. But Foreign Office estimates published today disclosed grants to Jordan of \$25,642,000.

Foreign Undersecretary A. Dodds-Parker received the chairman of the world Agudist executive, H. A. Goodman, here this week-end for a discussion of the present situation in the Middle East. The Agudist leader urged that Israel be furnished with defensive arms.

KNESSET CLOSES WINTER SESSION; ADOPTS BUDGET OF 769,300,000 POUNDS

JERUSALEM, March 25. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament has closed its winter session with the adoption of a budget of 769,300,000 pounds for the fiscal year which starts April 1st. More than 600 amendments to the budget bill were discussed, necessitating no less than 1,500 separate votes. The voting alone lasted four hours.

Speaking at the final session, Foreign Minister, Moshe Sharett praised the Montevideo conference of Latin American Jewry which, he asserted, was of great moral and practical assistance to Israel.

While the voting and discussions at the final session was in progress, a plenum of Mapai ministers worked at ironing out a dispute which had arisen between Ahdut Avodah and Hapoel Hamizrachi--both members of the coalition Cabinet--over the appointment of a member of Hapoel Hamizrachi as Deputy Minister of Education. Such an appointment had been agreed upon when the Cabinet was formed, but Ahdut Avodah members had objected on the grounds of an "increase of religious influence on state education."

Members of the religious group had demanded an extraordinary session of the Cabinet to thrash out the dispute, but this was impossible because of Prime Minister David Ben Gurion's commitments to be in Tel Aviv and elsewhere. On the other hand, the Hapoel Hamizrachists continued to demand that the Knesset must approve the appointment.

Finally, in the last minutes of the closing session, Minister of Education Zalman Aranne announced from the floor that the Cabinet had decided to appoint an Hapoel Hamizrachi member, Dr. Moshe Unna, as Deputy Minister of Education. The appointment was immediately approved by Knesset members, and the session was adjourned.

ISRAEL'S NEW OIL WELL AT HELETZ EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 1,500 BARRELS A DAY

JERUSALEM, March 25. (JTA) -- Israel's new oil well--Heletz No. 2--is expected to produce 1,500 barrels a day, five times as much as Heletz No. 1, it was reported here today. The estimate of the well's production was made following the completion of Johnston tests. Meanwhile, the pipeline from Ashkelon to Haifa, where the refineries are located, was completed this week-end.

800 IMMIGRANTS ARRIVED IN ISRAEL IN 1955 FROM "IRON CURTAIN" LANDS

JERUSALEM, March 25. (JTA) -- Nearly 800 immigrants from Eastern Europe arrived in Israel in 1955, according to figures announced here today by the Jewish Agency. Of the total, 286 were from Hungary, 279 from Russia, 133 from Poland, 36 from Czechoslovakia and 51 from Rumania. A transport of 1,000 immigrants arrived at Haifa today. Most of them came from North Africa.

ISRAEL DENIES REPORT ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY

JERUSALEM, March 25. (JTA) -- Reports that negotiations are under way for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and East Germany were denied here today by a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

EISENHOWER ASKS ISRAEL FOR PATIENCE; SAYS U. S. SEEKS ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE

JERUSALEM, March 25. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower, in a personal message of Passover greetings to Israel President Itzhak Ben Zvi, emphasized that "the American Government is earnestly and in the friendliest spirit exploring every avenue to bring about a satisfactory and peaceful solution" of the Arab-Israel problem. He asked the Israel President for "patience and mutual confidence and goodwill."

The Eisenhower message was delivered here to President Ben Zvi by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver who is now visiting Israel. The text of the message was made public yesterday and reads as follows:

"Through my friend, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who is about to visit Israel, I should like to take the opportunity to convey to you my warm personal greetings on the occasion of the celebration of Passover, your historic festival of freedom, and on the eve of the eighth anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel. I have followed with admiration the progress and development of your country."

"The American people wish your young state peace and prosperity. Permit me to assure you that the American Government is earnestly and in the friendliest spirit exploring every avenue to bring about a satisfactory and peaceful solution of the problems which confront Israel and its neighbors. We shall all need patience, mutual confidence and goodwill to help us along the way."

MOSLEM LEADERS SEEK JEWISH VOTES IN TUNISIAN GENERAL ELECTIONS

TUNIS, March 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish Community Council of Tunis appealed today to all eligible Jews in this city and in the country at large to vote in today's general elections for the first Tunisian Legislative Assembly. At the same time, the Ministry of Education declared a two-day holiday for Jewish teachers and pupils for the Passover festival.

There are some 18,500 Jews eligible to vote in the elections, 12,500 in this city and 6,000 in the rest of the country. As the campaign drew to a close, the Neo-Destour movement's "National Front" made a special effort to attract the overwhelming majority of the Jewish ballots. In speech after speech, National Front candidates assured the Jews that they are not "a national minority in Tunis" but rather "an integral part of the Tunisian people and, as Tunisians, the Jews have the same rights as the Moslem majority."

The theme of the equality of the Jews has been emphasized in addresses by Azouz Rebai, chief of the Neo-Destour press service, as well as by other Tunisian leaders. The friendship between the Jews and Moslems here has been lauded by Chief Rabbi Moise Cohen; Meyer Belliti, president of the Tunisian Zionist Federation; and by the two Jews on the Neo-Destour list of candidates, Andre Barouch and Albert Bessis. Posters in the Jewish quarter stress the same theme.

The Communist Party has also been campaigning for the Jewish votes but has met with rebuffs, very few Jews attending the Communist rallies--those few Jews who have shown up at the meetings run by the Communists coming only as hecklers.

SOVIET CHARGED AT U. N. WITH BANNING JEWISH RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 25. (JTA) -- A plea for adoption of a principle providing that all governments--including that of the Soviet Union--permit individuals and groups to run private schools for religious instruction was made here this week-end by Dr. Isaac Lewin, representative at the UN of the Agudas Israel World Organization. Dr. Lewin voiced his request at a meeting of the Commission on Human Rights. He tied his plea to the Commission's discussion of a report by its Subcommittee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

Pointing out that Judge Philip Halpern, Buffalo Jewish communal leader and the United States expert on the Subcommittee, had clashed on that point with Russia's expert, Dr. Lewin cited Russia's admitted refusal to permit organized religious instruction for Jewish children in the Soviet Union. Russian Jews, said the Agudas Israel representative, are told they may give their children religious instruction themselves or hire tutors. "Obviously," declared Dr. Lewin, "elimination of all organized efforts to give children religious instruction is discrimination in education."

He cited official and quasi-official Soviet statements, over a period of a quarter of a century, to show that forbidding religious education to Jewish children is a matter of official Russian government policy. Agudas Israel, he told the Commission, agrees with the U. S. expert, and with the expert from France who had taken a similar stand, that "the right to religious education and to set up private schools for the purpose without government interference are essential human rights; their prohibition constitutes discrimination against the respective individuals or groups." Such discrimination should consequently be included in the Subcommittee's study on discrimination in education, currently under way, Dr. Lewin urged.

\$1,000,000 DONATED BY ROSENSTIEL FOUNDATION TO BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK, March 25. (JTA) - A \$1,000,000 grant to Brandeis University by the Dorothy and Lewis S. Rosenstiel Foundation was announced today by Lewis S. Rosenstiel, chairman of the board of Schenley Industries, Inc.

The \$1,000,000 grant will be used for the establishment of a Dorothy Rosenstiel New Science Research Center at Brandeis University. The Center will be dedicated to basic research in biochemistry with special reference to glandular disorders. The Rosenstiel Foundation donation is the largest that Brandeis University has ever received.

TWO-PART CAMPAIGN OF U. J. A. IS PROGRESSING WELL, FRIEDMAN REPORTS

NEW YORK, March 25. (JTA) - The Special Survival Fund of the United Jewish Appeal has now reached \$12,000,000 and strong efforts currently are under way to increase this to \$20,000,000 by April 30, it was reported at a press conference here today by Herbert A. Friedman, UJA executive vice-chairman. He gave the following picture of the Appeal's two-part campaign:

1. The regular UJA drive is more than holding its own as compared with the results at this time one year ago; 2. Its extra drive -- known as the Special Survival Fund -- has raised \$12,000,000 thus far, thereby accounting for a strong lead over last year. Full proceeds of the Survival Fund are to be used in Israel; 3. With a major effort now under way to raise additional sums in honor of Israel's eighth anniversary, the expectation is that the current \$12,000,000 standing of the Special Fund will grow to between \$17,000,000 and \$20,000,000 by the end of April.

In reporting these figures, Mr. Friedman gave high praise to the Jews of America. "Israel's people will be glad to know," he declared, "that the Jews of America are solidly behind them, having achieved a new awareness of their difficulties and dangers, and are eager to help."

DR. SCHWARTZ LAUNCHES BOND DRIVE IN ARGENTINE; HONORED BY COMMUNITY

BUENOS AIRES, March 25. (JTA) - The 1956 Israel Bond drive was launched here last night at a banquet in honor of Dr. Joseph Schwartz, executive vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization, and Behor Shitreet, Israel's Minister of Police, both of whom came to this country to help launch the sales campaign. The 200 guests at the banquet included leading figures in the Jewish community.

Dr. Schwartz cited Premier David Ben Gurion's interest in the bond organization as the center of the movement among Jews abroad to assist the Jewish State. Mr. Shitreet, speaking in Hebrew, reported on Israel's growth despite its unfavorable security situation. Other speakers included Dr. Arieh Kubovi, Israel Ambassador to Argentina, Simon Mijelman and Dr. Mateo Goldstein, prominent Argentine Jewish leaders.

ISRAELI PASSENGER SHIP "ZION" GREETED IN NEW YORK ON MAIDEN VOYAGE

NEW YORK, March 25. (JTA) - The 10,500-ton Israeli steamship Zion arrived in New York this week-end on her maiden voyage from her home port of Haifa. The vessel, like her sister ship the S.S. Israel, with which she will share the Haifa to New York run, was built in Hamburg as German reparations payment to the Jewish State. It is owned by the Zion Israel America Line.

The liner was greeted by steam whistles of other ships in New York harbor, towering streams of water shot into the air by fire boats and helicopters circling overhead as she steamed toward her berth. The Zion has accommodations for 313 passengers and 5,000 tons of general cargo, and is 504 feet long and 64 feet wide. Her cruising speed is 18 knots.

In an editorial hailing the arrival of the Zion, the New York Times today said the vessel "represents the noblest and most hopeful aspect of the Zionist adventure. She symbolizes the wholesome intrusion into the Near East of Western science and technology." The editorial concluded with a prayer that the Zion would make her voyage "in peace and in the cause of peace."

ABRAHAM SHAPIRO, LEGENDARY FIGURE IN ISRAEL, ARRIVES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 25. (JTA) - Abraham Shapiro, 86-year-old veteran of Jewish colonization in Israel, arrived here this week-end aboard the Israeli line Zion for his first visit to the United States and his first trip abroad since he was brought to Palestine by his parents in 1880.

Mr. Shapiro, who is one of Israel's elder statesmen, is an heroic figure in the legends of Palestine. At one time head of the security organization in his home town of Petach Tikvah, Mr. Shapiro served for many years as arbitrator between Jews in various settlements and the Arab tribes. The Yiddish daily newspaper Day-Morning Journal began publishing his memoirs last Friday.