



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIV No. 243 - 39th year Monday, December 23 1957

ISRAEL CABINET POSTPONES ACTION ON BEN GURION'S ULTIMATUM TO LEFTISTS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- The Ben Gurion Cabinet, at its regular weekly meeting today, postponed a decision until next Tuesday on the Premier's ultimatum to the left-wing splinter party, Achdut Avoda to publicly apologize for violating the secrecy of Cabinet decisions or quit the Cabinet.

An official communique issued at the end of today's meeting said the Ministers had discussed the Achdut Avoda's behavior-- publication in its official organ of the secret Cabinet plan to send a "leading personality" to Bonn to discuss Israeli security arrangements with the Adenauer Government. The discussion will be continued Tuesday at an extraordinary session of the Cabinet, the communique said.

This gave negotiating party leaders 48 hours more in which to work out an acceptable compromise. Until late last night most observers here were freely predicting the fall of the Ben Gurion Government as the Achdut Avoda refused to accept either of Mr. Ben Gurion's suggestions and the Premier prepared to carry out his threat to resign and overthrow his government, with a view to forming a new Cabinet without the left-wing group.

Early today, some members of the Cabinet voiced guardedly optimistic statements of the possibilities of a compromise which would leave both the Achdut Avoda and its leftist partner group, Mapam, in the Cabinet.

Three Mapai Trends Reported on Dealing with Achdut Avoda

When the Cabinet members filed into their meeting today, it was considered fairly certain that Mr. Ben Gurion would not settle for a Cabinet censure of the Achdut Avoda action. He held steadfast to his view that "no responsible person can head a coalition" whose members leak information on vital security matters. He had contended--and his Mapai Party had upheld him--that by publishing the information and wrecking the mission to Germany, the small party had endangered Israel's national interests to further its narrow party aims.

When the Mapai secretariat, 60 members strong, met last night to instruct its Ministers, there were three discernible trends in the Labor Party leadership. The advocates of reconciliation, whose most articulate spokesman is Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, urged a face saving formula to satisfy both Mr. Ben Gurion and the Achdut Avoda.

A second group disappointed in what they termed Achdut Avoda's lack of national discipline despite two years of participation in the coalition government, wanted to oust the leftists. A third group suggested that Mr. Ben Gurion resign, form a caretaker government and call the nation to general elections a year and a half before the present Knesset term expired.

Progressives, Mapam Oppose Custing of Achdut Avoda from Cabinet

While these forces were shaping up and locking horns within the Labor Party, other parties in the Cabinet were making their position clear. The small, but influential, Progressive Party decided to press against the ouster of the Achdut Avoda on the grounds that the delicate Middle Eastern situation requires a united undisturbed Cabinet at this moment. The Mapam, which had been edging in that direction, put out a call for keeping the Achdut Avoda in the coalition, in the name of "labor unity," and threatened to leave if the other leftwing Socialist group was put out.

If the next 48 hours do not bring a new rapprochement, it is believed certain here that Mr. Ben Gurion will walk into Parliament next week and announce his resignation. At the same time, he will present a "small coalition" for which he will ask approval. If he obtains support, and a single vote majority should guarantee it, he will then be in a position to bargain with several opposition groups for their entry to the Cabinet.

The "small coalition" which would have 61 votes in the 120-deputy House, would include Mapai, Progressives, the Arab parties and Mizrahi-Poale Mizrahi. However, with such a slim majority Mr. Ben Gurion would have to pay more heed to the Arab deputies and the religious Ministers--a position which the Mapai leadership finds hard to accept. The threatened defection of the Progressives would doom this scheme.

GOLDA MEIR STRESSES ISRAEL WILL OPPOSE TRUNCATION OF ITS TERRITORY

TEL AVIV, Dec. 22, (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, told the annual banquet of the United Nations Association here that the nations of the world should know there will be no peace talks with the Arabs on the basis of truncation of Israel territory.

Reiterating Israel's interest in achieving peace, Mrs. Meir said peace talks would have to be conducted with Israel "as it is." She added a warning that if any nation attacked Israel or prepared for such an attack, Israel would make operative once more that article of the United Nations charter which grants to every nation the right of self-defense.

Mrs. Meir also rejected all suggestions for a neutralist policy for Israel, asserting this depends not on us but on our neighbors and on the Great Powers as well. She praised the help given Israel through the UN Technical Aid program and pledged that Israel would always strive to make the UN charter's provisions for peace a reality.

Opposition to attempts at interference with Israel's territorial integrity was also voiced here today in a resolution adopted at a meeting of the General Zionist labor youth movement. Another resolution called on the Eastern European countries to open their doors to Jewish emigration, particularly to facilitate the reunion of separated families.

RUSSIA DOES NOT SEEK CHANGE IN ISRAEL'S BORDERS, U.S. COMMUNISTS SAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 22, (JTA) -- The "Daily Worker," official organ of the American Communist Party, this week-end sought to debunk Arab allegations that Moscow is supporting the Arabs in an attempt to force Israel back to its 1947 United Nations partition boundaries. "As of this moment, the only great powers that have proposed rolling back Israel's borders are the U.S. and Britain," the paper wrote.

The Communist newspaper said it was "understandable that certain Arab governments would want Israel's frontiers shrunk back to the lines fixed in that 1947 UN resolution which at the time they opposed with arms. But are they ready to accept the whole resolution or only part of it? Is Jordan willing to give up the territory it has annexed, and is Egypt willing to surrender the Gaza Strip in order to make possible a new Arab state, independent, democratic and joined economically to Israel."

Declaring that the Arabs "cannot have their cake and eat it too," the article stated. "The reactionary war launched by the Arab governments against Israel forced that country to fight for its independence--a struggle in which it had the active support of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The war against Israel failed. But the Arab invasion did succeed in preventing an independent, democratic Arab state from being set up in the rest of Palestine."

The territory presently occupied by Israel was "occupied in the course of its war of self-defense," said the Daily Worker. The newspaper charged that the first proposal to reduce Israel's territory was written by representatives of the U.S. State Department and British Foreign Office and put forth by the late Count Folke Bernadotte.

According to the Daily Worker, Secretary of State Dulles on August 26, 1955, said the Israeli boundaries "were not designed to be permanent in every respect." The newspaper said Mr. Dulles, by saying in that 1955 speech that "even territory which is barren has acquired a sentimental significance" had hinted Israel's Negev area was expendable.

Reference was made also to former British Prime Minister Anthony Eden's 1955 proposal to reduce Israel's territory. "Thus," said the Daily Worker, "as of this moment," the only great powers that have proposed rolling back Israel's borders are the U.S. and Britain.

The newspaper columnist Joseph Alsop was ridiculed for claiming to have learned "from the camel's mouth" that the Soviet Union has secretly pledged to support the Arab governments in their demand that the State of Israel be rolled back to the borders fixed in the United Nations Palestine decision in 1947.

U.N. ENVOY LEAVES FOR TALKS WITH ISRAEL AND JORDAN ON MT. SCOPUS ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 22, (JTA) -- Ambassador Francisco Urrutia of Colombia left the United States last night for his mission in the Middle East where he will serve as personal representative of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld in negotiations with Israel and Jordan. The objective of his talks will be to seek full implementation of the July 7, 1948 agreement for the demilitarization of the Mount Scopus area.

United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld may visit Jordan and Israel in connection with his visit to Egypt at the end of this week. Mr. Hammarskjöld will introduce Dr. Urrutia, his personal representative on the Mt. Scopus dispute between Israel and Jordan, to the parties.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS FORMATION OF ARAB ORGANIZATION IN SOVIET UNION

LONDON, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- A new organization to spread Arab propaganda in the Soviet Union has been organized under the name of the "League of Arab Students in the Soviet Union," Radio Moscow's Arabic service reported this week-end.

Karim al Hasimi, a member of the League's executive committee, announced that the purpose of the new organization was to "strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Arab nations and the Soviet peoples, to publicize the Arab cause in the Soviet Union and to take part in the national liberation movements of the Arab people."

FOUR RUMANIAN ZIONIST LEADERS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL, WERE IMPRISONED

TELAVIV, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Four Rumanian Zionist leaders, who had been arrested and sentenced to lengthy prison terms by the Communist satellite regime, arrived in Israel today.

Bernard Rohrich, a former chairman of the Rumanian Zionist executive; Heinrich Inger of the Mapai, who had been a member of the executive, Alexander Dascalu, a Hashomer Hatzair leader; and Edgar Kanner of Herut arrived on the S. S. Jerusalem with 212 other immigrants from Europe.

The four leaders were greeted by a large delegation of Mapam, Mapai and Herut representatives and Rumanian Jewish leaders now living in Israel.

J. D. C. STARTS RELIEF WORK IN POLAND WITH GRANTS TO NEEDY FAMILIES

VIENNA, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 families of Jews repatriated from the Soviet Union to Poland have received grants from the Joint Distribution Committee, through local Jewish relief committees, enabling them to acquire furniture for their homes, it was reported here today by a JDC official arriving from Warsaw.

This is the first step by the JDC to resume its relief activities in Poland. A second step was the establishment of feeding programs for 1,200 children in seven Jewish schools, the official reported. He expressed the hope that by the end of January 3,000 families of repatriated Jews will have benefitted from JDC aid.

The JDC representative also reported that the CRT had opened its first vocational training courses in Wroclaw and Stettin, where large numbers of Jewish repatriates have been settled. The JDC will provide financial support for heads of families who attend CRT courses to learn new trades. They will receive monthly grants.

There are now only two Orthodox rabbis in Poland, the JDC official said. They serve the Jewish communities of Lodz and Warsaw. However, he added, Jewish religious life is growing in other cities in Poland and the JDC is prepared to supply communities in these cities with religious articles whenever they are needed.

Resident Jews in Poland Seek Same Foreign Aid as Repatriates

LONDON, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Why Jews repatriated from the Soviet Union to Poland are entitled to receive aid from foreign Jewish organizations and long-term residents of Poland are not entitled to such aid, has been asked by many needy Jews who have never left Poland, it was reported in the Warsaw newspapers reaching here today.

The press stressed that the long-term Jewish residents are aware that the Polish authorities have permitted foreign Jewish relief organizations--like the JDC and CRT--to provide aid only to repatriated families. These Jews, the Warsaw newspapers reveal, are beginning to ask why such aid should not also be permitted for their families. They argue that there is plenty of poverty among the non-repatriates in Poland.

The Warsaw press also deals with the problem of education of the Jewish youth of the repatriated families. They have established that many of the Jewish youths, having been born and raised in Russia, have no knowledge of the Polish language, and that this impedes their study.

BEN AMI, MAYOR OF NATHANYA FOR 28 YEARS, DEFEATED; SHAKED ELECTED

TELAVIV, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Moshe Shaked was elected Mayor of Nathanya last night replacing Oved Ben Ami, a founder of the city and for 28 years its mayor. The replacement of Mr. Ben Ami came after a lengthy political battle which reached its climax a week ago when Interior Minister Yitzhak Bar Yehuda ruled that a town council meeting which ousted Mr. Ben Ami was legal.

On December 10, the town council of Nathanya met in special session to oust Mr. Ben Ami. He closed the meeting, but the councillors remained and passed legislation ousting him and electing Mr. Shaked, long acting mayor in Mr. Ben Ami's absence. The General Zionist, Herut and religious councillors were not present at the special meeting nor at last night's meeting.

NEW YORK SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS NATIVITY DISPLAY ON SCHOOL LAWN

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Dec. 22. (JTA) -- A New York State Supreme Court justice ruled this week-end that there was no violation of the constitutional injunction on separation of church and state in the erection of a creche on school property in Ossining, N. Y. He denied a motion for a temporary injunction against building of the creche brought by ten Ossining citizens, including members of the three major faiths. Work on the creche was begun by students of the Ossining Junior-Senior High School immediately after the judge's ruling.

A motion for a permanent injunction is still to be heard. The plaintiffs, since joined by Jewish and Ethical Culture groups and the Civil Liberties Union, plan to take the matter to the United States Supreme Court, if necessary, to get a definitive ruling. Their attorney is Leo Pfeffer of the American Jewish Congress and a resident of Ossining.

In denying the plea, Justice Frank H. Coyne declared that the constitutional prohibition relating to separation of church and state "does not imply an impregnable wall or cleavage completely disassociating one from the other. While it is necessary that there be a separation of church and state, it is not necessary that the state should be stripped of all religious sentiment."

Speaking for the defendants was Arthur F. Gaynor of the Ossining Board of Education which had granted permission to a 15-member local citizens group to erect the nativity scene on the school lawn. He charged that the opposition to the creche was the fault of "a professional attitude that has been introduced."

JEWS IN NEW JERSEY PERMITTED TO VOTE BY MAIL ON RELIGIOUS DAYS

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 22. (JTA) -- Gov. Robert B. Meyner signed into law this week-end absentee registration and voting procedures designed to permit Jews and others to participate in state and local elections by mail when an election conflicted with a religious holiday.

The measure, drafted and sponsored by the American Jewish Congress, amended the state's voting code which previously allowed absentee registration and voting only in the case of illness or physical disability. Gov. Meyner's signing of the bill, which had the support of all rabbinical bodies in the state, was hailed by Sam Brown, executive director of the AJC New Jersey region.

EL AL PLANE MAKES FIRST NON-STOP FLIGHT BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- An El Al-Israel airlines Bristol Britannia turbo-prop plane completed this week-end the first non-stop flight between the United States and Israel in 14 hours and 57 minutes. The aircraft took off from New York's International Airport at 1:24 local time and touched down at Lydda airport in Israel at 11:21 local time. The distance between New York International Airport and Lydda International Airport is over 6,000 statute miles.

An all-Israeli crew headed by Capt. Zvi Tohar, Chief Pilot of the line, flew the plane. Also on board was Yoel Palgi director of operations of El Al and "Jed" Williams, considered one of the outstanding authorities on long-range high altitude navigation in commercial civil aviation today. Mr. Williams was responsible for plotting the plan of the flight, designated "Operation David."

NEW YORK AIRPORT DELETES LINE FROM PLAQUE OF EMMA LAZARUS POEM

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- A line from one of the world's most famous poems, "The New Colossus," by Jewish poetess Emma Lazarus, has been eliminated as "offensive from a plaque at Idlewild Airport. The line is "The wretched refuse of your teeming shore." It was ordered deleted from an inscription of the poem on orders of Austin J. Tobin, executive director of the New York Port Authority, which operates the huge airfield.

Instead of the five lines which appear on the base of the Statue of Liberty which have been memorized by countless thousands of schoolchildren, only four lines appear on the Idlewild plaque. Mr. Tobin said the deleted line "had meaning during the mass migrations of the 19th century but it has no meaning now and might be offensive to the fine people of Europe--they might not regard themselves as 'wretched refuse.'" He added that he did not think the poetess, who wrote the famous lines 70 years ago, would have objected, remarking "I think she might have done the same."

U. S. JEWISH WRITERS HONOR MEMORY OF SWEDISH DIPLOMAT WHO SAVED JEWS

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 22. (JTA) -- The Swedish diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, who helped rescue thousands of Jews from destruction in Nazi-occupied Europe, and died in a Soviet prison, has been inscribed in the Jewish National Fund's Golden Book by the Yiddish PEN Club of New York, an organization of writers. A certificate to this effect was today presented to Mr. Wallenberg's mother, Mrs. von Dardes.