



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXIV No. 57 - 39th year

Friday, March 22, 1957

EISENHOWER, MACMILLAN DISCUSS MID-EAST AS BERMUDA TALKS BEGIN

TUCKER'S TOWN, Bermuda. March 21. (JTA) -- Middle East problems, figuring high on the agenda of the Eisenhower-Macmillan meetings, came under scrutiny by the two statesmen today as their four-day conference got under way.

The President and the British Prime Minister, at their meeting this morning, launched into immediate consideration of these questions. A joint communique issued at the close of the session said that they exchanged views on the following "urgent questions" - first, the Gaza Strip, second, the Gulf of Akaba, third, the Suez Canal. All three points were referred to the experts who were to report later to the resumed meeting.

The British delegation here, making no secret of the fact that it considers Nasser of Egypt a threat to the entire Middle East, seeks coordinated American-British efforts against the Egyptian dictator. Sentiment among the Americans here, however, favors concentrating on settlement of Middle East issues regardless of Nasser's individual role.

The difference between the British and American approaches as developed here, is the difference between the policy of Secretary of State Dulles of appeasing the Arabs and Prime Minister Harold MacMillan's stand in favor of a sterner policy.

(Agency reports in the London press tonight suggested that the British delegation was coming around to the American view that United Nations troops should be stationed on Israel soil as well as on the Egyptian side.)

Mr. Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles are keeping in close touch with Washington on the Gaza situation and will study the results of United Nations Secretary General Hammarskjold's Cairo talks before clarifying their final stand on the Middle East.

HAMMARSKJOLD REPORTED DEMANDING ISRAEL QUIT EL AUJA ZONE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 21. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold agreed to Israel Foreign Minister Golda Meir's demand to put to President Nasser of Egypt the question of his claimed "right of belligerency," it was learned today, but insisted that he must feel free to phrase the query in his own way.

In view of the Secretary General's reluctance to raise the question directly, it was considered here unlikely that Israel would have a straight "yes" or "no" answer as to whether Egypt will still insist that a state of war exists. It is on the contention that a state of war continues that Egypt bases its "belligerent rights" to bar Israel shipping from the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Akaba.

Israel, it was reported here, had requested that President Nasser be informed that if he does not give up belligerent status, the United Nations Emergency Forces would be withdrawn from Egyptian territory. Under the present circumstances, Israel sees UNEF on the border acting only as a shield to protect Egypt.

U. N. Chief, U. S. Officials Demand Israel Concessions

Mr. Hammarskjold and American officials have taken the position, however, that President Nasser has already made concessions by admitting the UNEF to Egyptian territory and that it is now up to Israel to make a similar concession.

According to Cairo reports tonight, Mr. Hammarskjold is taking the position that Israel must evacuate the Nizana, (El Auja) zone, demilitarized under the 1949 armistice, as a prior condition to his asking Nasser to renounce belligerency claims. Egyptian sources have reported that the UN emergency force would shift its headquarters from the Gaza Strip to Nizana.

The Israel Foreign Minister took the position here that termination of Egypt's state of belligerency "is the vital and basic problem of the Middle East." She expressed the belief that this was "the desire and wish of the United Nations."

Mrs. Meir indicated differences of opinion with Mr. Hammarskjold over the situation in the Gaza Strip and the nature of the administration there. She voiced hope that the Secretary General would get "the full details" and report on them to the United Nations.

MRS. MEIR CONFERS WITH PINEAU ON HER MISSION TO WASHINGTON, U.N.

PARIS, March 21. (JTA) -- Israel Foreign Minister Golda Meir stopped off in Paris today en route from New York to Jerusalem to see French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau to discuss the results of her mission to United Nations headquarters and Washington in connection with the developments in the Gaza Strip.

The French Council of Ministers (Cabinet) considered the Middle East situation at its meeting yesterday and agreed that the situation was "serious." Moral obligations of France to Israel were referred to in the meeting by several ministers.

The Foreign Affairs Commission of the French National Assembly also reviewed the Middle Eastern situation Wednesday and voted to open an inquiry into the situation. A resolution adopted by the commission stated that "the Foreign Affairs Commission, moved by information relative to the security of Israel and the aggravation of the situation in Gaza and Akaba, considers as its duty to open an inquiry into the conditions under which a people is struggling for its liberty.

"The commission," it announced, "has charged its president to make contact with the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Israel Embassy with a view to examining the conditions under which an investigation committee would be able to conduct a useful investigation in order to make a report to the Council of the Republic."

STATE DEPT. TOLD FAILURE TO REDEEM ISRAEL PLEDGE WILL HURT U.S.

WASHINGTON, March 21. (JTA) -- Rep. Hugh Scott (R., Pa.) has underlined in a letter to Under Secretary of State Christian Herter that if conditions between Israel and Egypt are allowed to return to their prewar status, "the assumptions upon which Israel has relied will prove worthless and the moral force of an American commitment will carry no weight anywhere."

He told Mr. Herter that "our Government should be doing everything to prevent Egyptian return to Gaza," and pointed out that "within recent weeks we did not hesitate to carry on a full diplomatic offensive to persuade the Israel Government to accept our judgment. Should we not take now a similar course with respect to Egypt?"

The Republican Congressman also called on the Administration to resume the economic aid programs and to lift the travel ban to Israel.

The United States must "give substance" to the promises and assumptions on which Israel agreed to withdraw from the Gaza and Akaba areas. Rep. James Byrne (D., Pa.) declared in the House today. He said that UN forces must remain in Sharm el Sheikh and the Gaza Strip. He said "if past experience can serve as our guide we must never allow Egyptian forces to return to the Gaza Strip." He said equally grave would be the consequences if Egypt were to prevent Israel ships from using the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Akaba.

American Jewish Leaders Ask U.S. to Sway Egypt to End Belligerency

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- The presidents of 17 major American Jewish organizations called upon the United States today to "use the full weight of its influence and authority in order to bring about an end to Egypt's proclaimed policy of belligerency, and immediately to ensure exclusive United Nations control of Gaza and freedom of navigation in the Gulf of Akaba and the Suez Canal."

"Our Government's behavior on this issue will be regarded as a yardstick by all nations of the free world whose future is linked to their faith in America and its pledges," they declared. "It is clear that Israel's withdrawal (from the Sinai Peninsula) was brought about by the assurances given to her by our country--the most solemn assurances carrying the seal of the President of the United States."

The statement expressed distress over "the amazing spectacle of the free world, capitulating before the bluff and bluster" of Colonel Nasser. They warned against the restoration of conditions under which Israel "in its legitimate quest for security and defense" might again "be driven to desperation by the failure of the United States and the United Nations to act resolutely."

BEN GURION ORDERED GAZA WITHDRAWAL TO KEEP ARMS SUPPLY FLOWING

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- Convinced that the Eisenhower Administration would apply all-out economic sanctions in the Sinai withdrawal deadlock, Prime Minister David Ben Gurion ordered the withdrawal to assure continued delivery of arms to Israel, he wrote in a letter whose contents were disclosed today.

In the letter, sent to Gaza Strip border settlements two weeks ago, Ben Gurion declared that "another war might come within a year or two if not earlier" and a break in weapons delivery, particularly jet aircraft, would have been likely if sanctions were ordered.

SWEDEN FAVORS KEEPING UNITED NATIONS TROOPS IN GAZA AREA

STOCKHOLM, March 21, (JTA) -- The withdrawal of foreign troops from Egyptian territory was only the first step in the achievement of a durable peace in the Middle East, Swedish Foreign Minister Osten Unden told Parliament last night.

He called for keeping the United Nations Emergency Force on the scene for a transitional period until calm and order was restored in the Gaza Strip, pledging that Swedish troops would be kept in UNEF. Among UNEF's functions, he listed guarding the armistice line against illegal crossings. He defended the UN's intervention into the Egyptian situation and insisted that UN member states must refrain from force to obtain what they consider to be their rights.

Meanwhile, Opposition leader M. Ohlin scored the government for not pressing more vigorously the Raoul Wallenberg case. Sweden should demand more detailed information from Moscow on all details of Wallenberg's imprisonment, he insisted.

WALLENBERG FAMILY REFUSES TO BELIEVE HE DIED IN MOSCOW PRISON

TEL AVIV, March 21, (JTA) -- The family of Raoul Wallenberg, refusing to accept the official Russian statement on the diplomat's death in a Moscow prison, still clings to the hope that he is still alive and being held somewhere in Russia by his Communist captors, it was learned today.

The hope and the parallel rejection of the report by the Swedish Government caused the cancellation of a memorial meeting which had been scheduled here this evening. The meeting, which the Swedish Minister had promised to attend, had been slated to hear lectures by Prof. Aryeh Tartakower and Rabbi Mordecai Nurock on the diplomat's unique rescue mission when he saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from Hitler's furnaces.

The Israeli executive of the World Jewish Congress decided to cancel the meeting when a letter was received from the Wallenberg family in Sweden expressing the hope the envoy was still alive. The Swedish Government notified its Minister here that the Russian statement had not been accepted.

The Russian statement, made after considerable prodding from Sweden, was issued last month. Mr. Wallenberg died of a heart attack in a Moscow jail, the Russian Government reported. The report was disputed by a German businessman, who told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he had been in the same prison and that he knew personally that the diplomat was alive after the date the Russians gave for his death.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN POLAND CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, March 21, (JTA) -- The Catholic Church in Poland has thrown its influence into the fight against anti-Semitism in that country, the New York Times reported today. This is the first evidence of public Catholic action against anti-Semitism which is costing many Jews their jobs in government and industry and has brought on a new wave of emigration.

In a Warsaw dispatch, the Times said that the Catholic weekly Tygodnik Powszechny, which is recognized as representing the views of the Catholic Primate of Poland, declared: "It must be stated explicitly that anti-Semitism cannot be reconciled with Catholicism. Anti-Semitism is completely pagan in essence."

The Catholic weekly, alluding to the argument current in Poland that Jews alone have been responsible for Poland's Communist regime and economic distress, said: "The Jews have their rights as equals whether there are 3,000,000 or 100,000 of them. They have their share in the history of our country, in its economy and culture. The anti-Semites assert that this share of the Jews was evil and harmful. There is no basis for such a sweeping assertion."

The Times report also revealed that passport applications for Jews now or formerly army officers and in the secret police who seek to go to Israel, have been refused under new Polish regulations. Meanwhile, it noted, pleas by the United Workers (Communist) Party to Jewish professionals and technicians not to quit the country had fallen on deaf ears.

JOBS WAITING FOR ORT SCHOOL GRADUATES IN NORTH AMERICA

GENEVA, March 21, (JTA) -- There are jobs for every skilled mechanic graduated from ORT vocational schools in Tunisia and Morocco. Max Braude, director general of the World ORT Union, reported here today upon his return from a tour of North Africa. He insisted that such favorable conditions "must be exploited" by making every effort to expand ORT's facilities in the countries involved and to turn out more graduates.

ORT schools have helped make "deep inroads" into poverty among Jews in Morocco, Dr. Braude added, but warned that much still has to be done and at an accelerated pace if a solution is to be found for the "grinding economic helplessness" in which tens of thousands of North African Jews are trapped.

NEW YORK U. J. A. CAMPAIGN OPENS WITH \$12, 000, 000 ADVANCE

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- More than 800 business and community leaders attended the inaugural dinner of the 1957 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York here tonight and applauded announcement that the pre-campaign drive had reached \$12, 000, 000, a new record for the opening stage of the New York campaign.

Gov. Averell Harriman, Robert Briscoe, Lord Mayor of Dublin, Dov Joseph, treasurer of the Jewish Agency and Jack D. Weiler, general chairman of the New York campaign, addressed the dinner which was a testimonial to Monroe Goldwater, president of the New York UJA. Samuel D. Leidesdorf presided. Gov. Harriman made the presentation of a gold plaque to Mr. Goldwater.

In a scathing review of American Middle East policy, Gov. Harriman charged that "our Government did nothing but pursue its course of Nasser appeasement." He said that most free people everywhere "believed that the explicit assumptions upon which Israel acted were agreed to by the United States and supported by the President of the United States in his letter to the Prime Minister of Israel. The honor of our country was universally interpreted as committed. That was three weeks ago. Since then, Israel's assumptions have been challenged by Arab leaders; the United Nations has been arrogantly elbowed by the Egyptians out of non-Egyptian Gaza; the ugly word 'betrayal' has been muttered around the world; and the Middle East has been plunged again into crisis."

Mr. Harriman asserted that "the honor of our country was committed as it has seldom been in our history." He warned that "there can be no favorable solution, however, and no peace in the Middle East without a foreign policy under vigorous full time leadership in Washington. Reference to the United Nations is no substitute for United States policy."

"The main questions before us today are not questions the Secretary General of the United States can answer. They are questions the President of the United States alone must answer. It is his responsibility to see to it that United Nations authority is maintained in the Middle East against the aggressive tactics of the dictator of Egypt."

Speaking after announcement of the advance contributions to the regular UJA drive and the Emergency Rescue Fund, Mayor Briscoe told the guests that "you have struck a great blow for human freedom and human dignity everywhere." He said it is an exciting experience for me to advocate the cause of the United Jewish Appeal because, as I see it, the United Jewish Appeal is a challenge to every man who values his own freedom. There is no better test of a man's real devotion to freedom than his readiness to help others escape tyranny and injustice. You have passed that test with flying colors here this evening."

"An avalanche of immigration" is now pouring into Israel, Dr. Joseph declared. He said the Jewish Agency anticipates that 100, 000 immigrants must be brought to Israel within the next ten months from Egypt, which is in the process of expelling its Jewish population, and from other countries which had long cut their Jewish populations off from the outside world but which are now permitting them to depart. He expressed a fear that insufficient funds could delay the evacuation of these Jews to Israel and might result in their being stranded in lands where they live in fear.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN TO MEET IN JERUSALEM

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- Delegates from Jewish women's groups in 15 countries will gather in Jerusalem March 31 for a week-long triennial convention of the International Council of Jewish Women, the organization announced here today. The council is composed of groups engaged in social work projects and in the promotion of human and civil rights.

A delegation of seven women, headed by Mrs. Moise S. Cahn, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, will represent the American group at the international parley. Delegates will also come from Argentina, Australia, Canada, England, Germany, India, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and Israel.

Convention sessions will be held on the campus of the Hebrew University. This will be the organization's seventh convention and its first in Israel. It was formed in 1912.

In the furtherance of its program of exchanging information on social service techniques and in promoting human rights and peace activities, the international council cooperates with national and international organizations dedicated to equal rights, implementation of the United Nations Bill of Rights and amelioration of the position of all women.

The opening session will be addressed by Israel President Itzhak Ben Zvi, Foreign Minister Golda Meir and Mrs. Beba Idelson, member of Israel's Parliament and head of the Working Women's Council of Israel.