



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

## DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXIV No. 31 - 39th year      Wednesday, February 13, 1957

### EISENHOWER AND DULLES CONFER ON OFFER TO ISRAEL; AWAIT REPLY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles today again discussed by phone the question of Israel troop withdrawals from the Gaza and Akaba areas in the light of the offer made yesterday by Secretary Dulles to the Israeli Government.

The offer, conveyed through Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, proposed that Israel should withdraw its armed forces from the Gaza and Akaba areas while the United States would undertake to support the principle of free passage for Israeli ships through the Gulf of Akaba if the principle were violated. The proposal included readiness of the United States to place a ship in the Strait of Tiran to back up its guarantee of free Akaba passage.

The offer provoked considerable skepticism today among Congressional friends of Israel. The part concerning U.S. assurances on passage through the Gulf of Akaba was considered vague and little different from previous U.S. expressions on maritime rights ignored by Egypt.

As to the Gaza Strip, it was thought that under the U.S. offer the situation might bring a return of Egyptian control over the area while the old United Nations truce supervisory force was merely increased in numerical strength. It was feared that the UN force might again fail to prevent fedayeen raids into Israel, and in effect, shielding the area from any effective Israel retaliatory measures.

U.S. sources admitted that the only action the United States would be likely to take if the Egyptian blockade were restored would be to look to the United Nations for a solution. The United Nations, however, has already shown an inability to protect Israel's basic rights in this issue.

Meanwhile, the State Department was pressing for rapid Israel acceptance of its offer and the quick withdrawal of Israel forces. It hinted that unless Israel accepts its proposals, the United States would have no recourse but to support sanctions. It is understood that Israel intends to seek more concrete details while continuing to explain its requirement for tangible and effective guarantees.

### Israel Favorable to U.S. Offer; Suggests an Alternative

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Israel would consider a United States guarantee of Arab non-interference of shipping in the Akaba area as a satisfactory assurance of freedom of navigation in the Gulf of Akaba, informed sources said here today.

In commenting on reactions of Israeli officials to the proposals made by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to Israeli Ambassador Abba Eban in Washington yesterday, these sources said Israel still feels that an alternative way out of the present United Nations deadlock on Israeli withdrawal could be the stationing of UN Emergency Forces at Sharm el Sheikh positions until a more permanent solution was reached.

Foreign Ministry officials were explicit in insisting that Israel wants more than the formality of a declaration of non-belligerence from Egypt and demands a declaration from Egypt that non-belligerence means the cessation of the Egyptian blockades of the Gulf of Akaba and the Suez Canal, as well as cessation of fedayeen attacks.

The Israeli officials said that the spirit of the latest General Assembly declaration supported Israel's stand that measures to prevent the return of the pre-fighting situation should be simultaneous with Israel's withdrawal. The officials emphasized that Israel was heartened by widespread world support and understanding of her position in the press and by leading political figures.

The Israel Cabinet has discussed the possibility of offering to resettle at Israel's request a considerable part of the Arab refugees in Gaza, it was learned here today, but no decision has yet been taken. It is understood that Israel's contribution would be conditioned on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the Palestine Arabs resettling the rest of the refugees. The number of refugees Israel might be willing to resettle has not been disclosed.

## HAMMARSKJOLD'S REPORT RECEIVED IN ISRAEL WITH MIXED FEELINGS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Hammarskjold report detailing Israel's latest refusal to leave the Akaba and Gaza areas without guarantees of freedom of navigation through the Akaba waterway, and the Secretary General's analysis of what the General Assembly can do about the situation, received a mixed reaction here. Official circles are withholding comment pending receipt of an official text of the report.

Some informed Israelis view the section of the report dealing with sanctions as coinciding with Israel's view that punitive action will not hasten a solution of the problem. Other observers underline the fact that Mr. Hammarskjold has indicated no progress toward obtaining a statement of Egyptian non-belligerence.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry has issued a detailed list of Egyptian violations of the 1949 Armistice Agreement, nine Security Council resolutions, eight General Assembly resolutions, the 1888 Suez Canal Convention, the Geneva Convention on the treatment of civilians and prisoners in time of war and other international documents--all in its campaign of continued hostility toward Israel.

### U.S. Seeks to Mobilize U.N. Support of Its Offer to Israel

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Feb. 12. (JTA) -- While the center of negotiations toward possible solution of the Israel-United Nations impasse has shifted to Washington and Jerusalem, vigorous activities were under way here today to prepare the ground for UN action in support of the new moves by Secretary of State Dulles.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., American delegate to the UN, conferred with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi yesterday, and saw members of the Afro-Asian bloc today. Last night's meeting of the Afro-Asian group, called to consider once more the possibility of proposing a resolution calling for sanctions against Israel, was postponed at the request of India's V.K. Krishna Menon.

A spokesman for the British delegation here declared that Britain hopes that Mr. Dulles' initiative may result in breaking the deadlock. "It is our view," he said, "that the present situation can best be settled by the kind of negotiations taking place at present. The American initiative seems to be directed toward that end and is very much in accord with our efforts to seek a solution."

Franco-Israeli unity was meanwhile, demonstrated here today when Israel's representative in the General Assembly's Political and Security Committee spoke in the debate on the Algerian question, fully supporting France's Foreign Minister Christian Pineau. The Israeli delegate, Emile Najjar, was subjected to one of the worst hecklings ever witnessed here, when representatives of Egypt, Iraq and Syria tried to silence him with "points of order." However, Mr. Najjar finished his statement, fully supporting France's position against any resolution that would try to superimpose a UN settlement of the Algerian problem.

Mr. Najjar started his address by retorting to attacks dragged into the Algerian debate last week by speakers for Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, who had accused Israel of aggression in the Sinai campaign. Despite the efforts of Peru's Victor A. Belaunde, chairman of the committee, to maintain order, one Arab spokesman after another got up to interrupt Mr. Najjar. The latter disposed of the Arab attacks with biting sarcasm, then proceeded to voice his country's full endorsement of France's position as stated by M. Pineau.

### Soviet Foreign Minister Insists on Israel's Withdrawal

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri Shepilov today demanded "the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from Egyptian territory" and the payment of "full compensation" to Egypt by Britain, France and Israel for damage caused during their invasion of Egypt.

The Soviet Minister voiced these demands in an address to the Supreme Soviet, the Parliament of the USSR, which is now in session in Moscow. He said that "it is upon the Government of Israel as well as on its sponsors that the entire responsibility will fall for the consequences which might follow further occupation of a part of Egyptian territory."

Mr. Shepilov also reported at the session that the Soviet Government transmitted a six-point proposal to the Western Powers last night proposing that they and the Soviet Union cooperate in economic aid to the Middle East, maintain peace there by negotiations and otherwise keep hands off the area. At the same time, Mr. Shepilov lined up his government with Cairo's demand that Egypt alone control and operate the Suez Canal. He said "law and justice are wholly on Egypt's side."

(In Washington, White House press spokesman James Hagerty today called the Soviet Union's new Middle East proposals an obvious maneuver "to discredit or stop President Eisenhower's anti-Communist program for that area.")

## SEN. KNOWLAND URGES SEPARATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT; CITES KOREA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Senate Republican Leader William Knowland of California has recommended a separation between Israel and Egypt like the demilitarized zone separating the Republic of Korea from Communist Northern Korea.

Speaking at Georgetown University last night, Sen. Knowland said Israel had an "ultimate responsibility" to return to the 1949 armistice lines but that he thought that until a permanent settlement is achieved United Nations forces should occupy the Akaba Coast and the Gaza Strip, and create a demilitarized zone separating Israel and Egyptian territory similar to the arrangement in Korea.

Sen. Knowland reiterated his desire that the United States vote against anti-Israel sanctions if they are proposed at the United Nations. He asked: "Is the United Nations to condone a doctrine of 'might makes right'? Are the processes of the United Nations to be applicable to the free nations and not to the dictatorships? To the small and not to the large? To Israel because Gaza is not evacuated but not India or the USSR because Kashmir and Hungary are not evacuated?"

Sen. Edward J. Thye, Minnesota Republican, in a statement, said he would oppose any move to impose economic sanctions against Israel for its refusal to withdraw troops from the Gaza and Akaba strips until given guarantees against Egyptian raids and blockades. Israel's request for safeguards against Egyptian belligerency has merit, he declared.

Democratic House Leader John W. McCormack (D. Mass.) in opposing sanctions against Israel, said that Israel is justified in keeping troops in the two critical areas until guarantees against Egyptian raids and blockades are achieved. He added that if the UN does approve sanctions, they should also be voted against Egypt and Russia.

## ISRAEL STARTS REGULAR BUS SERVICE BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND GAZA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Regular daily bus service was inaugurated today between Jerusalem and Gaza and Tel Aviv and Gaza.

Because passengers still need permits to enter the Gaza Strip, there is only one daily round-trip but bus company officials said they would increase the frequency of service as soon as permit requirements were abolished.

The Israel Cabinet has decided to extend the still-unfinished Elath-Beersheba oil pipeline from Beersheba to Askelon on the Mediterranean coast to facilitate the anticipated movement of oil from tankers in the Gulf of Akaba port to refineries at Haifa, it was announced today.

Work on the new section of the line will begin in a few days. It is expected to run 65 kilometres (40 miles) and cost 5,500,000 pounds. The 62-mile long Elath-Beersheba line is scheduled for completion on March 31.

## COMPULSORY LOAN AND INDIRECT TAXES PLANNED BY ISRAEL GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A compulsory loan and indirect taxes are the Israel Government's latest proposals to make up a deficit in the budget created by a freeze of American aid, it was learned here today. The loan is expected to amount to seven percent of wages or income.

The loan is the government's reply to labor opposition to a proposal by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol to freeze the cost of living allowances added to wages at their present levels while permitting prices to rise by a withdrawal of government subsidies for essential commodities.

Earlier, the Finance Minister insisted that only a freeze on cost of living allowances would prevent an inflation, but now the government hopes that a compulsory loan and indirect taxation will go far in holding down an inflationary spiral.

## ISRAEL MAY REVOKE PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY OF COMMUNIST DEPUTY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Israel Government is considering the advisability of seeking to revoke the parliamentary immunity of Shmuel Mikunis, Communist Party deputy, for having written an article in Moscow attacking the Israel Government. Justice Minister Peretz Rosen announced in the Knesset today that the Attorney General is studying the possibilities of bringing Mr. Mikunis to trial on criminal charges.

During a recent visit to Moscow, Mr. Mikunis charged, in an article which appeared in Pravda, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper, that no outside force, but Israel's "chauvinistic Socialist Government" by its Sinai campaign had endangered Israel. Radio Moscow later broadcast the article.

## 24,000 IMMIGRANTS ARRIVED IN ISRAEL DURING LAST FOUR MONTHS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- More than 24,000 immigrants arrived in Israel in the last four months, Yehuda Braginsky, Jewish Agency member, reported today at a meeting of the Agency executive.

### GLOBAL JEWISH POPULATION GIVEN AS 11,810,000 IN W. J. C. SURVEY

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The world Jewish population is 11,810,000, according to a study made public today by the Institute of Jewish Affairs of the World Jewish Congress. The Institute based its figure on 1956 census reports and estimates.

Though the 11,810,000 Jews are located in about 110 lands and territories, 90 percent are living in 13 countries: United States, 5,200,000; Soviet Union, 2,000,000; Israel, 1,585,000; Britain, 450,000; Argentina, 400,000; France, 250,000; Canada, 230,000; Morocco, 210,000; Rumania, 190,000; Algeria, 130,000; Brazil, 125,000; South Africa 110,000; and Hungary, 100,000.

Among countries showing major increases since World War II are Canada, whose Jewish population rose from 170,000 to its present 230,000; Argentina, which added 80,000 to its 1939 Jewish population of 320,000; and Australia whose admission of immigrants increased the 1939 Jewish community from 30,000 to 53,500. The 1,585,000 Jews in Israel compare with 475,000 in pre-State Palestine.

In addition to a section on Jewish population figures, the survey deals with Jewish communities and their achievements throughout the world, with special sections on conditions behind the Iron Curtain, in North Africa, in the Moslem lands, and in a number of other countries. It establishes that in the nine-year period 1946-1955, more than one million Jews migrated, mainly from Europe and the Middle East, to new homes throughout the world; the majority settling in Israel.

### J. D. C. TO PROVIDE PASSOVER SUPPLIES FOR REFUGEES FROM HUNGARY, EGYPT

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Hungarian Jewish refugees in Austria, and Egyptian Jews in France, will receive thousands of pounds of matzoth and other Passover supplies from the Joint Distribution Committee, it was announced today by Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice chairman.

The JDC is sending to Austria some 40,000 pounds of matzoth, 10,000 pounds of matzoth meal, 4,500 bottles of wine and 5,000 pounds of kosher shortening, to meet the needs of Hungarian and other Jewish refugees, Mr. Leavitt said. Egyptian Jewish refugees in France will benefit from shipments to that country of 40,000 pounds of matzoth and 13,500 pounds of matzoth meal.

For the coming holiday, Mr. Leavitt indicated, JDC is providing Jews in 14 European countries with 472,840 pounds of matzoth and 121,930 pounds of matzoth meal as well as other Passover supplies. Approximately \$90,000 has already been allocated by JDC for the Passover holiday.

Supplies are also being provided for Jews in North Africa and other Moslem countries as well as in Israel where JDC maintains a program on behalf of aged, ill and handicapped newcomers. In Tunisia JDC has provided 150,000 pounds of flour, from which the community will bake its own matzoth. In other Moslem countries and in Israel it has been more economical and convenient to purchase supplies locally.

### WILLIAMS COLLEGE TO PROBE CHARGE OF ANTI-JEWISH BIAS IN FRATERNITY

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass., Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Williams College authorities have ordered an investigation into charges by student officers of a campus fraternity that the alumni directors of the Greek letter group were seeking to replace them because they had accepted four Jews as members of the society.

The college appointed a board of three, two trustees and a member of the faculty, to inquire into a statement by Duane S. Yee of Honolulu, president of Delta Phi fraternity, to the effect that the alumni had demanded a new constitution and a change of officers "or else." He asserted that the alumni action followed the pledging last year of six Jewish students, two of whom dropped out voluntarily before initiation.

### LEHMAN FOUNDATION PRESENTS \$750,000 GIFT TO BARNARD COLLEGE

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A gift of \$750,000 made by the Adele and Arthur Lehman Foundation to Barnard College to be used towards building a new library and classroom building on the Barnard campus was announced here today by Millicent C. McIntosh, president of Barnard. The new building will be known as Adele Lehman Hall, in honor of Mrs. Lehman, an alumna of Barnard College.

### JERUSALEM MUNICIPALITY THANKS N. Y. MAYOR FOR IGNORING KING SAUD

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Municipality of Jerusalem last night approved a vote of thanks to Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York for his refusal to extend his city's hospitality to King Saud of Saudi Arabia.

Other Israeli municipalities and civic organizations have lauded Mayor Wagner for his stand that the Arab King was anti-Jewish and anti-Catholic, a stand which earned the mayor a public rebuke from President Eisenhower.