



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXVII No. 118 - 38th year Wednesday, June 20, 1956

## BEN GURION ASSURES PARLIAMENT HE IS AGAINST "PREVENTIVE WAR"

JERUSALEM, June 19. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion, speaking in the Israel Parliament tonight, stated categorically that he is opposed to a "preventive war" and emphasized that "this would be sheer madness." However, he reiterated that the Israel Government would use force to meet force.

The Premier spoke during the Knesset debate on the resignation of Moshe Sharett as Foreign Minister. The debate was scheduled to last seven hours with representatives of all political parties participating. It was opened by Menahem Beighn, leader of the extreme right-wing Herut Party, who charged Mr. Ben Gurion with "withholding the important reason" behind Mr. Sharett's resignation.

In making clear his policy, the Premier told Parliament that he would not hesitate for a moment to rally maximum forces against any Arab aggressor, or against all of the Arab countries together, although this might prove costly. He ridiculed those who advocate a war against Jordan. He stressed that Britain was Jordan's ally, and a war against Jordan would automatically mean war with Britain.

"I can never agree to fight against Britain, Russia, or any European power, or against the United States, because this would be the sheerest folly," Mr. Ben Gurion stated. He revealed that during the War of Liberation he gave strict orders to do everything possible not to involve the British while they were still on Palestine soil during the battles in Haifa, Tiberias and Safad.

(Failure on the part of the United States and other Western powers to sell defensive arms to Israel contributed greatly to the resignation of Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, it is pointed out today by the New York Times and the New York Herald-Tribune--two of America's leading newspapers--in editorials commenting on the event. Both newspapers agreed that Israel has good reason to be concerned over Communist arms sales to the Arabs. The New York Times stressed the fact that both Mr. Sharett and Premier David Ben Gurion opposed those in Israel who press for a "preventive war.")

## JEWISH DELEGATION DISCUSSES MOROCCAN EMIGRATION WITH STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA) -- The problem of Jewish emigration from Morocco was discussed with the State Department today by a delegation of Jewish leaders headed by Irving M. Engel, president of the American Jewish Committee.

The delegation, which was received by George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East and Africa, also raised the question of the situation in Tunisia and the plight of the Jews in Syria. In addition to Mr. Engel, the delegation included Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, and Murray I. Gurfein, president of the United Hias Service.

From Morocco it was reported today that a representative of the World Jewish Congress is conducting "discreet" talks with the Moroccan authorities which may result at least in securing permission for the emigration to Israel of the more than 2,000 Moroccan Jews now concentrated in a transient emigration camp at Casablanca. These Jews liquidated their homes and entered the camp before the Moroccan Government issued its ban on collective Jewish emigration.

The World Jewish Congress, according to the reports, is also seeking to convince the Moroccan authorities to permit the emigration of other Moroccan Jews who have liquidated their homes in anticipation of leaving for Israel. Negotiations are also being conducted for the issuance of individual passports to some or all the Jews caught by the ban on collective emigration.

## House of Commons Members Hear Report on Moroccan Jews

LONDON, June 19. (JTA) -- The desperate plight of North African Jews and the crucial need for OSE work among prospective emigrants who cannot for the time being leave Morocco was described here today by Abel Shaban, head of the World OSE Union.

Mr. Shaban made his report at a luncheon in the House of Commons given by Sir Frederic Messer and Dr. Barnett Stross, MP's, and attended by leading Jewish personalities including Lord Nathan. It was announced at the luncheon that the next chairman of the British OSE would be Dr. Stross.

#### SHEPILOV AVOIDS REMARKS AGAINST ISRAEL; PLEDGES FRIENDSHIP TO ARABS

LONDON, June 19. (JTA) -- Avoiding mention of Israel by name, Dmitri Shepilov, Soviet Foreign Minister who is now visiting Egypt, told the Egyptians yesterday that the Soviet Government intends to work toward the easing of tension in the area, the London press reported today from Cairo.

The reports say that the Egyptians were disappointed with the fact that Mr. Shepilov did not score Israel in his speech. However, the Arabs hope that Moscow will back their demand that Israel territory be limited to the boundaries laid down in the 1947 United Nations resolution. Mr. Shepilov said that the Arab countries can be reassured of Soviet friendship for them.

#### ITALY INTERESTED IN ELIMINATING ARAB-ISRAEL TENSION, MINISTER SAYS

ROME, June 19. (JTA) -- Italy, although it has never been asked to mediate in the Middle East, will support every initiative aimed at eliminating the tensions between Israel and the Arab states, Foreign Minister Gaetano Martino declared in Parliament today.

Closing a foreign policy debate in the Chamber of Deputies, Signor Martino asserted that Italy's course of action on the Middle East is inspired by the determination to consolidate peace and stability in that area. He expressed satisfaction with the results of the Middle East mission of UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld.

"We shall support every initiative aimed at eliminating existing tensions, both in the United Nations and the bilateral relations of the countries concerned," the Foreign Minister said. But, he added, no request for Italy's mediation in the Israel-Arab conflict has ever been made.

At the same time, he stressed that the forthcoming visit by Egyptian Premier Gamal Abdel Nasser would strengthen traditional Italo-Egyptian friendship, and that the visit of Italian President Giovanni Gronchi to Lebanon this month would also strengthen friendship in that quarter.

#### ISRAEL COURT CONVICTS EGYPTIAN OF ESPIONAGE; SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS

TEL AVIV, June 19. (JTA) -- An Israeli military court sentenced another Egyptian today to 18 years' imprisonment on charges of espionage. He is the fifth Egyptian to be convicted of espionage in the past few days.

The Arab, identified as a 24-year-old fisherman from the Gaza strip, confessed that he recorded the movement of military vehicles along a road in a strategic area of the southern part of Israel. He claimed that he had been forced into espionage work by Egyptian intelligence officials.

#### EGYPTIANS SEEK ARMS IN SWITZERLAND; TWO GROUPS VISIT SWISS CENTERS

GENEVA, June 19. (JTA) -- Two Egyptian arms-purchasing groups are in Switzerland now in search of munitions, it was disclosed here today by reliable sources. The two groups are now visiting Thun and Winterthur--two Swiss arms centers.

The Egyptians, it was reported, arrived here ostensibly as part of the Egyptian delegation to the International Labor Organization office, but quickly went off to various Swiss industrial cities to make bids for guns. The sources for the report asserted that the so-called representatives "have nothing to do with the International Labor Organization conference at all, even though they make such claims."

#### INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION REFUSES TO ACT ON ISRAEL'S PLEA

GENEVA, June 19. (JTA) -- The International Law Commission here rejected an Israeli plea that it act on the Egyptian blockade of the Strait of Tiran, the entrance to the Gulf of Akaba.

The Israeli representative asked that a draft article "on the right of innocent passage of merchant ships through the territorial seas of other states" be amended to grant passage regardless of the cargo carried by such vessels and that the neighboring states have no jurisdiction over the passing ships.

The Soviet and Nationalist Chinese representatives, in a rare union, both suggested that the questions raised by Israel and the Egyptian blockade of the Gulf of Akaba were too complex for the Law Commission and were better left to the International Court of Justice. The commission agreed, and adopted the draft as originally submitted.

#### NEW ARAB LOCAL COUNCIL ESTABLISHED IN ISRAEL; WILL GET GRANTS

JERUSALEM, June 19. (JTA) -- The 14th Arab local council in Israel was inaugurated today in the village of Jaljulia in the Golan district. The seven-man local council will provide local government for the village, which has a population of 1,200. Minister of the Interior Israel Bar Yehuda told the new council that it is now eligible for government grants and loans.

# ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER JEWISH GROUPS

LONDON, June 19. (JTA) -- The Anglo-Jewish Association will continue its efforts to arrive at a form of cooperation with the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and still hopes to be able to cooperate on specific issues with other Jewish groups on national and international bases. R.N. Carvalho, president of the AJA, declared here last night at the semi-annual general meeting of the organization.

The AJA is not interested in prestige, he stressed, and it would do everything possible to "procure cooperation short of losing its individuality and tradition." There was still no reason to despair of unity, he asserted, and he would continue to look for fresh approaches and new ways of persuading the Board of Deputies that the AJA meant what it said and "did not intend to cut the ground from under the Board's feet."

Mr. Carvalho reaffirmed AJA opposition to the formation of a permanent international Jewish organization, insisting that the greatest value lay in working together on specific issues. To support his contention, he cited the success of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. "Both nationally and internationally, especially in the United Nations," he added, "there is an urgent need for all Jewish organizations to show goodwill and a degree of unselfishness for the benefit of Jewish causes."

"Unfortunately, the almost hysterical chasing after publicity and prestige is responsible for so much harm. If only certain Jewish bodies were not more concerned with these achievements than with the Jewish problems themselves," he said, "it might be possible to have regular conferences both at home and abroad" leading to united action of Jewish bodies. The AJA, he assured his listeners, "will continue to strive for this goal."

# NAZI CHARGED WITH MURDER OF 60 HUNGARIAN JEWS FACES TRIAL IN VIENNA

VIENNA, June 19. (JTA) -- The trial of Alfred Weber, former S.S. leader charged with the murder of 60 Hungarian Jews shortly before the end of World War II, opened in an Austrian court here today.

Weber is charged with directing the execution, by what the prosecution charges was an "extremely gruesome method," of 60 Jewish slave laborers in the Austrian village of Deutsch Schuetzen. Weber denies the charges, despite the testimony of other S.S. men serving sentences for participating in the same mass killings.

# SCANDINAVIAN DIPLOMAT WHO RESCUED JEWS FROM NAZIS DIES IN ACCIDENT

STOCKHOLM, June 19. (JTA) -- Niels Christian Ditleff, wartime Norwegian Minister to Stockholm and one of the leading initiators of a Swedish rescue mission to Germany in 1945 which managed to save the lives of hundreds of Jews, died in a car crash in Oslo Sunday night; it was reported here today. His wife died with him.

A modest man, Mr. Ditleff never spoke of his activities in behalf of the Jews, but his role in the matter was made public recently with the publication of a White Paper by the Swedish Government presenting in detail the history of the rescue mission. In a lecture last year, the Norwegian diplomat revealed that the Norwegian Government-in-Exile, which spent the war years in London, never supported the plan for the rescue of Jews.

# JEWISH CHILDREN IN RUMANIA GET RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION, BROADCAST SAYS

STOCKHOLM, June 19. (JTA) -- Rumanian Chief Rabbi A. Rosen arrived here to reciprocate a visit to Bucharest earlier this year by Swedish Chief Rabbi I. Wilkholm. Rabbi Rosen was met at the airport here by representatives of the Jewish community.

The Bucharest Radio said today in a broadcast that Jews enjoy "complete equality" in Rumania. The announcer said that Jewish children are provided with religious instruction and that there are in Rumania Jewish seminaries "training cadres of young rabbis for the future." He contended that "Jews are able to participate fully in the economic progress of the country."

# ROME JUDGE ELECTED HEAD OF UNION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF ITALY

ROME, June 19. (JTA) -- Judge Sergio Piperno, a native of Rome, was elected president of the council of the Union of Jewish Communities of Italy today. The new council also extended its greetings to and expressed its solidarity with the people and State of Israel, in a resolution. The council also hailed the Jewish Agency and the World Jewish Congress.

# ITALY PERMITS ALL RELIGIONS TO USE CLASSROOMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ROME, June 19. (JTA) -- Any group of non-Catholic pupils in Italian public schools may obtain the use of classrooms for religious education of their own choosing, Paolo Rossi, Minister of Education, declared in Parliament today. The Minister said further that all teachers employed in the public schools were under instruction not to force non-Catholics to participate in Catholic instruction. He noted, too, that non-Catholic teachers do not have to teach Catholic doctrine.

# BRITH ABRAHAM CONVENTION SCORES RUSSIA'S BANNING OF JEWISH CULTURE

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., June 19. (JTA) -- More than 2,000,000 Jews in the Soviet Union and the other Communist states of Eastern Europe have been forced to relinquish their religious and cultural identities "under the oppressive yoke of Communist domination," it was charged in a resolution adopted here today at the 69th annual convention of Brith Abraham. Some 1,000 delegates are attending the parley.

In another resolution, the delegates called on the United States to sell defensive arms to Israel and to "make plain that it will impose economic and moral sanctions unless the Arab states immediately cease all acts of aggression against Israel." The fraternal organization also criticized the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act and urged a more liberal immigration policy.

## U. S. LABOR ZIONIST ASSEMBLY URGES SALE OF AMERICAN ARMS TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA) -- The United States was urged to supply Israel with arms and to put teeth into the Tripartite Declaration of 1950 in a resolution adopted last night at the conclusion of a two-day meeting of the national council of the Labor Zionist Assembly, coordinating body of the American Labor Zionist movement.

A second resolution scored the U.S. Government for acquiescing in the Arab boycott of American firms owned by Jews or dealing with Israel, and the Arab states' refusal to grant visas to American citizens who also plan visits to Israel as well as their ban on American Jews. Still another resolution urged the government to "use its good offices" with the Moroccan Government to lift the ban on the organized emigration of Jews to Israel.

A warning that there is danger of war in the Middle East "within 60 to 90 days" was sounded by Baruch Zuckerman, chairman of the Assembly. "While we are thankful that there is relative quiet on Israel's frontiers at present and with all our hearts we pray for peace," he said, "we dare not shut our eyes to the many danger signals that point to the possibility of an outbreak of renewed hostilities by the Arabs against Israel this summer before the rainy season sets in."

## SURVEY FINDS PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS DROPPING DISCRIMINATORY QUESTIONS

PHILADELPHIA, June 19. (JTA) -- Pennsylvania colleges, universities and professional schools are asking fewer questions about applicants' religion, race and nationality, it was established in a triennial survey conducted by the Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Council.

The number of schools asking no discriminatory questions increased from 27 in 1950 and 40 in 1953 to 59 this year, the JCRC revealed. The number of schools which asked only the question about race has finally reached zero, while the number asking for the religion of the applicant was 15--all denominational schools. The number of schools asking all three of the discriminatory questions had dropped from 23 six years ago to nine this year, the JCRC survey found.

## RABBI BICK IS NOT IN RABBINICAL REGISTRY, JEWISH BUREAU ANNOUNCES

NEW YORK, June 19. (JTA)-- The Jewish Statistical Bureau, representing all wings of American Judaism, which maintains a registry of American rabbis, issued a statement today declaring that Rabbi Abraham Bick, who testified before the House Committee on UN-American Activities, is not listed in its Rabbinical Registry.

"The files of the Bureau make it certain that the said Abraham Bick or Abraham J. Bick, is not a graduate of any of the Jewish theological seminaries which the Bureau records. Nor is he a member of any association of rabbis," Dr. H. S. Linfield, director of the Jewish Statistical Bureau, said in his statement.

## SIX PITTSBURGH YOUTHS ARRESTED FOR DESECRATING JEWISH CEMETERY

PITTSBURGH, June 19. (JTA)-- Six youths aged 20 to 25 have been arrested here in connection with acts of vandalism committed in the Homestead Hebrew Cemetery recently. Damage was estimated at \$20,000. The arrested men denied there had been any anti-Semitic intent in their vandalism and said the episode had followed a bout of heavy drinking.

## INDIA THANKS JEWISH AGENCY FOR MEDICAL AID FOR CHILDREN

JERUSALEM, June 19. (JTA) -- The youth department of the Jewish Agency today received a letter of thanks from the Indian Council for Child Welfare for a shipment of 20,000 containers of vitamins for the children of India. The vitamins were distributed to child victims of floods.

The Council, a member of the International Association for Child Welfare, had appealed to all member states for aid and for shipments of vitamins. The shipment was transported free by Air France.