Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXV No. 43 - 40th year Tuesday, March 4, 1958

SAUDI ARABIA DEMANDS CLOSING OF AKABA TO ISRAEL AT GENEVA CONFERENCE

GENEVA, March 3. (JTA) -- In a slashing attack on Israel's rights and an assertion of a continued state of belligerency, Saudi Arabia today insisted that the Gulf of Akaba remains a closed inland Arab waterway. This position was outlined today by chief Saudi Arabian delegate Ahmed Shukairy at an 87-nation conference on world maritime nations being held here.

Mr. Shukairy also said that the presence of Arab delegates must not be construed as recognition in any manner of Israel. He challenged the assumptions that the laws of the sea must be kept by states which do not recognize each other. The doctrine of freedom of the seas together with freedom of navigation and commerce, he added, must all "give way to the exigencies of war."

(The Dutch vessel Emma Folder dropped anchor off the Israeli port of Akaba last night, inaugurating a new Dutch shipping service between Elath and African ports. The line, owned by Dutch Senator Henryk Villemse, will operate between Elath and Massawa, Djibouti and Mombasa. The S.S. Berman, a 2,000 ton freighter, is due at Elath shortly to open a service between that port and South Africa.)

U.N. CHIEF SEEKS IRAQ'S ADHERENCE TO JORDAN-ISRAELI ARMISTICE PACT

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 3. (JTA) -- Francisco Urrutia of Colombia, Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's personal representative who negotiated the recent Israel-Jordan Mt. Scopus agreement, will go to Bagdad next week in an attempt to get Iraq to adhere officially to the Jordan-Israeli armistice agreement.

Dr. Urrutia will seek to pin down a general declaration made by Kings Faisal and Hussein of Iraq and Jordan, following their "anschluss" several weeks ago, that the new Arab Federation would adhere to international commitments of its separate parts.

Iraq, which was one of the Arab states to attack Israel in 1948, was the only one of the aggressor countries which did not sign an armistice agreement with Israel. It has no treaties whatsoever governing relations with the Jewish State. Premier David Ben Gurion of Israel expressed his misgivings only a few days ago on what might happen if Iraqi troops suddenly appeared on Israel's borders. Both Mr. Hammarskjold and Dr. Urrutia would like to get some official commitment from Bagdad before such an eventuality can occur.

Dr. Urrutia will visit Jerusalem either on his way to or from Bagdad. On his return from the Middle East, he will replace Ahmed Bokhari as head of the UN Department of Public Information, but without the title of Under Secretary General.

HAMMARSKJOLD CONFIRMS APPOINTMENT OF GEN. VON HORN AS U.N. TRUCE CHIEF

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 3. (JTA) -- Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold today confirmed the appointment of Maj. Gen. Carl Carlsson von Horn, a Swede, as Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine.

Gen. von Horn, 54, has served in the Swedish Army for the past 37 years. He was promoted to his present rank from that of colonel for his present assignment. He has held a number of responsible administrative posts in Sweden. He also served as executive assistant to Count Folke Bernadotte on the repatriation of prisoners of war from 1943 to 1945.

Gen. von Horn is expected to arrive at UNTSO headquarters in Jerusalem about March 20. Col. Byron V. Leary of the U.S. Marine Corps, who has been acting chief of staff since Lt. Gen. E.L.M. Burns of Canada became commander of UNEF in November, 1956, will remain as deputy chief of staff.

ISRAEL REITERATES OFFER TO JORDAN TO USE HAIFA AS A FREE PORT

JERUSALEM, March 3. (JTA) -- Israel's offer of the use of Haifa as a free port for Jordan was renewed today by Israeli Foreign Ministry officials commenting on a statement in Bagdad by the Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament that hoped Jordan would soon reach the Mediterranean Sea. An Israeli spokesman said that the Iraqi statesmen might have been commenting on Israel's long-standing offer to Amman, an offer which he stressed remains open.

SECRETARY DULLES CONFERS WITH ENVOY OF UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

WASHINGTON, March 3. (JTA) -- Secretary of State John Foster Dulles today discussed the future relations of the new "United Arab Republic" and the United States in a meeting with Ambassador Ahmed Hussein of Egypt who will serve as UAR envoy.

Dr. Hussein declined to reveal the topics discussed, stating only that they were a number of points of "general interest."

State Department sources would shed no light on whether the United Arab Republic's relations with Israel were mentioned at today's meeting.

FRANCE DOES NOT BELIEVE ISRAEL PLANES CARRIED ARMS FOR REBELS

JERUSALEM, March 3. (JTA) -- An official Israel Government spokesman indicated today that the French officials had no doubts that a plane from Israel which was forced to land at Bone, Algeria, last week was not carrying arms for Algerian rebels.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman here told newsmen that there is "no trace of doubt in the minds of the foreign authorities concerned that the plane and its cargo were destined for a Latin American country." It was understood that the "authorities concerned" was the French Government with which Jerusalem has been in constant touch since the embarrassing incident developed.

Meanwhile, Israeli aviation circles confirmed that the B-17 which landed with engine trouble and was interned by local French military authorities, was Israeli in origin. However, these same circles noted, since the plane and its cargo was sold to an unnamed Latin American state f.o.b. Lydda, it was no longer an Israeli craft the moment it was airborne.

(From Paris it was reported today that an Israeli plane had landed near Bone, Algeria, with a crew of Israeli mechanics and spare parts to make the Flying Fortress airworthy again. Newsmen in Algeria were not permitted to talk to either the new arrivals or the crew of the B-17, which includes an Israeli navigator, Solomon Rauchweger.)

While details of the affair remain secret here, it was learned that the present impasse is the result of a series of mishaps and misunderstandings compounded by local French military suspicion of any arms cargoes in Algeria. There have been other occasions when arms shipments for the nationalists were, upon apprehension, said to be meant for another destination.

The Israeli press is critical of the Foreign Ministry for not having made a clear and full explanation of the incident immediately and thus forestalled the wave of suspicion in Algeria and, to a lesser extent, in the Paris press.

KNESSET BOMB THROWER GOES ON TRIAL; CONDUCTS OWN DEFENSE

JERUSALEM, March 3. (JTA) -- Moshe Douek, young immigrant from Iraq, went on trial today charged with throwing a hand grenade into the Knesset last October and wounding five members of the Israeli Cabinet, including Premier David Ben Gurion. The trial is expected to last ten days.

Young Douek, who is conducting his own defense, pleaded not guilty. After repeated urging by Justice M. Baker, presiding over the Jerusalem District Court, Douek agreed to accept counsel on a stand-by basis. He closely questioned the first witness, Knesset sergeant at arms M. Greenberg, who had seized him after the bomb was thrown from the visitors' gallery. The trial will resume tomorrow.

ISRAEL'S FRIENDSHIP WITH U.S. AND FRANCE CITED BY EBAN IN LONDON

LONDON, March 3. (JTA) -- The international forces making for Israel's survival and consolidation always have been and still are stronger than those working for Israel's undoing, Abba Eba, Israel's Ambassador to Washington and head of its delegation to the United Nations, declared in a lecture here last night. Speaking at Friends House in London, Mr. Eban cited Israel's special friendship with the United States, its growing closeness with France, its relations with Britain and the fact that it has established friendly diplomatic relations with 75 nations in the last ten years.

Turning to the Israel's position vis-a-vis the Arab states, he said that no force in the world could compel Israel to give up any of its 8,000 square miles of territory to the Arab states which had themselves established the Jewish State's borders by making war on it in 1948. Granting that peace with the Arabs does not appear possible at this time, he advocated a temporary solution based on maintenance of Israel's security by opposing any change of the status quo by violence and clarification of international commitments.

HEARINGS TO RESUME IN MOSCOW ON ISRAEL'S CLAIMS FOR TRADE LOSSES

JERUSALEM, March 3. (JTA) -- Hearings on Israel's claims for more than $2,000,000 in damages resulting from Soviet unilateral breaching of an oil-for-citrus agreement after the Sinai operation will resume in Moscow Friday, the Foreign Ministry revealed today.

GERMAN MINISTER RENEWS ATTACKS ON COMPENSATION FOR NAZI VICTIMS

BONN, March 3. (JTA) -- Bonn Justice Minister Fritz Schaeffer, who recently created a furore in and out of Germany by charging that West German compensation to Jewish victims of the Nazis was endangering the stability of the deutschemark, has returned to the attack.

In a speech in Passau, Bavaria, Herr Schaeffer asserted that he had not made his challenged statements for racist reasons, but because they were the truth. He reiterated his estimate that if the present pace of the reparations program is maintained West Germany will have paid out the equivalent of $6,000,000,000 in compensation. He asked, instead, that compensation payments by the Federal Government and the states be held to approximately $250,000,000 a year.

ADL HAILS CONGRESS FOR CIVIL RIGHTS LAW; PRESENTS "DEMOCRACY" AWARD

WASHINGTON, March 3. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today greeted the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith's dinner honoring Congress for civil rights legislation, and said "it is fitting that the Congress be cited for this legislation by B'nai B'rith, a pioneer in the field of human rights."

Terming the Civil Rights Act of 1957 "a significant event in the life of the nation," the President noted the dignity of debate on the measure and the "minimum of deliberate obstructionism." He said "prejudice and emotionalism were largely discarded in favor of frankness and logic."

Mr. Eisenhower told the ADL's Congressional tribute dinner he was hopeful that "the new commission on civil rights will be effective in placing pertinent facts before the American people and in providing an example of moderation and understanding in these difficult subjects. But for America to be strong in body and spirit, all of us--each citizen, each private group and civil authority--have a responsibility to support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

An estimated 200 Senators and Representatives participated at the affair marking presentation of "America's Democratic Legacy Award" to the 85th Congress for passage of the first civil rights legislation in 82 years. Senators William F. Knowland, California Republican, and Hubert H. Humphrey, Minnesota Democrat, accepted the award for the Senate. Acceptance for the House was by Representatives Kenneth B. Keating, New York Republican, and Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat. Each of the four played an important role in bringing about passage of the 1957 law.

President Philip Klutznick of B'nai B'rith said that for the United States to win the race into "outer space" without "liberating ourselves of the waste of discrimination and prejudice is to win a hollow prize. To defend freedom but not to have it, is a fraudulent gesture; to reach the moon through science, but to keep people enslaved is a fool's errand which fools no one but ourselves."

ADL national chairman Henry E. Schultz commended Congress for passing the first piece of civil rights legislation in 82 years, half of the nation's constitutional existence. He pointed out that after the Civil War the rights recognized and guaranteed in the Constitution underwent "a gradual process of erosion."

Sen. Humphrey called for passage of additional civil rights legislation with extensive provisions for persuasion, inducement, and community compliance. He urged that the second as well as first session of the 85th Congress make history by progress on civil rights.

Rep. Keating suggested efforts to reinstate a section eliminated from last year's measure. He said there were now enough votes to carry this further extension of which would extend civil rights and that the President would sign it. Rep. Celler, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said 18 civil rights bills were now pending before his committee. As chairman, he pledged to hold hearings and carry forward all possible work to advance consideration of these bills.

8,000 JAPANESE REPORTED CONVERTED TO JUDAISM; HAVE OWN SYNAGOGUES

NEW YORK, March 3. (JTA) -- Jewish Agency officials are now studying the possibilities of emigration of Japanese Jews, according to a report from Jerusalem by North American Newspaper Alliance. The report said that there are now about 8,000 Japanese converts to Judaism in Japan.

These converts, the report stated, are organized into a group called the Union of Jewish Japanese. The group is led by two university professors, an atomic scientist and a prominent naval engineer, both of whom took part in the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Union members speak only Hebrew among themselves, circumcise their children, and attend services in their own synagogues. They also bombard the Israeli Legation in Tokyo with repeated requests for immigration visas, the report said.

"Most of the Japanese converts to Judaism are said to be professional men and women--scientists and technicians--and business men," the report stated.

ISRAEL AND THE PHILIPPINES SIGN TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP IN MANILA

JERUSALEM, March 3. (JTA) -- Israel and the Philippines signed a treaty of friendship today in Manila. The pact was concluded following a visit here of Israel's Minister of Trade and Industry, Pinchas Saphir.

Mr. Saphir arrived today in Sydney, Australia, with two aides for a five-day visit. During his stay, Mr. Saphir will confer with government and business leaders on the possibility of increasing trade between Israel and Australia.

TWO ISRAELI SHIPS TO MAKE MAIDEN ARRIVALS IN NEW YORK THIS MONTH

NEW YORK, March 3. (JTA) -- Two of the latest additions to Israel's fast growing merchant marine, the luxury liner Theodor Herzl and the cargo motorship Ampal, both of the Zim Israel Navigation Company, will make their maiden arrivals in New York this month, it was announced today by the American-Israeli Shipping Co., representatives of the Zim Lines.

The Theodor Herzl, a fully air conditioned vessel built for the Zim Lines' Mediterranean service and for cruising, is due in New York for the first time on March 18 and will sail for Haifa two days later on a special Passover voyage. The Ampal, the largest and fastest of Zim's cargo fleet, is expected here the same week.

"AMERICAN JUDAISM MONTH" STARTED; OBSERVED BY REFORM CONGREGATIONS

NEW YORK, March 3. (JTA) -- The 550 congregations that constitute the Reform movement in American Judaism inaugurated today an observance of March as "American Judaism Month" to commemorate the life and achievements of the late Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise, founder of the movement in the Western Hemisphere and its principal leader for more than a quarter of a century.

A. B. Polinsky of Duluth, Minn., general chairman of the Combined Campaign for American Reform Judaism, which is sponsoring the observance, greeted today's opening of the month-long fete with a special message to the Reform movement's more than 1,100 rabbis and congregational presidents. He urged them to focus the attention of the Reform movement's congregants "especially on the needs of the Combined Campaign," which has a goal of $2,619,433 representing the 1957-58 financial requirements of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

PROF. MARTIN BUBER ARRIVES IN U.S.; WILL LECTURE AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK, March 3. (JTA) -- Prof. Martin Buber, world famous Jewish philosopher, teacher and authority on Chassidim, has arrived here for a two-month stay in the United States. During that time he will lecture at Princeton to a group of scholars.

Dr. Buber, a member of the faculty of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, recently celebrated his 80th birthday, an event which was marked at many universities around the world, including those of West Germany. The American Friends of the University will tender a birthday celebration for the philosopher next month.

DR. CLINCHY TO DEVOTE FULL TIME TO WORLD BROTHERHOOD; LEAVES NCCJ

NEW YORK, March 3. (JTA) -- Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews since its founding in 1928, announced his resignation from that post this week-end. Dr. Clinchy, who is also president of the eight-year-old World Brotherhood, decided to drop the NCCJ post in order to devote himself full time to the brotherhood which attempts to fight racial, religious and cultural prejudice throughout the world.

A successor to Dr. Clinchy as president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews is now being sought. Leaders of the committee conducting the search are the three NCCJ co-chairmen, Benjamin F. Fairless, former board chairman of the U.S. Steel Corp., Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and James F. Twohy, West Coast industrialist.

Commenting on Dr. Clinchy's shift in responsibilities, the three co-chairmen of the National Conference, in a joint statement said: "The Conference is deeply grateful to Dr. Clinchy for his 30 years of dedicated service. It will have to search long and hard to find an administrator with his imagination, experience and ability who can move the organization and the brotherhood movement in the United States onward to new heights."

NASHVILLE JEWISH PUBLISHER HONORED FOR PROMOTING BROTHERHOOD WORK

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 3. (JTA) -- The National Conference of Christians and Jews has awarded a certificate of recognition to Jacques Back, publisher of the English-Jewish weekly "Nashville Observer."

The award was given to Mr. Back in recognition for his editorials of brotherhood. Mr. Back is a former president of the American Association of English-Jewish Newspapers Mr. Back was also honored by the local Congregation Chabai Sholom which conferred upon him honorary life membership at a special service in the Temple.