



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXIV No. 15 - 39th year Tuesday, January 22, 1957

U. N. CHIEF ASKS EGYPT TO RECONSIDER ITS STAND ON AKABA AND GAZA

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold will report to the General Assembly on the status of Israel's compliance with the troop withdrawal resolutions by Friday, and the General Assembly will meet again next Monday, according to the timetable envisaged here today.

Between now and Friday, Mr. Hammarskjold faces the monumental task, demanded by many delegations including Israel's, of formulating solutions to the Gulf of Akaba and Gaza problems. It is understood here that Mr. Hammarskjold has already asked the Egyptian Government to reconsider its total disapproval of Israel's positions regarding freedom of passage in the Akaba waterway and regarding the future status of the Gaza Strip.

There were insistent reports here today that the Secretary General has asked Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, Egypt's Foreign Minister, who has been here for two months, to go to Cairo to discuss the latest developments with Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser. It was still uncertain whether or when Dr. Fawzi was going to Egypt.

Mr. Hammarskjold yesterday held two lengthy two-hour sessions with the principal protagonists, Israel's Ambassador Abba Eban and Dr. Fawzi. A member of the secretariat who undoubtedly knows the situation said that each of the conferences was "both exhausting and exhaustive."

Reports that Mr. Eban had laid Israel's concrete proposals on the complicated Gaza and Akaba situations before the UN chief were described here as premature. Instead, it was said, Mr. Eban was discussing primarily the need for "simultaneous and related measures" in connection with complete withdrawal of Israel troops from Sharm el Sheikh.

Mr. Eban, who is in Washington today attending President Eisenhower's inauguration, will return this week. Meanwhile, Israel's talks are understood to be proceeding between other leading members of Israel's delegation and highranking members of Mr. Hammarskjold's staff.

Israel Outlines Conditions for Evacuation of Akaba Area

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Israel would be willing to accept any one of three possible arrangements under which it would quit its positions commanding the Straits of Tiran in the Akaba area, Israel officials asserted here last night. Without one of these solutions, they said, Israel would not withdraw from the area. They are:

1. That the United Nations Emergency Force occupy the islands of Tiran and Sinafir and the east coast of the Sinai Peninsula under a clear mandate from the General Assembly that its "task is to prevent the renewal of the blockade and that it stays there until other arrangements are made for the safeguarding of freedom of passage."
2. A four-power agreement among Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia mutually guaranteeing freedom of passage.
3. Effective guarantees from the Great Powers, especially the United States, that a blockade will not be tolerated.

Commenting on the General Assembly resolution ordering Israel out of all Egyptian territory at once, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that morally there cannot be one law for Egypt and another for Israel, that the UN could not demand Israel compliance with UN resolutions while permitting Egypt to disregard them.

Renewal of Egyptian blockade and fedayeen attacks, the spokesman said, are "factors affecting the very life of Israel." His remarks were viewed here as further indication of Israel's refusal to withdraw from Gaza and the Tiran area without adequate guarantees.

Life in Gaza Strip Reported Normal; Local Arabs Cooperate

TEL AVIV, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Life in the Gaza Strip is now normal and Israeli civil police are maintaining law and order with the help of a "very cooperative" population. Lt. Col. Haim Gaon, military governor, told a press conference today.

In a review of the achievements of the various Israeli departments since occupation of the Strip, Col. Gaon said that new clinics had been set up, particularly, for eye

ailments common among children, and that new nurseries and agricultural schools are helping Gaza Strip farmers prepare for the new planting season. He also reported that Gaza Strip orange growers had been made members of the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board to help market their crop.

REPATRIATION OF EGYPTIAN WAR PRISONERS STARTED; TO LAST TEN DAYS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The first batch of Egyptian prisoners of war held by Israel was repatriated today. The group included 499 prisoners. The entire 5,000 will be sent back in ten such groups, one a day except Saturday.

The four Israel prisoners in the hands of the Egyptians will be repatriated after about half the Egyptians have been released, probably on the fifth or sixth day of the exchanges. The entire action was carried out under the supervision of International Red Cross Committee representatives.

The POW's were brought to a point half-way between UN-held El Arish and Israel-occupied Raffah in Israeli trucks. The prisoners dismounted, were checked off lists and then were assigned places in trucks driven by UN chauffeurs. An Israeli representative also turned over to the Red Cross representatives approximately 2,000 letters from prisoners to their families in Egypt.

The next batch of prisoners will be exchanged about 15 miles east of today's position, because by that time Israel troops will have evacuated more Sinai territory. From El Arish on, the UN force which takes over from Israel will consist of Swedish contingents. The Yugoslav soldiers who followed the Israelis from Suez to El Arish will remain in that town.

ISRAEL'S SUPREME COURT BEGINS HEARINGS ON KASTNER-GRUENWALD CASE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The Israel Supreme Court began today to hear the government's appeal in the Kastner-Gruenwald case verdict which precipitated a Cabinet crisis in this country in June 1955.

A year and a half ago, the president of the Jerusalem District Court, Dr. Benjamin Halevi, ruled that the government had failed to prove a libel charge against 75-year-old Malkiel Gruenwald. The latter had published a newsletter in which he accused Dr. Israel Kastner, a leader of Hungarian Jewry during the Nazi occupation of Hungary, with abetting in the mass expulsions of Jews from that country and the subsequent Nazi murder of many thousands of those Jews. Mr. Gruenwald said that Dr. Kastner had committed these acts as liason man between the Jewish community and the Nazis.

Dr. Halevi upheld Mr. Gruenwald's main allegations, but found that the latter had not proved that Dr. Kastner used Jewish community funds for personal ends. The judge imposed a token fine on Mr. Gruenwald of one pound (55 cents), but imposed costs of 200 pounds (\$110) against the government for bringing the case into court on behalf of Dr. Kastner, at the time an official of the Israel Government. As a result of the decision, the General Zionist Party quit the coalition government then headed by Moshe Sharett.

Today's appeal, submitted by Attorney General Haim Cohen, called Judge Halevi's decision a "grave injustice" although it conceded that Judge Halevi had been correct in finding "contradictions and lies" in Dr. Kastner's original testimony. But he insisted that there was "a wide gap" between such "inaccuracies" and the judge's statement that "Kastner had sold his soul to the devil."

JEWS EXILED FROM EGYPT CONTINUE TO ARRIVE AT EUROPEAN PORTS

PARIS, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The arrival of Jews exiled from Egypt at European ports continues unabated. The Greek liner Aeolian is expected at Marseilles today with 90 Jews from Egypt. It has already dropped 61, bound for Israel, at Athens and will debark 50 more at Genoa after leaving Marseilles.

The S.S. Yugoslavia arrived at Marseilles yesterday with 130 Jews bound for Israel. The Egyptian vessel Misr is expected at Athens Wednesday with 800 Jewish passengers, of whom an estimated 500 are destined for Israel immigration.

700 JEWISH LEADERS ATTEND FOUR REGIONAL CONFERENCES ON ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Over 700 Jewish communal leaders participated this week-end in four regional conferences on the Israel crisis. The conferences were held in Baltimore, Providence, Atlanta and San Francisco. They were convened by the presidents of 17 national Jewish organizations. Two other regional conferences will take place in Cincinnati and Chicago.

Representatives of 31 organizations, spokesmen for Jewish communities in eight countries on five continents will meet in emergency sessions at the Waldorf Astoria tomorrow to discuss the plight of Egyptian Jewry and to formulate a program with respect to it. The meeting will take place under the chairmanship of Dr. Nahum Goldmann.

JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE ALLOCATES \$10,009,000 FOR 1957 AID PROGRAMS

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany announced here today the allocation of \$10,009,000 for 1957 to be used in programs of relief, rehabilitation and cultural and educational reconstruction for the benefit of 150,000 surviving victims of Nazism in 30 countries around the world. The allocation will raise to \$40,000,000 the total granted by the Conference since 1954.

The 1957 budget was presented to the Conference board of directors by Jacob Blaustein, senior vice president of the Claims Conference and honorary president of the American Jewish Committee, one of the member organizations of the Conference. The board approved the 1957 allocations following Mr. Blaustein's presentation at the closing session of the Conference meetings.

An aggregate of \$7,500,000, three-quarters of the allocations for 1957, was granted by the Conference for relief and rehabilitation projects. The rest was allocated for other programs including cultural and educational reconstruction, and legal aid in the prosecution of restitution and indemnification claims by needy Nazi victims. More than 470 Jewish organizations applied this year for grants exceeding \$30,000,000, three times the aggregate of the sums available for allocation.

The Conference, composed of 22 major Jewish organizations throughout the free world obtains the funds it allocates by the terms of special agreements it concluded with the German Federal Republic and the Government of Israel. The Bonn-Israel reparations agreement of 1952 calls for the West German Government to deliver to Israel over a twelve-year span, goods and services valued at \$822,000,000. The Conference share of the overall sum runs to \$107,000,000.

\$6,890,000 Earmarked for Relief Programs in Europe

Mr. Blaustein reported that \$6,890,000 of all the 1957 grants for relief and rehabilitation activities were earmarked for programs in Europe, conducted there by Jewish communal and central welfare agencies and the American Joint Distribution Committee and will also be used to aid in the emigration of Nazi victims to overseas lands. The overwhelming share of the grants flowed to the lands under former Nazi occupation where the needs for individual and communal rehabilitation are most urgent, especially in the cases of the aged, the ill and the handicapped.

The Conference also granted \$288,000 for the relief and rehabilitation of needy Nazi victims in South America and Australia and \$290,000 for special funds in aid of refugee rabbis, invalids and former community leaders. Conference grants are used for cash relief, medical aid, care of the aged and infirm, child and youth care, emigration and resettlement aid, vocational training, rehabilitation loan funds and special capital investment projects.

Some 83,000 Nazi victims, nearly all in European lands, will be beneficiaries of the grants for relief and rehabilitation. In addition, 65,000 other Nazi victims in need, inhabiting 14 lands all over the world will receive legal aid, via the United Restitution Organization for the pressing of indemnification and restitution claims on the German Federal Republic. The URO received an allocation of \$650,000 from the Conference to provide legal assistance.

\$1,229,000 Granted for Cultural and Educational Reconstruction

Mr. Blaustein announced that \$1,229,000 of its 1957 allocations were granted on behalf of world wide programs for Jewish cultural and educational reconstruction and for projects intended to aid in the rehabilitation of Nazi victims who are scholars, writers and teachers and to restore Jewish institutions and spiritual and cultural centers destroyed at Nazi hands. More than \$565,000 of the grants went for use in Europe.

Some 70 percent of the cultural allocations were earmarked for Jewish education, including the provision of suitable school buildings and scholarship and fellowship grants to Nazi victims. About 23 percent will be absorbed by research and publication projects and the remaining 7 percent will be devoted, in principal measure, to the establishment or restoration of Jewish libraries, archives and museums and to the collection, preservation and publication of materials relating to the Jewish catastrophe in Europe.

FORMER NAZI VICTIMS PROTEST APPOINTMENT OF NAZI AS NATO COMMANDER

PARIS, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The National Federation of Deportees and Internees protested to the French Government today the appointment of Hans Speidel, one-time Nazi General and Nazi Chief of the General Staff as commander of the Central European Sector of NATO.

The organization noted that Speidel's name was associated with the Nazi military command in France which had ordered the shooting of French hostages and the deportation of many Frenchmen. It called a dishonor to the French army and French soldiers the assignment of French troops to the command of Speidel.

RABBI FINKELSTEIN PARTICIPATES IN EISENHOWER'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Rabbi Louis Finkelstein, of the Jewish Theological Seminary, today joined with clergymen of other major faiths participating in the Presidential inauguration ceremony.

Immediately before the actual swearing in of Mr. Eisenhower, Rabbi Finkelstein recited a prayer calling for Divine guidance, life, and vision for the President and Vice President Nixon. When the Rabbi completed the prayer, Mr. Eisenhower grasped his hand and pressed it warmly.

LESSING ROSENWALD PRAISES ISRAEL; SAYS HE STILL OPPOSES ZIONISM

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Lessing Rosenwald praised Israel and the accomplishments of its people last night after completing a week's tour of the country, but insisted that he was still opposed to Zionism. Mr. Rosenwald stressed that the anti-Zionist Council for Judaism, of which he is a former president, is not anti-Israel.

During his visit as a guest of the Government of Israel, Mr. Rosenwald conferred with Premier David Ben Gurion, who had extended the invitation to visit Israel. He travelled the length and breadth of Israel and even visited Sharm el Sheikh, on the top of the Sinai Peninsula.

Mr. Rosenwald reiterated his long-held view that the "Jews are not a people" and asserted that "we in America resent Zionist propaganda and lobbying activities." During questioning by newsmen, Mr. Rosenwald admitted that the fact that Israel existed was good for the Jews seeking to migrate as well as for Egyptian and Hungarian Jews who needed a haven.

The American met with Israel Chief Rabbi Isaac Halevi Herzog and during his visit talked with many Israelis. People who met him during the tour commented on his breadth of knowledge of the historical and Biblical aspects of the country and on the fact that he emphasized that while he was a guest of the government he was paying all his own expenses.

14-YEAR-OLD ISRAELI PIANIST HAILED AFTER FIRST CONCERT IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The New York music critics hailed this morning the piano playing of 14-year-old Daniel Barenboim, Israeli concert pianist who made his debut at Carnegie Hall last night. He played with the United Nations International Symphony, under the baton of Leopold Stokowski.

The New York Times music reviewer referred to his performance of Prokofieff's Piano Concerto No. 1 as "exhilarating" and called his first appearance in New York a "distinct success." The New York Herald Tribune's critic asserted that young Barenboim is "quite clearly a prodigy" adding that he "sat at the keyboard with immense poise" and performed in such manner as to indicate "an enormous artistic potential that may at any moment become a reality."

FOUR-DAY ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF YIVO DISCUSSES STUDIES ON JEWISH LIFE

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The 31st annual conference of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research opened here with the reading of papers on a number of topics concerning various aspects of Jewish life in the United States and other countries.

The conference, which will last four days, will hear reports on recent trends in American Jewish sociology, achievements in the field of American Jewish historiography, the bearing of emancipation on Jewish survival, the mobility aspirations of immigrant Jews, and other subjects. Prof. Horace M. Kallen is chairman of YIVO's Academic Council.

DR. WILLIAM HABER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN ORT FEDERATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The American ORT Federation today announced the election of Dr. William Haber as president. Dr. Haber is a professor of economics at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He was chairman of the Federal Advisory Council on Employment Security from 1947-54 and continues to hold membership on the Council. In 1948, Dr. Haber was Special Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Lucius Clay, the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Zone of Germany.

FIRST CONSERVATIVE JEWISH ALL-DAY SCHOOL OPENED IN BROOKLYN

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The first Conservative Jewish all-day school in the Borough of Brooklyn was opened yesterday at the East Midwood Jewish Center. The ceremony was addressed by Deputy Mayor of New York, Dr. John Theobald, and by Israel Consul General Cecil Hyman. The new school is a bi-cultural institution combining general elementary school subjects with Hebrew language and other Jewish studies.

ISRAEL TOWN HONORS DR. JONAS SALK; STREET TO BEAR NAME OF SCIENTIST

TEL AVIV, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The municipality of Ramath Gan today renamed a street in the town in honor of Dr. Jonas Salk, discoverer of the anti-polio vaccine. Another street was named for the "French Nation" to mark the aid France has given to Israel.