



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Content Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIV No. 217 - 39th year Thursday, November 14 1957

SYRIAN CHARGES OF SECRET JORDAN-ISRAEL TALKS TERMED "UTTERLY FANTASTIC"

JERUSALEM, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- A Foreign Office spokesman today described as "utterly fantastic" Syrian charges of secret Jordan-Israel talks on the Arab refugee problem. He said that the Israel Government "knows nothing about such negotiations."

The spokesman described the official attitude of the Israel Government toward the rash of Arab charges as one of considering the accusations as part of cold war tactics directed by the Soviets and intended to keep up tensions in the Middle East. He said the Government believes the goal of the effort was to bring Jordan into the camp of pro-Soviet Arab states headed by Egypt and Syria.

The spokesman said that anti-Jordan radio propaganda from Cairo and Damascus was monitored in Jerusalem and, together with Jordanian anti-Israel propaganda attacks, was re-broadcast by Israel on its Arabic transmission facilities "to prove that Egypt and Syria have no monopoly of anti-Israel feeling." Israel put into operation this week a powerful new radio transmitter aimed at complete coverage of the Arab world including remote sheikdoms in the Persian Gulf.

Israel to Meet Syrians in Armistice Body; First Time Since 1955

JERUSALEM, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- For the first time since the end of 1955 Israelis will meet with Syrians in the Mixed Armistice Commission, it was officially announced here today. Joseph Tekoah, head of the Foreign Ministry's Affairs Division, will head the Israel delegation.

The meeting will discuss an Israeli complaint that Syrian troops fired on a work party on Israel soil and killed one person and wounded a second. It will also consider a Syrian complaint, filed first, that the Israelis had fired on a Syrian village. The session will be held a few miles inside Syria at an old customs house on a highway leading to Damascus.

The Israeli authorities insist that they have not departed from their refusal to discuss matters pertaining to civilian work in the demilitarized zone through the MAC, though the Syrian shootings occurred in the demilitarized zone. They assert that since the Syrians fired from their own territory the incident at Tel Katzir was a violation of the general armistice pact.

It was also revealed, meanwhile, it was disclosed today that UN observers along the Israel-Syrian border have been conducting a topographical survey of the border region to establish the exact boundary and thus cut down the likelihood of incidents precipitated through error.

Four Israeli Policemen Injured by Landmine at Syrian Border

TEL AVIV, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Four Israeli border police suffered minor wounds today when a jeep in which they were traveling struck and detonated a landmine in the demilitarized zone on the Israeli-Syrian border. The incident occurred north of Dan, on Israel territory.

An Israeli military spokesman charged that Syrian troops had laid a minefield within the zone. It was recently discovered and was partly dismantled when the jeep making its way along a narrow "safe" path through the field skidded and went off the road and over an explosive cache.

Jordan Reiterates Charges Against Israel at United Nations

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Jordan kept the heat on the Security Council today in connection with its complaint that Israel is violating the armistice agreement through its afforestation work in the no-man's land area south of Jerusalem.

Dr. Yusuf Haikal, Jordanian delegate, sent to Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld a second letter in two days, this time alleging that Israel had agreed shortly after signing the armistice agreement in 1949 that no civilians would be allowed to enter the disputed area.

An Israeli spokesman pointed out that the document submitted by Jordan today could not be taken out of the context of the many dozens of documents relating to the Jerusalem no-man's land. The Security Council is expected to meet late next week on the Jordan issue.

U.S. STARTS SELLING SURPLUS FOOD TO ISRAEL; FIRST SHIPMENT AUTHORIZED

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- An authorization for immediate shipment to Israel of a transport of American wheat worth \$1,700,000 was issued here by the Department of Agriculture under an agreement signed last week-end by Israel Ambassador Abba Eban. The agreement provides for the purchase by Israel of \$35,000,000 worth of American surplus food with payment to be made in Israel currency.

The first transport of wheat will be shipped to Israel before January 31. Other transports of wheat, corn, vegetable oil, butter and dry milk will follow. Under the agreement--which is in accordance with Public Law 480 dealing with distribution abroad of surplus U.S. agricultural commodities--Israel will also purchase cotton, tobacco, cheese and other farm commodities.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT WILLING TO SELL ITS SHARES IN PRIVATE INDUSTRIES

JERUSALEM, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel is willing to sell to foreign investors its own shares in private industry in Israel, Levi Eshkol, Finance Minister, announced today. The government originally went into business because these industries, in their initial stages, could not round up sufficient private capital. He said that the government had invested \$30,000,000 in chemical and fertilizer enterprises.

Addressing a group of Canadian visitors, Mr. Eshkol stated that private capital might be interested now that such industries, largely basic, were established and operating effectively. The Israel Government, he said, would accept private capital investors as partners or sell government-owned shares outright. Money obtained through such sales would be used for government investment in new enterprise.

AMERICAN FIRM OFFERS TO SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH MORE CRUDE OIL

TEL AVIV, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- The director of an American firm which owns an Israel oil company said here today that the company could supply crude oil to the Israel market in larger quantities than its present quota of 25 percent of local requirements. He said that Sonol plans to establish a plant for refining a processing of imported bulk lubricants.

Lawrence Spiner, director of L. Sonneborn Associates of New York, parent firm of the Sonol Oil Company, made this announcement during a visit here which he said was not connected with the impending withdrawal from Israel sales activities of the British-owned Shell company. Sonol, Shell and Delek are the three firms now selling in Israel.

Meanwhile, it was learned here today that Isaac Wolfson, British department store magnate, and the Israel Government have come to an impasse in Mr. Wolfson's negotiations to take over Shell oil interests in Israel. The impasse is caused, it is understood, by three major problems:

1. Israel's insistence on receiving crude oil from certain sources.
2. Mr. Wolfson's insistence on operating conditions more favorable than those under which Shell worked. Shell claimed these conditions contributed to an unprofitable operation.
3. The ways in which Mr. Wolfson proposes to finance his purchase of all Shell installations and petroleum supplies--exclusive of the Haifa refinery--in Israel.

Reportedly, a satisfactory solution could be found for the first two problems, but not the third. Among other proposals Mr. Wolfson has put forward is that the Israel Government grant him a loan toward the purchase price. The government has turned thumbs down on this proposition.

ISRAELI PARLIAMENT VOTES DOWN REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO EDUCATION

JERUSALEM, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- The Israel Parliament voted down today a move designed to precipitate a debate and an inquiry into charges that the government had discriminated against religious education.

Itzhak Raphael, a deputy of the United Religious Party, who asked for the debate proffered a long list of alleged abuses including charges that religious parents in new settlements were pressed not to register their children in Orthodox schools. Other religious deputies asserted that new immigrants in some settlements had petitioned for religious schools.

A spokesman for the government deplored the injection of politics into education. He asserted that the Ministry of Education had received requests from recent immigrants to transfer their children from religious to secular schools because in rural areas the religious schools had lower educational standards.

JEWISH AGENCY TO FLOAT A SECOND ISSUE OF KEREN HAYESOD BONDS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive announced today a decision to float a second issue of Keren Hayesod bonds this year. The new issue will total 2,500,000 pounds. It is expected to be snapped up within two weeks after it is offered. as was the first loan.

GERMANY TRANSFERS ANOTHER SHIP TO ISRAEL; BUILT AS REPARATIONS

HAMBURG, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Another 560-passenger ship constructed for Israel through the West German reparations pact, the 10,000-ton Jerusalem, was transferred to Israel's national shipping line, Zim, yesterday. Under command of Captain W. Freudenberg, the Jerusalem will start the maiden voyage that will take her to Marseille and, by the end of November, to her future home port, Haifa.

The ship's first stop will be in Stockholm, where the King of Sweden will board the vessel for inspection. Like her sister ship, the Theodor Herzl, the new liner will be assigned to the express run on the Mediterranean route between Haifa and Marseille, but may carry tourists to South America and the Bermudas on luxury cruises during part of the year.

Built and outfitted at Deutsche Werft, Germany's biggest shipyard, it sailed from there under the Bonn Republic flag to the international free-trade zone of Hamburg harbor, outside Germany's national jurisdiction. There the liner was handed over to Dr. A. A. Blum, the chief legal officer of the Israel Purchasing Mission in West Germany. On the maiden trip the first passengers will be immigrants taken aboard at Marseille.

RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVES VISIT ISRAELI CREWMEN HELD IN EGYPT

GENEVA, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Two representatives of the International Red Cross visited the six Israeli crewmen of the fishing trawler Doron, who have been imprisoned in Egypt since that Israeli vessel was seized by the Egyptians September 25. The Red Cross representatives found the sailors in good health and gave them some medical supplies, according to an announcement by the Red Cross office here.

The visit took place November 5 at a military camp at Abaffieh, a suburb of Cairo. Those who saw the Israelis are David Detraz, a general delegate of the International Red Cross to the Middle East; and E. E. Muller, Red Cross delegate in Egypt.

JEWISH CONGRESS SUBMITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO U. N. ON STATELESS PERSONS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Recommendations that the United Nations adopt measures for the protection of stateless persons threatened with expulsion from their lands of residence and to aid such persons when they are subject to persecution in the countries of their habitual residence, were made here by the World Jewish Congress.

In a memorandum to Sir Leslie Knox Munro, president of the General Assembly, Dr. Maurice Perlzweig, WJC representative to the UN's Economic and Social Council, noted that events in Egypt recently "demonstrated that in any upheaval, stateless persons suffer most because they have no authority to protect them." The memorandum proposed that the protection of stateless persons be entrusted to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

FOUR-DAY ASSEMBLY OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS OPENS TODAY IN NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 Jewish community leaders from all parts of the United States and Canada arrived here today to attend the 26th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds which opens here tomorrow.

The Assembly will continue for four days, will adopt decisions on major problems affecting Jewish community life in the United States, will appraise the achievements of 10 years of American Jewish aid to Israel, and future needs. The keynote speaker, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, will deliver an address on the goals of Jewish life in America and the outlook for the future.

Workshop sessions will consider such pressing community problems as Jewish communities in the changing South; when should a community build a home for its aged? metropolitan planning in large cities, and developing social services in the small community. The workshops will discuss budgeting for total community needs, grouped in accordance with size of Jewish population. One will be developed to the question of stepping up recruitment of professional personnel. Workshop sessions in the afternoon will concentrate on planning for 1958 campaigns.

The four-day conference will continue Friday with two series of workshop sessions, one in the morning and another in the afternoon. Highlight of the Assembly will be a special luncheon session devoted to Israel. Speakers are: Ernest Stock, CJFWF consultant on Overseas Studies, who has recently returned from a three-month visit to Israel and other Middle East countries; Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-president of the United Jewish Appeal; and Isidore Sobeloff, executive vice-president of the Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation.

16, 883 JEWS SERVED IN CANADIAN ARMED FORCES DURING WAR; 421 KILLED

OTTAWA, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Four hundred and twenty-one Jews who gave their lives for Canada during World War II were enshrined in the second volume of the Book of Remembrance, which contains the names of all Canadian sailors, soldiers and airmen who made the supreme sacrifice. The second Book of Remembrance was dedicated this week in an impressive ceremony held in the Memorial Chamber of the Parliament Buildings. During World War II some 16,883 Jews enlisted in the Canadian armed services.

JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL LAUNCHES \$5,600,000 DRIVE; TRUMAN GETS AWARD

NEW YORK, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Former President Harry S. Truman received tonight an award from the Joint Defense Appeal as "the American whose contributions to the national welfare epitomize the ideal of American freedom."

The presentation was made at a dinner initiating the 1957-58 fund-raising campaign of \$5,600,000 for the activities of the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Former Federal Judge Simon Rifkind and Melvin Block were also honored for their contributions to American democracy.

Accepting the award as evidence of the AJC and ADL determination to fight "against bigotry and intolerance," and pledging his continued presence in the battle for civil rights, Mr. Truman said:

The United States has derived many of the elements of its democratic faith from the Jewish religion. It is from the Old Testament that we derived our conception of the value and dignity of human life, our belief in the moral law, and our overwhelming emphasis on justice and freedom. These things are fundamental in the Jewish religion, just as they are fundamental in the democratic principles of our government. They are part of the great religious tradition, Jewish and Christian, that underlies our free institutions. And a citizen who is a good Jew is a good American.

MAJOR INQUIRY INTO ROLE OF RELIGION IN U.S. LIFE TO BE CONDUCTED

NEW YORK, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- Three Jews were among a group of eight consultants named by the Fund for the Republic yesterday to participate in a major inquiry into the role of religion in American life today. The issues include: the activities of religious pressure groups; the use of public funds to assist church-supported education, and released time in the public schools.

Robert M. Hutchins, president of the Fund, announced the appointment of Rabbi Robert Gordis of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Arthur Cohen, publisher of Meridian Books, and Prof. Robert Lekachman of Barnard College as members of a group which will study a number of issues affecting the role of religion in American society.

MICHIGAN COURT DISMISSES SUIT INVOLVING MIXED SEATING IN SYNAGOGUE

MT. CLEMENS, Mich., Nov. 13. (JTA) -- A Mount Clemens court has dismissed a suit involving mixed seating in Congregation Beth Tefilia Moses on grounds that it would be improper for a civil court to deal with religious issues about which the court lacked required special knowledge.

The suit, which had been pending for two years, was brought by Baruch Litvin, who demanded an injunction to bar mixed seating in the synagogue. The case recalled a similar suit in New Orleans during the past summer in which the court accepted jurisdiction, heard a number of leading Orthodox rabbis and ruled against mixed seating.

The court heard testimony by Rabbi David Hollander, then president of the Rabbinical Council of America, and Rabbi Samson R. Weiss, executive vice-president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America. Defense attorneys, however, declined to debate the religious issues and asked dismissal.

Charles Rubiner and Arthur Rubiner, the attorneys for the congregation, submitted a statement to the court in which they said that ecclesiastical matters "should be relegated to, and decided by, ecclesiastical authorities, or by laymen versed in matters of this nature." Judge Joseph Kane, sitting in Mt. Clemens Circuit Court, agreed in his ruling with the defense. The issue arose when the congregation board voted to permit mixed seating. Mr. Litvin and two others filed suit.

HIGH U.S. OFFICIALS ATTEND RECEPTION HONORING ISRAELI INDUSTRIALISTS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- The Israeli Embassy today tendered a reception honoring a six-member delegation of Israeli industrialists who are completing a tour of the United States. Important U.S. officials met with the Israelis at the Embassy function.

Those present included Douglas Dillon, Deputy Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs; William Rountree, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs; Herbert Cummings and E. E. Schnellbacher of the U.S. Department of Commerce; Jack Bell and Kenneth Mayall of the U.S. International Cooperation Administration; Lynn Stambaugh and William Welk of the U.S. Export-Import Bank, and a number of State Department officials.

GENERAL ITZHAK RABIN, HEAD OF ISRAEL'S NORTHERN COMMAND, ARRIVES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Nov. 13. (JTA) -- General Itzhak Rabin, one of Israel's leading military figures, who is in charge of his country's northern command, arrived at Idlewild Airport today from Israel. The Israel Army leader is here to tour the United States in behalf of the State of Israel Bond drive, which must raise \$75,000,000 during 1957 for economic development and immigrant absorption.