



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXIV No. 51 - 39th year Thursday, March 14, 1957

BEN GURION WARNS ON EGYPT'S RETURN TO GAZA; RESERVES FREEDOM OF ACTION

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion served notice today that Israel reserves its freedom of action if there is any return of Egyptians to the Gaza Strip and, if the need arises, won't announce its action in advance. He said concern expressed in the Knesset over the Gaza situation was not imaginary, but real.

The Israeli leader takes sharp issue with Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, over a statement attributed to him that the United Nations Emergency Force was in Gaza only with the consent of Egypt.

"It is not in the power of the Egyptian dictator to agree or disagree, since he was ignominiously expelled from the Strip," Mr. Ben Gurion asserted. "I must add with regret that Dr. Bunche's superiors in the United Nations have sometimes been more concerned with the prestige of the Egyptian dictator than with the fulfillment of Egypt's international obligations and the preservation of peace in the Middle East.

"In accordance with the Foreign Minister's declaration in the General Assembly," Mr. Ben Gurion announced, "Israel reserves its freedom of action in case the Egyptians return to the Strip which never belonged to them and which was used by them only for the purpose of attacks or threats against Israel.

Says Israel Will Not Give Prior Notice Of Its Actions

"If the time comes when action is appropriate and necessary," Mr. Ben Gurion declared, the Government of Israel will not, of course, give prior notice of its actions."

Two moves by opposition parties to subject the Government's Gaza policy to Knesset review were defeated today. A General Zionist motion for debate was rejected by Parliament 51-24 and a Herut Party motion, 53-24. The rejections followed an unusual procedure in which Mr. Ben Gurion replied briefly only to the General Zionist motion and disdained reply to the Herut, merely asking the House to defeat the motion. The Achdut Avoda Party, a coalition member, was not present for the voting.

In introducing the Herut motion, Menachem Beigin, who cut short an American tour to return to Jerusalem, called for full discussion of the "catastrophic policy of the Government." He accused Mr. Ben Gurion of a "putsch by a dictator giving orders to abandon parts of the homeland." In his brief reply to the General Zionists, Mr. Ben Gurion admitted that the situation was worse today than when he last addressed the Knesset.

Admits Israeli Army Deeply Concerned over Gaza Withdrawal

In response to questions in Parliament today, the Prime Minister admitted that the Israel Army and the border settlements had been deeply concerned over the Government decision to withdraw from the Gaza Strip. He said he had met with representatives of both elements in an effort to explain the Government's motives and reasons.

Mr. Ben Gurion said an additional budget allowance of one million pounds had been made to strengthen the security of the border settlements. The Army, he said, had been instructed to prepare two detailed plans for ensuring the security of these settlements, one an "ideal" program and one based on the practical realities of the budget.

Mr. Ben Gurion, who also holds the portfolio of Ministry of Defense, announced that with the return to Jerusalem of Mrs. Golda Meir, the Foreign Minister, he would, in coming weeks, devote practically all his time to security matters. This concentration, he said, was particularly required to ensure that overall budget cuts do not affect the strength of the Army and its capabilities.

Meanwhile, the Israel Cabinet today recommended extension for another year of the special defense tax deducted from all salaries and business incomes. The tax extension is expected to bring in 55,000,000 pounds during the fiscal year. A like sum will be saved through economies in the various government departments and cuts in civil service personnel.

Reports reaching here from Gaza state that Communist elements in the Gaza population, who went underground during the Israeli occupation, were reported today to have reappeared and begun intensive activity in collaboration with extremist elements. The Communists are said to oppose the presence of United Nations Emergency Forces in the Strip as a strengthening of United Nations States position in the Middle East.

EISENHOWER CONSULTS DULLES ON GAZA ISSUE; PHONES HIM IN AUSTRALIA

WASHINGTON, March 13. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower told a press conference today on the question of resumption of Egyptian civil administration in Gaza that he would like to see those arrangements which United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold considers best and which would lead to conditions conducive to a real peace settlement.

The President made known that he spoke this morning with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles--who is now in Australia--on the Gaza issue. He said Mr. Hammarskjold is going to Cairo on Saturday to conduct negotiations and that the United States views have been made known to him. He added that since the issue is in a negotiating stage he did not want to prejudice or predict the outcome.

The President avoided a direct answer to a question on whether he felt that the return of the Egyptians to Gaza was consistent with U.S. assurances to Israel. He said he had neither seen nor heard of a report on statements by Dr. Ralph Bunche, UN Assistant Secretary General, agreeing with Egyptian claims to civil administration rights.

Mr. Eisenhower said he had had no recent reports of new Communist arms shipments to Egypt. The President said he favored the use of the International Bank wherever possible for Middle East development.

BAN ON TRAVEL TO ISRAEL REMAINS EFFECTIVE, STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS

WASHINGTON, March 13. (JTA) -- The State Department policy on travel to Israel remains as stated last October when travel to the Jewish State and its bordering Arab neighbors was banned to "non-essential" American citizens. The resumption of travel to Israel is dependent upon the return of "normal security conditions" which do not exist presently, State Department officials said today.

(From Jerusalem it was reported today that the Israel Government has formally asked the United States to end its ban on travel of American citizens to Israel. The ban was imposed on Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria after the initiation of the Sinai operation.)

Senator Clifford P. Case (R., N. J.,) has urged the State Department to resume issuance of passports to tourists desiring to visit Israel, including Christians who want to celebrate Easter in the Holy Land and to Jews who want to be there during the Passover festival, beginning April 16. "The forces of Israel," he said, "have been withdrawn to its own borders. There is no reason to penalize the nation by withholding American tourists and visitors from her land."

U. N. SECRETARY GENERAL GETS VIEWS OF U. S. ON GAZA DEVELOPMENTS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 13. (JTA) -- American delegate Henry Cabot Lodge today conferred with United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold on Gaza developments. It is understood that he told Mr. Hammarskjold that the United States believes the UN Emergency Force should be stationed on both sides of the Gaza border. He is also understood to have informed the Secretary General that the U. S. feels that UNEF should remain in Gaza for the time being but that Egypt has juridical rights in the Strip.

Israel representative Mordecai Kidron called today upon Mr. Hammarskjold for the second successive day in connection with the new situation in Gaza. A UN spokesman announced this afternoon that Mr. Hammarskjold is planning to leave Saturday for Cairo. Asked whether Mr. Hammarskjold would also go to Israel, the spokesman said there were no such plans at this time.

This afternoon Israel complained to the Security Council about the renewal of fedayeen attacks originating in the Gaza Strip. Abba Eban, chairman of the Israel delegation, sent a letter to Arkady Sobolev of the USSR, this month's chairman of the Council, stating: "The renewal by marauders from the Gaza Strip of these attacks in Israel is a matter of extreme gravity and danger, which my government views with the utmost concern."

U. S. RESUMES SURPLUS FOOD ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL THROUGH HADASSAH

JE"USALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- United States surplus food assistance to Israel through Hadassah has been resumed and the first shipment of dried milk and cheese is due shortly. Dr. Miriam Freund, president of Hadassah, told newsmen here today. The last shipment was received here in November.

Dr. Freund also reviewed Hadassah activities in this country and in the United States including the public relations activities of all Zionist groups in the U. S. in the last four months since the Sinai operation. She expressed the conviction that the Hadassah-supported medical center which should be completed here by 1960 will become the focus of Middle East medicine, contributing greatly to an Arab-Israel rapprochement.

EBAN CUTS HIS VACATION; RETURNS TO WASHINGTON TO CONFER ON GAZA ISSUE

WASHINGTON, March 13. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban arrived here at noon today cutting short a Florida vacation to deal with the new Middle East crisis over the Gaza Strip. Mr. Eban is expected to confer with Undersecretary of State Christian Herter this afternoon.

Yesterday, Israeli Minister Reuven Shiloah called on Under-Secretary Herter and spent 40 minutes with him in conference during which he expressed Israel's concern over Egypt's new intentions with regard to Gaza. Earlier, Mr. Shiloah called on Assistant Secretary of State William Rountree. Following a 40-minute meeting, Mr. Shiloah told reporters that the main purpose of the meeting was "to resume a discussion of issues engaging the two governments which have been in abeyance during the United Nations consideration of the tense security situation."

A recommendation that the Suez Canal clearance be halted until the Egyptian Government gives "definite, dependable commitments" that the Canal will be open to ships of all nations including Israel was advanced today to Undersecretary Herter by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, chairman of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs.

Rabbi Bernstein told Mr. Herter in a telegram that it would be "incongruous for the international community to clear the canal and to repair the damage caused by Nasser's own sabotage in the absence of any assurances that Nasser will permit the Canal to remain an international waterway." The Zionist leader also urged the Administration to exert leadership by direct diplomatic means and through the United Nations to resist the present actions by the Egyptian Government.

7,000 DEMONSTRATE IN GAZA; ARABS CUT RAILWAY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND GAZA

TEL AVIV, March 13. (JTA) -- Seven thousand Gaza residents today demonstrated in the streets of the town against the Eisenhower Doctrine and hailed the nomination by Cairo of an Egyptian governor for the territory.

(At UN headquarters, a report from Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, UNEF commander, termed the demonstration "peaceful" and stated that the demonstrators shouted: "The men of UNEF are our friends and will continue to be our friends." Gen. Burns reported he had specifically told local merchants "they were free to resume trade with Egypt." He concluded the report with this statement: "Seven days after the first UNEF contingents had crossed into the Gaza Strip, the general situation appeared to be peaceful and most people in good spirits.")

Meanwhile, Egyptianization of the Strip continued apace. The rail connection between Israel and the Strip was cut by Arabs today despite the fact that a train with several thousand tons of supplies for Arab refugees in UNRWA camps was due. United Nations Emergency Force officers have informed local merchants they are free to trade with "anyone they desire"--this means with Egypt since UNEF has sealed the border with Israel. UNEF also recognized the Egyptian pound as legal tender.

HUGE IMMIGRATION OF "IRON CURTAIN" REFUGEES EXPECTED IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- Israel will admit in the next ten months a total of 100,000 Jewish refugees from behind the Iron Curtain, Egypt and North Africa, the largest wave of immigration in any single year since 1949, Dr. Dov Joseph, the newly appointed treasurer of the Jewish Agency, announced at a press conference today. He said that the transfer and absorption of these refugees would cost a total of \$300,000,000, half of which will be spent in the next ten months. The remainder will be spent in the succeeding year or two.

Breaking down the influx of immigrants by areas of origin, Dr. Joseph said that 5,000 a month were expected from East European countries, 1,500 monthly from Egypt and 1,000 monthly from North Africa. This brings the total to 90,000 this year. Another 10,000 are expected from diverse danger areas from which Jews seek to depart for Israel. Dr. Joseph came to this country to consult with American Jewish leadership on the implementation of this rescue program. He will consult especially with the leaders of the United Jewish Appeal, from which the Agency derives the bulk of its funds.

"Israel has long looked forward to the day when Jews under Communist rule would be permitted to emigrate," Dr. Joseph said. "Now that this prospect has presented itself as a reality, there is great gratification in Israel. The opportunity has come, however, at a time when the country is preoccupied, as never before with security problems that drain its treasury and strain its economy. Nonetheless, Israel is determined not to miss this historic opportunity to redeem tens of thousands of Jews who seemed lost forever to the Jewish people because of the Iron Curtain between Jews under Communist rule and their brethren in the free world.

"These immigrants from behind the Iron Curtain," he continued, "are generally skilled artisans, professionals, technicians, men with executive ability whose talents are of great and immediate value for the State of Israel and who begin strengthening the country's economy immediately on their arrival."

EGYPTIAN JEWS IN U.S. ASK STATE DEPT. TO ADMIT JEWS LEAVING EGYPT

WASHINGTON, March 13. (JTA) -- Leaders of the American Association of Jews from Egypt today appealed to officials of the State and Justice Departments to offer haven to Jewish refugees from the Nasser persecution.

Stressing that nearly 14,000 Jews have already been stripped of their possessions and expelled from Egypt and that the fate of another 40,000 still in Egypt lies between exile or imprisonment, the leaders called upon the U.S. Attorney General to use his existing powers to admit as parolees a "fair share" of the victims.

The group which today called upon Donald C. Bergus of the State Department's Office of Near Eastern Affairs and Edward Rudnick, Assistant Commissioner of Immigration of the Justice Department, was made up of the president of the Association, I. Edward Haffkine of New York, and the vice-president and secretary, both of whom withheld their names for fear of reprisals against relatives who are still in Egypt. All three are now American citizens.

In presenting their appeal to the government officials, the three submitted a documented survey of conditions in Egypt, entitled "The Black Record: Nasser's Persecution of Egyptian Jewry," which was recently published by the American Jewish Congress. The 48-page study is a detailed account of Nasser's policy of spoliation, imprisonment and expulsion which is aimed at destroying that country's ancient Jewish community.

DUBLIN'S JEWISH MAYOR ARRIVES IN U.S. TODAY; WILL AID U. J. A., DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- Robert Briscoe, Dublin's first Jewish mayor, will be greeted by a delegation of United Jewish Appeal leaders tomorrow when he arrives at Idlewild Airport for a nation-wide tour on behalf of the UJA \$100,000,000 Emergency Rescue Fund and to strengthen the ties between the United States and Ireland.

William Rosenwald, UJA general chairman, and Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman, will join with Abe Stark, president of the New York City Council, and Paul Taylor of the city's official welcoming committee, in greeting Mayor Briscoe on arrival. Mr. Stark and Mr. Taylor will represent Mayor Robert F. Wagner. Sean Keating will greet Mayor Briscoe in behalf of the Irish Societies of America for whom Mr. Briscoe will also be making a number of appearances.

He will make his first UJA appearance at a luncheon meeting of cabinet officers of the UJA of Greater New York at the Sheraton Astor hotel at noon Thursday, and he will be officially received by the city of New York in the chambers of Mayor Wagner Friday noon.

The Mayor will be accompanied by his wife. Their oldest son, William Briscoe, a pilot for KLM, will captain the plane bringing his parents from Ireland. Another son, Joseph, a Dublin dentist, also will accompany them. The Briscoes have two other sons and three daughters.

900 IMMIGRANTS, MOST OF THEM FROM EUROPEAN LANDS, ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

HAIFA, March 13. (JTA) -- Nine hundred immigrants, most of them from European countries, arrived in the port of Haifa today. Most of the arrivals were sent immediately after clearance to housing prepared for them in development areas.

Diplomats from ten countries stationed in Israel today visited Youth Aliyah institutions in a tour conducted by Moshe Kol, Mrs. Rose Halprin, Jewish Agency member, and Dr. Miriam Freund, president of Hadassah. Among the group were representatives of Asian and Western countries and Czechoslovakia.

MOSHE SHARETT ARRIVES IN PARIS; WILL HELP ISRAEL DRIVE IN FRANCE

PARIS, March 13. (JTA) -- Moshe Sharett, former Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Israel, arrived in Paris today. He is in France to address meetings under the auspices of the Israel Aid Campaign.

Israeli Ambassador Jacob Tsur conferred here with French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau. They discussed the situation consequent to Israel's completion of troop withdrawals from the Akaba and Gaza areas. Mr. Tsur also conferred with Jules Moch, a member of France's delegation to the United Nations, who had just returned from a visit to Israel.

ISRAEL BOND SALES IN U.S. REPORTED RUNNING 20 PERCENT AHEAD OF 1956

PARIS, March 13. (JTA) -- Israel bond sales this year are running 20 percent ahead of 1956, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, executive vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization, said here today on his arrival to attend a European conference on Israel bonds. He said the 1957 sales targets are \$75,000,000 in the United States and \$45,000,000 in Europe.