



Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXV No. 95 - 40th year

Thursday, May 15, 1958

ISRAEL'S COAST DEFENSES ALERTED; SITUATION IN LEBANON WATCHED

WASHINGTON, May 14. (JTA) -- Israeli navy and coast defense units have been alerted for action in event of accidental landings or alternative forays by fedayeen commando squads now moving by sea in motor launches and landing craft from the Gaza Strip to Lebanon, it was learned here today.

State Department officials privately made known that the United States is urging Israel to exercise the most careful restraint at this time. Consultations on the situation have been in progress by U. S. diplomats in Israel with the Israeli Foreign Office.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Charles Malik charged today that Palestinian Arab fedayeen raiders were infiltrating into Lebanon. Three motor launches transporting such raiders from Gaza were captured by the Lebanese Navy.

Five U. S. warships steamed hurriedly from Gibraltar for the Eastern Mediterranean today. Naval circles said they were headed for Lebanese waters. Seven other U. S. Navy ships are refuelling and expected to sail later tonight.

President Eisenhower told a press conference today that he would not comment on the situation in Lebanon because of its gravity and delicacy. He thought it best to say nothing at the moment. He added that the United States was watching developments closely. A State Department spokesman said today that quantities of U. S. arms and "police equipment" have been sent to Lebanon in the last few days.

The Washington Post said editorially today that "there is altogether too much similarity between the armed infiltration of Lebanon from Syria and the fedayeen raids against Israel--which, as Nasser ought to remember, precipitated the Sinai war--for the current crisis to be dismissed as accidental."

If the UAR seizes Lebanon, the newspaper warned, Nasser would control all of the Eastern Mediterranean seacoast south of Turkey except for Israel. The newspaper predicted this would give the UAR "added leverage against the rival Iraqi-Jordanian Federation and certainly would intensify the pressures and dangers in Arab-Israeli frictions."

Israel Watches Washington's Attitude Toward the Lebanese Crisis

JERUSALEM, May 14. (JTA) -- Washington's attitude toward the Lebanese crisis is being watched with deep interest by political circles in Israel.

These circles have been speculating on the reasons behind the Eisenhower Administration's reluctant facing up to the situation, obviously slower than Washington's dispatch of the Sixth Fleet to Middle Eastern waters when Nasser-controlled elements in Jordan attempted to topple King Hussein from his throne. The view here is that there is more justification in current developments for application of the Eisenhower Doctrine than there was in the Jordanian situation.

Meanwhile, the Beirut radio, which is usually milder in its tone toward Israel, suddenly programed material for a "Palestine Week" and began violent attacks on the Jewish State. This appears to be the standard reaction of Arab politics in which each group attempts to outdo its opposition in belligerence toward Israel.

Britain Says Tripartite Declaration not Applicable to Lebanon

LONDON, May 14. (JTA) -- The British Government's Ministers responsible for defense met today to discuss Lebanese developments. It was pointed out here that Britain has no formal treaty obligation to intervene in Lebanon and that the Tripartite Declaration of 1950, of which she is one of the signatories, was intended to guarantee Arab and Israeli borders against each other. It would not have application in this situation, it was stressed.

At the same time, the British Foreign Office officially accused Nasser's United Arab Republic of trying to overthrow the pro-Western government of Lebanon. The Foreign Office statement called UAR intervention "deplorable." The statement said no request had yet been received from Lebanon for British help.

BEN GURION SEES HOPE FOR JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION

TEL AVIV, May 14. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion called last night for the immediate initiation of large-scale development projects in Israel to prepare for the possibility of a "miracle" which would open the doors of the Soviet Union for the emigration of Russian Jews to Israel. He told some 1,200 delegates to a national convention of the Mapai Party he hoped this would occur in the next decade.

In a reference to the plight of the Arab refugees, Mr. Ben Gurion charged that the Arab rulers had "hardened their hearts for ten years against the victims of their blind and hate-ridden policy." He accused the Arab governments of refusing to permit the resettlement of the refugees "in the hope that thereby they would injure Israel."

The Premier again stressed Israel's readiness to contribute to a solution of the Arab refugee problem, but "only if the Arab rulers abandon their aspirations to destroy Israel." He also conditioned Israeli aid on the Arab states' willingness to resettle large numbers of the refugees on their own territories.

At today's session of the convention, Histadrut general secretary Pinhas Lavon called on the party to place itself--by resolution--behind a plan to "assert the democratic character of the Histadrut" by dividing the organization's huge cooperative enterprises in several autonomous units, including breaking up Solel Boneh, which now operates construction companies, industry and other large economic enterprises. This, Mr. Lavon insisted, will help adjust the Histadrut's economic enterprises to Israel's needs.

Dr. Giora Josephthal, secretary general of the Mapai Party, reported that the labor party's strength within the Histadrut had increased. He cited the fact that in elections for workers committees and in trade unions the Mapai had gained eight percent in the last year. He said that more than half of the younger working population, the most important age category in the country's labor force, was affiliated with the Mapai.

DR. GOLDMANN BELIEVES RUSSIA WILL END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST JEWS

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., May 14. (JTA) -- The five-day national convention of the American Jewish Congress opened here tonight with a warning by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, that Jewish existence is threatened by an "anonymous process of assimilation and disintegration, infinitely more dangerous because of its quiet and cumulative effect."

He told the 500 delegates assembled from all parts of the country that "it is of decisive importance for the future of the Jewish people to bring the Jews of Soviet Russia back into Jewish life and to create for them the facilities for maintaining their Jewish consciousness."

"There is reason to hope," he stated, "that the Soviet regime will do away with the de facto discrimination it practices against the Jewish minority and grant the Jews the same facilities to maintain their identity that are granted to other minorities in the USSR."

With regard to Israel, Dr. Goldmann said that a "fundamental change of attitude" both in Israel and in the diaspora is necessary if Israel is to become the guarantor of Jewish survival. "The dangers to our future derive at present from within, not from without," Dr. Goldmann declared. "It is the task of Jewish leadership in Israel as well as in the Jewish communities around the world to recognize these dangers and problems and to shape a new policy to secure our future."

"The Jewish community of Israel faces two decisive problems," Dr. Goldmann continued. "One is the need to consolidate its position politically and economically, normalize its relations with the surrounding countries and secure its existence.

"The other is the need for it to transform itself into the main force of Jewish existence, the great spiritual fortress which must replace the destroyed European centers as the generator of new ideas and values of the kind that always sustained the moral and spiritual existence of the Jewish people in the world.

"These problems can only be solved by a continuous and increased joint effort of the Jews in Israel and the Jewish communities outside Israel. The creation of a proper relationship between Israel and the Jewish people in the Diaspora is a primary condition for the solution of the second problem," Dr. Goldmann stressed.

Sidney Hollander, a former president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds and a long time leader of the Baltimore Jewish community, told the convention the 265,000 Jews in the South must now realize they cannot be "neutral" as the desegregation fight rages. "Jewish institutions are dynamited because the twisted KKK mentality responsible for these criminal outrages hate the Jew, the Negro, and the Catholic regardless of what he says or does," Mr. Hollander declared.

"Jewish communal leaders and rabbis must realize that they have a stake in desegregation and in obtaining prompt compliance to the Supreme Court's mandates," he warned. "They must see every constructive opportunity to join with others in defending these mandates. In discouraging lawless resistance to them, they will be upholding law and order and protecting their own security."

TRADE BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL TOTALLED \$1,500,000,000 IN TEN YEARS

NEW YORK, May 14. (JTA) -- Americans have invested in 256 new enterprises in Israel during the ten years of the existence of the Jewish State, Nathan Straus III, president of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry, reported tonight at the annual dinner of the organization.

He said the total volume of trade in both goods and services between the United States and Israel exceeded \$1,500,000,000 during the decade, with Israel purchasing some \$850,000,000 worth of goods in the United States. At the same time, he announced that the Chamber's program for the second decade called for a total of \$1,500,000,000 in economic relations between U.S. and Israel.

Lynn U. Starbaugh, first vice president of the Export-Import Bank of Washington, told the gathering that during the past ten years, the United States Government has provided Israel with grant and loan assistance of various kinds totalling \$556,000,000. Mr. Starbaugh, who headed the Bank's mission to Israel last summer, said that while Israel seemed to be "a young country still in need of continuing foreign assistance" it also appeared to be a country "firmly determined to utilize to the fullest extent the resources, both natural and human, which it possesses."

The Bank's mission, he said, also found that although the importance of Government in the Israeli economy is great, "private enterprise is widespread also in both agriculture and industry and is making good progress under able leadership." He disclosed that of the recently approved \$24,200,000 loan to Israel, \$12,000,000 will be used for the purchase in the U.S. of equipment and materials for water supply and distribution \$8,200,000 for farm buildings, farm machinery and livestock; and \$4,000,000 for equipment and materials for agricultural storage and processing facilities.

Meir Sherman, Israel's Minister for Economic Affairs in the United States, paid tribute to the decisive help of the American Government and American people in providing capital, know-how and encouragement, without which it is difficult to conceive Israel's progress in her first decade. He praised the Export-Import Bank of Washington and the American commercial banking community for foresight in offering credits to Israel and pointed out that their confidence in Israel has been fully justified and rewarded.

Mr. Sherman stated that "Government investments during the last decade, in the creation of conditions to attract private enterprise, will serve as a basis for an increasing flow of private investments in the coming decades, as more and more businessmen become acquainted with the growing opportunities for investments in Israel's extractive and manufacturing industries, trade, shipping, aviation and travel."

The Israeli Minister presented to Mr. Straus a silver-bound Bible from the Israel Government, in recognition of his and the Chamber's achievements. The Chamber's "First Decade Awards" were presented at the dinner to several leading private American investors in Israel, among them Joseph Nazer, of the Hudson Pulp and Paper Corporation, Rudolph G. Sonneborn, of Sonneborn Association Petroleum Corporation, Ira Guilden in behalf of the Palestine Economic Corporation and Judge Bernard Rosenblatt, president of Rasso Israel Corporation.

GREECE TO GIVE SANCTUARY TO REFUGEES FROM EGYPT UNDER HIAS GUARANTEE

NEW YORK, May 14. (JTA) -- The United Hias Service announced today that the Greek Government has agreed to give temporary sanctuary to Egyptians expelled or put to flight by the Nasser Government, on condition that United Hias gives assurance that it will help the refugees to migrate to countries of permanent settlement. The United Hias program of assistance to Egyptian refugees is supported by the United Jewish Appeal.

A transit center has been established, for Jewish refugees from Egypt, just outside of Athens, where United Hias officials are processing them for immigration to Australia, Latin America, the U.S. and elsewhere. Some of the victims of Nasserism are expected to be eligible for U.S. visas under a provision of the emergency refugee legislation of 1957. The provision provides for the admission of about 14,500 "refugee-escapees" who fled persecution in Communist countries and the Middle East.

BELGIAN JEWS IN U.S. URGED TO CLAIM ASSETS SEQUESTERED BY NAZIS

NEW YORK, May 14. (JTA) -- Former Belgian Jews, now living in the United States, were urged today to contact the World Jewish Congress in New York concerning unclaimed assets.

The World Jewish Congress said it has been advised that considerable assets, sequestered by the Germans during their occupation of Belgium and now held by various Belgian institutions, await claim by their owners or their legitimate heirs. Unless reclaimed soon, these assets will in due course pass to the Belgian State.

The World Jewish Congress here announced that it is in possession of a list of more than 200 persons believed eligible to claim such assets. This list is open for inspection in the WJC quarters in New York, the announcement said.

DR. NEUMANN TO RECONSIDER REFUSAL TO BE DRAFTED FOR Z. O. A. PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, May 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Emanuel Neumann has agreed "in principle" to reconsider his refusal to be drafted for a third consecutive term as president of the Zionist Organization of America, it was announced today by Dr. Harris J. Levine, ZOA vice-president. Two candidates for ZOA presidency, Jacques Torczyner of New York and Dr. Max Nussbaum of Hollywood, have withdrawn in favor of Dr. Neumann's continuing in office, Dr. Levine, who presided over a consultation of 25 ZOA leaders, stated.

"While we have prevailed upon Dr. Neumann to reconsider his previous stand against a draft movement," said Dr. Levine, "his agreement 'in principle' was subject to certain conditions, involving intensified effort in behalf of the organization, which we all hope will be met. Our deliberations were conducted in a spirit of comradeship and cordiality and the outcome represents a unanimous striving for unity and harmony in the highest interest of the movement."

ISRAELI YOUTH WINS FIRST PRIZE IN MUSIC CONTEST IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, May 14. (JTA) -- Shmuel Ashkenasi, a 17-year-old Israeli violinist, today won first prize in the international Merriweather Post Contest sponsored by the National Symphony Orchestra here. He competed against 353 other contestants. The first prize consists of a \$2,000 cash award and a guest appearance with the National Symphony in full concert in Constitution Hall.

The contest was open only to youths who have not yet finished high school but who are able to play a complete concerto from the standard symphonic repertory. Ashkenasi played the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto in D.

Born in Tel Aviv, Ashkenasi is in the United States as a student at the Curtis Institute of Music. His parents, residents of Holon, Israel, did not know that he was in the contest. He did not want them to worry about the competition and his chances.

He began study of the violin at the age of eight at the Tel Aviv Academy of Music under Miss Ilona-Feher. He has performed with the Kol Isreal Orchestra. At the Curtis Institute he studies under Efreim Zimbalist.

ISRAELI CAPTAIN REFUSES SHIPBOARD MARRIAGE; REFERS COUPLE TO RABBI

JERUSALEM, May 14. (JTA) -- A couple frustrated in their desire for a shipboard marriage aboard an Israeli liner bound from New York to Haifa has provided the Israeli Ministry of Justice with a new legal problem.

Having been forced to wait until the vessel docked to seek out a rabbi and be married, the couple complained to the Ministry against the captain's refusal to perform the ceremony--a hallowed tradition of the sea. To add to their sense of injustice, they were told that, had they been non-Jewish, the captain would have performed the ceremony.

When he was asked to officiate, the captain sought the advice of a passenger--a prominent American attorney. The latter warned the mariner that Israeli law provided that Jews could only be wed by a rabbi and that he had no legal authority to substitute as a spiritual leader. The captain thereupon refused to officiate and the stage was set for today's appeal to the Ministry of Justice.

JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL PRESENTS FOUR AWARDS FOR BEST LITERARY WORKS

NEW YORK, May 14. (JTA) -- Four awards with total cash prizes of \$700 for the best 1957 works of Jewish interest in the fiction, poetry and juvenile fields, were made today at the annual meeting of the Jewish Book Council of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

The \$250 Harry and Ethel Daroff Memorial Fiction Award went to Bernard Malamud, for his novel, "The Assistant." The award, presented by Samuel H. Daroff of Philadelphia, was for the best work of fiction of Jewish interest in 1957.

The Harry Kovner Memorial Awards of \$100 each went to I. J. Schwartz, for cumulative contributions to Yiddish poetry, and to Aaron Zeitlin for his volume of Hebrew "Fein Ha-Esh Veba-Yesha," published in Tel Aviv. The Kovner awards, given to writers of poetry dealing with Jewish life and thought in Hebrew and Yiddish, were made by Bernard and Milton Kovner.

The \$250 Pioneer Women's Hayim Greenberg Memorial Juvenile Award for the best Jewish juvenile in English during 1957 was given to Naomi Ben-Asher and Hayim Leaf for their "Junior Jewish Encyclopedia." The presentation was made by Mrs. Chaya Surchin.

Rabbi A. Alan Steinbach, spiritual leader of Temple Ahavoth Shalom of Brooklyn and president of the New York Board of Rabbis, was elected president, succeeding Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik of Newark.

DR. GOLDIN NAMED PROFESSOR OF JEWISH STUDIES AT YALE UNIVERSITY

NEW HAVEN, May 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Judah Goldin, Dean and Associate Professor at the Teachers Institute and the Seminary College of Jewish Studies of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, has been appointed Professor of Jewish Studies at Yale University, it was announced today. He will take over his new duties July 1.