



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXV No. 44 - 40th year Wednesday, March 5, 1958

U. S. EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ANNOUNCES \$24, 200, 000 LOAN TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 4. (JTA) -- President Samuel C. Waugh of the U. S. Export-Import Bank today officially announced a loan to the Government of Israel in the amount of \$24, 200, 000 for expansion of water supply, irrigation and other facilities for agricultural development.

The loan represented the Bank's response to Israel's long pending application for a \$75, 000, 000 loan. Repayment of the loan will be in 24 semi-annual installments beginning in 1961.

The credit announced today will assist part of the four-year program proposed by Israel to develop a large area including new wells, stream diversion, and water distribution for enlargement of farmlands. A Bank mission visited Israel in the summer of 1957 to examine the Israeli application and proposed project.

BEN GURION REPORTS TO KNESSET ON THE PLANE FORCED DOWN IN ALGERIA

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- There is no doubt in the minds of French Government officials that the B-17 forced down with an arms cargo at Bone, Algeria, was en route from Israel to a Latin American state, Premier David Ben Gurion told the Israel Parliament today.

Although he was replying to a direct question posed yesterday by a Herut deputy, the Premier was actually attempting to assuage concern and criticism in Israel that the government's handling of the B-17 incident had resulted in damage to its relations with France and had given anti-Semitic elements in France an opportunity to press anti-Israel sentiments.

The Premier also expressed the hope and the belief that the French public would understand and accept the fact that the plane was over Algeria only in transit and that its arms cargo was meant for a friendly power in Latin America--but not Venezuela as had been reported.

Despite this acknowledgment by the French Government, he said, the arms cargo might not be released because the French, under the pressure of the Algerian rebellion, had ruled that all arms found in transit in that country would be seized. Paris might not want to establish a new precedent by releasing the bazookas, mortars and submachine guns in the cargo, Mr. Ben Gurion said.

Says Plane and Arms Were Sold by Defense Ministry as Obsolete

"In order to make the matter perfectly clear," said the Premier, "I shall give all the relevant details." He recounted that on February 23, the B-17 left Lydda airport en route for South America carrying arms without ammunition. The arms had been released for sale by the Ministry of Defense as obsolete--as was the plane, a type of bomber widely used by the U.S. Air Corps in World War II.

The plane was transferred to American ownership and its wings were marked in accordance, the Premier revealed. It was flown by a civilian crew engaged in Israel for the trip. En route to South America it was scheduled to stop over at the civilian airports at Algiers and Dakar, and the usual modifications to this effect were transmitted to the airports.

In the neighborhood of Bone, Mr. Ben Gurion continued, the plane developed engine trouble and requested permission to land at Bone. This was granted. At the request of the crew, a plane carrying six technicians and a spare engine were subsequently flown to Bone from the Bedek maintenance plant at Lydda, Mr. Ben Gurion explained.

"It is natural," the Premier continued, "that the sudden landing in Algeria surprised the Algerian authorities, but our own authorized representatives immediately informed the French Government of the identity and purpose of the aircraft. Members of the French Government were in no doubt of the fact that the aircraft was destined for a Latin American country and had come to Algeria only as a transit country and had landed at Bone as a result of engine trouble."

He added: "It may be that though not only we but the French Government have no doubts in the matter, the Algerian authorities may not permit the plane to reach its destination to avoid a precedent. But even in that case there will be no doubt in the minds of the French

Government--and I hope and believe in the minds of the French public--that the aircraft and arms were being sent across the Atlantic to a Latin American state. I am confident," he stressed, "that any attempt to disturb relations between ourselves and France as a result of this mishap will not succeed."

Israel Caught in Algeria-Paris Policy Squeeze

PARIS, March 4. (JTA) -- A top member of the Israel Embassy in Paris was reported today flying to Algeria to explain to local French authorities that the plane forced down at Bone, Algeria, with three tons of arms aboard, was en route to South America.

Even as he left, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the French Governor General of Algeria, Robert La Costet, had ordered a new inquiry into the plane incident, apparently dissatisfied with the results of the first investigation. The Foreign Office spokesman refused further comment until after the end of the new study.

Meanwhile, it was reported here that French military officials in Algeria were attempting to blow up the incident in an attempt to divert the public's attention from recent incidents in North Africa for which the military was responsible. On the other hand, the French Foreign Office is attempting to close the affair as soon as possible to avoid further embarrassment to Israel.

BEN GURION SAYS ISRAEL ARMY MUST STRIVE TO MODERNIZE ITS WEAPONS

TEL AVIV, March 4. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion told a graduation parade of officers and cadets today that "while the achievements of Israel's army in the War of Liberation and in the Sinai campaign had been significant and glorious, Israel could not fight--if we shall have to--with the same means we used then."

Declaring that "revolutionary changes in armament" have taken place in the last decade, "the Prime Minister said: "We must strive to modernize our weapons and special stress must be placed on developing our soldiers."

He warned that one factor in Israel's victories in the two wars had been "the inferior quality of the enemy." He emphasized that it is imperative for Israel to improve the quality of its armed strength. He also called on the new officers to help absorb newcomers serving out tours of duty in the armed forces and to prevent any discrimination among troops.

ROGOSIN MEETS WITH ESHKOL; DECIDES TO RESUME WORK ON \$20,000,000 PLANT

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- American industrialist Israel Rogosin has again reversed himself and will resume work on a \$20,000,000 rayon mill located in the town of Ashdod on the Mediterranean coast, he revealed today. His decision came after a flying visit to Israel and a conference with Finance Minister Levi Eshkol.

In a formal statement, Mr. Rogosin attributed his most recent change of mind to Mr. Eshkol's enthusiasm which, he said, had persuaded him despite a decision to wind up the project. The industrialist, who pledged to make good every cent invested in the project by anyone other than himself when he announced he was through, today expressed the conviction that the plant was a worthwhile industrial project as well as most useful for Israel's economy. He contrasted the skepticism and jealousy he had encountered among Jews in America with the "dynamic confidence" he had found here.

U.N. DENIES SEEKING IRAQ'S ADHERENCE TO JORDAN-ISRAEL ARMISTICE PACT

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., March 4. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Secretary General flatly denied today reports that Francisco Urrutia of Colombia, Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's personal representative in the recently-negotiated Israel-Jordan Mt. Scopus agreement, would go to Bagdad next week to seek to persuade Iraq to adhere officially to the Jordan-Israel armistice agreement. Dr. Urrutia "is not going to Bagdad or anywhere else in the Middle East," the source said.

U.S. AMBASSADOR, JERUSALEM MAYOR SIGN PACT ON U.S. GRANT FOR MUSEUM

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- An agreement between the United States and the city of Jerusalem on a U.S. grant of 1,500,000 pounds for the establishment of a national museum in Israel was signed here today by U.S. Ambassador Edward B. Lawson and Mayor Gershon Agron of Jerusalem. The money will come from counterpart funds allocated under the U.S. grant-in-aid program.

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR RECEIVED BY BEN GURION; PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- Israel Premier David Ben Gurion received today the new Soviet Ambassador, Mikhail Bodrov, who presented a copy of his credentials. The Ambassador will make formal presentation of his credentials to President Itzhak Ben Zvi tomorrow.

GERMAN COMPENSATION TO ISRAELIS TOTALS \$87,000,000 IN THREE YEARS

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- German compensation to individual Israeli residents for damage done them during the Nazi regime totalled \$87,000,000 in the past three years and should add up to \$425,000,000 by 1963, Dr. Nahum Goldmann declared here last night.

Speaking on a broadcast interview program, Dr. Goldmann, chairman of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, said the German Treasury was able to handle these obligations, though he noted there was agitation in some circles in Germany to slow down the compensation program and stretch out the period of payment.

Another speaker on the program, Dr. M. Nebezahl, head of the advisory board of the Israel State Bank, urged all Israelis who had not yet filed claims with the German authorities to do so before the deadline expires on March 31. He estimated there were some 40,000 to 45,000 Israelis eligible for such payments who have not yet claimed them. He also stressed the importance to Israel's economy of the foreign currency obtained through such payments.

POLAND OFFERS INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL ON LONGTERM CREDITS

JERUSALEM, March 4. (JTA) -- Poland has offered to sell Israel industrial equipment on longterm credits, it was learned here today. Israeli officials are exploring whether local firms need Polish-made heavy machinery.

The Polish offer was made in an effort to keep up the expanding Israel-Polish trade. Since Polish agricultural products, normally sold to Israel, are in short supply, Poland must find other goods to sell to Israel.

VATICAN ORGAN JUSTIFIES ANTI-JEWISH ASSERTION OF ROME PRIEST

ROME, March 4. (JTA) -- Osservatore Romano, official organ of the Vatican, commenting on a charge by a Rome newspaper that a priest had introduced the race question in a dispute with the newspaper, declared today that it was not improper to emphasize the "unsuitable presence" of Jews in a public debate on another religion.

The issue was raised by Paese Sera which asked the Italian Press Federation to take action against the priest-editor, Don Pisoni. In replying in the Catholic newspaper L'Italia to an attack on the Pope in Paese Sera, Don Pisoni noted that two members of the Paese Sera editorial staff were Jews.

Osservatore Romano asserted "it is no crime of racialism to underline the unsuitable presence of Jews when an issue is debated which concerns another religion, particularly since Pope Pius offered Jews the solidarity and protection they deserved as persecuted creatures of God." The Vatican publication added that "these inadvertencies" did not "diminish the gratuities which Jews did not fail to express to the Holy Father for his deeds."

CATHOLIC ORDER APPEALS TO VATICAN TO RECOGNIZE THE STATE OF ISRAEL

ROME, March 4. (JTA) -- The Italian Libera news agency reported today that the rectors of the Carmelite Order headed by Superior General Father Anastasio di san Rosario, has appealed to the Vatican to recognize the State of Israel. The request came after an inspection tour of Israel several months ago by Father Anastasio.

The Italian National Broadcasting Network inaugurated today a series of radio programs dedicated to the tenth anniversary of Israel's independence. The first two programs will deal with the birth of the state and highpoints in the Jewish national resurrection.

French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau will snub a meeting of West European Foreign Ministers opening here tomorrow as an indication of his displeasure over Italy's invitation to President Nasser of the United Arab Republic, Il Messaggero reported today. The newspaper asserted that France would be represented by Foreign Under Secretary M. Faure.

TUNIS MUNICIPALITY DECIDES TO EXPROPRIATE ANCIENT JEWISH CEMETERY

PARIS, March 4. (JTA) -- The municipality of Tunis has decided to expropriate the Jewish cemetery in that city, it was reported here today from the Tunisian capital. The dispatch said that the head of the Jewish community had been informed of the city's decision on the 200-year-old burial site.

FRANCE AND ISRAEL DISPENSE WITH VISAS FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

PARIS, March 4. (JTA) -- A new agreement between Israel and France dispensing with the need for passports and visas for diplomats and government officials traveling between the two countries was signed here today. The new arrangement is effective April 1.

ORT LEADER REPORTS ON WORK FOR JEWISH REPATRIATES FROM SOVIET RUSSIA

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- The work of the ORT in organizing trade schools and workshop courses in Poland for Jewish repatriates from the Soviet Union is "proceeding more rapidly than anticipated," it was reported here today by Max A. Braude, director general of the World ORT Union, upon his arrival from Geneva on a one-month speaking tour for the United Jewish Appeal.

"We could not anticipate more rapid progress and expansion of a new program than this one. ORT in Poland is already operating in 10 cities, with a current enrolment of nearly 800 men, women and young people although the program is less than three months old," Mr. Braude said. "At present there are 33 ORT courses providing a variety of skills in Warsaw, Wroclaw, Stettin, Lignica, Swidnica, Dzierzonow, Walbrzych, Zary, Lodz, Bielsko and Cracow. A considerable number of individuals have been placed in workshops for training.

"Eventually there will be manual training courses in all seven Jewish schools for youth; one is already open and functioning. We have also been compelled to raise our sights as to the total program that is projected, to an enrolment of 2,500 this year, with operations in 18 localities. Additional courses are envisaged in Zgorzelec, Kattowitz, Gliwice, Czestochowa, Lublin, Bydgoszcz, Zary and Wloclawie," the ORT leader reported.

RELIGIOUS BIAS BLAMED FOR SHORTAGE OF PHYSICIANS IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, March 4. (JTA) -- Religious discrimination in the admission of students to medical schools is one of the reasons for a shortage of doctors in the United States, according to a report published by the New York Times.

In its exhaustive survey of medical shortage, the Times states that it is difficult to substantiate charges of discrimination because "if it exists, it is never admitted." The article, however, cites a 1953 survey that demonstrated that it was easier for a Protestant student to enter a New York State medical school than a Catholic, and harder still for a Jew than for a Catholic.

CANADIAN JEWISH GROUPS STRESS THERE IS NO "JEWISH VOTE" IN ELECTIONS

MONTREAL, March 4. (JTA) -- In anticipation of the forthcoming national elections, the National Joint Public Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith has released a statement rejecting political appeals by any candidate on racial or religious grounds. Distributed to the press and to all candidates for public office who are Jews, the policy declaration reads:

"The Canadian Jewish Congress is of the opinion that Jewish citizens of this community participate in municipal, provincial and national elections as citizens of Canada, sharing with citizens of all other faiths and origins a common interest in the proper and efficient administration of our country's affairs. It consequently rejects on principle any political appeal directed by a candidate based on racial or religious grounds, designed to give the impression that there is a bloc such as 'the Jewish vote' or any other type of ethnic or religious grouping of the electorate, and which is aimed at attracting votes by favoring or discriminating against any group in the electorate."

RABBIS ASK GREAT POWERS TO SECURE ACCESS FOR JEWS TO WAILING WALL

TEL AVIV, March 4. (JTA) -- A national conference of Israel rabbis appealed today to the Great Powers against Jordan's refusal to grant Jews access to the Wailing Wall. The freedom of approach to the Jewish Holy Place, the rabbis pointed out, was guaranteed by the Israel-Jordan armistice agreement but never put into practice by Jordan.

The conference, called by the Religious Party (formerly the Mizrachi and Poise Mizrachi) heard Rabbi Jacob Toledano, Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, argue that spiritual leaders need not affiliate with any political party. His view was opposed by leaders of the Religious Party who asserted that without the existence of religious political groupings the Orthodox forces in the country would be in a much poorer position than they are.

ANTI-JEWISH SLOGAN POSTED AT BRAZILIAN BEACHES; POLICE INVESTIGATE

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 4. (JTA) -- Placards bearing the legend that waterfront real estate "Will Not Be Sold To Jews" were found today posted on sections of the beaches of Porto Alegre. Police began an investigation at the request of the Jewish community and said it appeared that the authors might be Germans who settled in Brazil. The Brazilian Jewish Confederation planned to ask intervention by the Federal Government.

JOSHUA ALMOG, SECRETARY TO ISRAEL'S PRESIDENT, ARRIVES IN U.S.

NEWYORK, March 4. (JTA) -- Joshua Almog, secretary to Israel's President Itzhak Ben Zvi and one of Israel's top experts on Arab Affairs, arrived here today for a speaking tour of major American communities on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. Mr. Almog is a graduate of the American University in Beirut.