



# Jewish Telegraphic Agency DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## ATLANTA BOMB CASE ENDS IN MISTRIAL; NEW TRIAL TO BE HELD SOON

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Fulton County Superior Court today declared a mistrial in the case of George Bright, accused of bombing the Atlanta Jewish Temple last October 12.

The action was announced by Judge Durwood Pye after the jury had been "hopelessly deadlocked" and had deliberated for almost 24 hours covering a four-day span. The jury foreman reported the division of the jury by 9 to 3 as unchanging and each member of the jury individually told the court there was no possibility of a change in decision. Judge Pye then declared a mistrial, instructing each of the jurymen not to make public his vote.

Attorneys for the defense immediately asked dismissal of all charges against Bright on the grounds that the defense did not concur in the court's decision for a mistrial. The defense called attention to an 1858 decision of the Georgia Supreme Court which says that a judge in a case where a demand for early trial has been filed--as it had been in this one--cannot declare a mistrial except for "providential causes" without consent of the defense.

The defense filed a demurral from the court order and sought to make a number of arguments for the dismissal of the case against Bright, but Judge Pye declined to hear further demurral arguments and said that a new trial would be held as soon as a new jury is selected.

## BEN GURION TELLS KNESSET HE CONSIDERS SYRIAN ATTACKS "AN ACT OF WAR"

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben Gurion reiterated today that recent Syrian attacks were considered "an act of war" but he refused to be drawn into a public declaration of the Government's intentions should the attacks continue.

The Prime Minister took that position in replying to two motions in Knesset for a debate on the Syrian attacks and on the security situation on Israel's northern border. The motions were offered by the left-wing Achdut Avodah and the right-wing Herut. The two parties agreed, after the Prime Minister's statement, to refer the subject to the Knesset Committee on Security and Foreign Affairs.

The session opened with a ceremony marking the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights during which a special Presidential message was read by the Speaker. Pinchas Rosen, the Minister of Justice, spoke on the significance of the declaration. It was announced that a special Israel stamp to mark the event was being placed on sale today.

(The new Israeli postage stamp issued in honor of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was distributed today by the Israel delegation at the United Nations at a special commemorative meeting of the UN General Assembly. The stamp, bearing the inscription in Hebrew "Thou Shalt Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself," also carried this Biblical quotation in the five official languages of the United Nations.)

## ISRAEL GOVERNMENT TIGHTENS PRESS RESTRICTIONS; ISSUES NEW ORDER

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Government of Israel today tightened restrictions against press coverage of its activities by ordering all civil servants to withhold not only secret data but also any information coming to their knowledge "which is not expressly intended for publication purposes."

The order was issued by the Civil Service Commission in a circular to all Government employees warning them that under 1957 amendments to the state security law, any Government employee who "without legal authority passes on information coming to his attention in his official capacity to a person not authorized to receive such information is liable to three years' imprisonment."

The circular stressed that "it must be emphasized that a journalist has no more right to receive information than the general public." It was also disclosed that employees in all Government offices were required to sign declarations pledging themselves to keep all information secret.

## BILLS RECOMMENDING PROPORTIONAL ELECTION SYSTEM DEFEATED IN KNESSET

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- A joint Mapai-General Zionist bid to pass a bill changing the present nationwide proportional representation election system into a British-American type of constituency voting collapsed today in Knesset.

All other parties, both supporters and foes of the Mapai-led coalition Government, fought the bid out of fears that such a changeover would virtually eliminate all minor parties while elevating Mapai to dominant status and making the General Zionists the dominant opposition party.

Originally, two bills were presented. A Mapai-sponsored bill would have elected 100 members of Knesset on a constituency basis. This bill was defeated by a 58 to 42 vote. The General Zionists then offered a compromise measure to provide for election of 90 Knesset members on a constituency basis and 30 on a proportional representation basis. This bill was beaten by a 58 to 11 tally.

The Knesset presidium then rejected a Mapai-General Zionist proposal that votes on both bills be combined. The voting indicated that opposition to the electoral changes depended on a four vote margin, a fact reaffirmed in the voting on a bill by Achdut Avodah, one of the smaller parties, which would make electoral changes even more difficult than they are at present. The Achdut Avodah bill was approved in first reading yesterday by a 58 to 53 vote.

Premier David Ben Gurion, speaking in the Knesset as a member of the Mapai, insisted that Parliament should consist of a government party and an opposition group which would offer a responsible alternative to the ruling party. There is no need for representation for every shade of political opinion in Parliament, he said, because Israel has a free press.

Recognizing France as a friend of Israel, the Premier spurned the French example of Parliamentary democracy, asserting that the only stable democratic system was that in existence in the English-speaking countries. He was interrupted by shouts of "what about Scandinavia?"

Though it was a foregone conclusion that the Reform bill would be beaten, proponents of the measure felt that they had scored in that the Knesset's debate had aroused nationwide interest in the question of electoral reform. The Mapai promised to make this one of the major issues of the forthcoming national election campaign.

## U. N. STARTS DISCUSSION ON FOUR-POWER RESOLUTION ON ARAB REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The United Nations General Assembly's Special Political Committee began consideration today of a four-power resolution on the Palestine Arab refugee issue which recommends that Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld prepare for the next year's Assembly a series of proposals on the international community's future handling of the refugee problem.

Observers here expressed strong doubts that the resolution would leave the committee in its present form. The Arab states have resolutely opposed any attempt--suggested by the Western Powers--to prepare at this time for what will happen to the refugees after June 30, 1960 when the terms of reference of the UN Relief and Works Agency for the refugees runs out. The Arab bloc, supported by the Soviet-led bloc, has insisted on fulfillment of next year's budgetary needs of UNRWA without in any way attempting to meet the longtime needs of the refugees.

The four powers who introduced the resolution--Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States--could push it through the committee by a simple majority. However, they would fail of a necessary two-thirds vote in the Assembly if the Arabs continue their opposition. Consequently, it is expected that the proposal for a Hammarskjöld study will either be modified or dropped in committee, shelving a longtime solution until next year when the refugee problems will have been further intensified.

## GERMANY REPORTED FULFILLED HALF OF REPARATIONS PACT WITH ISRAEL

DORTMUND, Germany, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- One-half of the reparations agreement signed in September 1952 between West Germany and Israel has been fulfilled, Dr. F. E. Shinnar, head of the Israel Purchasing Mission in Germany, declared here today. The pact provides that Germany may take up to 14 years to pay some \$822,000,000 in goods and services to Israel and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Bonn's commitments under the treaty have been met without friction, Dr. Shinnar emphasized. The Federal Republic has annually delivered 175,000,000 marks worth of goods to Israel and 75,000,000 marks has been placed at Israel's disposal for oil purchases in the sterling area.

Eight German travel agents left today for Israel. During their stay, the agents--who operate out of Berlin, Hamburg, Munich and Cologne--will study the possibility of promoting Israel as a site for winter vacationing.

J. D. C. SPENT \$27, 892, 100 DURING 1958; AIDED 195, 000 JEWS IN 25 LANDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee provided aid for 195, 000 Jews in 25 countries during 1958, it was reported here today by Moses A. Leavitt, JDC executive vice chairman, on the eve of the 44th annual JDC national conference which takes place here tomorrow. More than 500 Jewish leaders from communities throughout the United States will attend the meeting.

Mr. Leavitt also reported that the JDC spent \$27, 892, 100 on its 1958 relief activities. He indicated that at the annual meeting tomorrow a budget for 1959 will be submitted that will surpass substantially the current year's outlay for relief, refugees and rehabilitation assistance.

More than 100, 000 of those assisted by the JDC in 1958 were in Moslem countries, principally North Africa and Iran, Mr. Leavitt reported. But there were also some 55, 000 in Europe who needed aid, and more than 35, 000 in Israel. Also more than 5, 000 in such other areas as Australia. In Israel, the Maiben program alone aided between 16, 000 and 17, 000 persons.

Leavitt Reports on J. D. C. Assistance to Jews in Poland

"Perhaps the most notable single development of 1958 was the assistance which JDC had undertaken to provide to Jews in Poland," Mr. Leavitt said. "Originally established only on behalf of Jews recently repatriated from Russia, the actual situation in Poland required the expansion of the program so as to provide some assistance to the so-called 'settled' population. As a result, since December 1957, when JDC resumed its activities in Poland, JDC aid has reached some 22, 000 individuals.

"The increase in the number of beneficiaries in Poland--and to a lesser extent in Australia--thus offset the decrease in the number of beneficiaries among new refugees, particularly in Austria and in Italy, so that at the end of 1958 JDC's caseload was as large as it had been at the beginning of the year," the JDC vice chairman emphasized.

The total Jewish population in Poland, Mr. Leavitt reported, is estimated at 40, 000 to 45, 000. Some 15, 000 to 16, 000 Jews have already reached Poland under the Polish-Russian repatriation agreement which was recently extended to the end of March 1959. It is expected that before that date an additional 3, 000 to 4, 000 Jews will arrive in Poland from Russia. At the same time, Jewish emigration from Poland, which reached the level of 35, 000 in 1957, slowed down considerably in 1958; between April 1 and August 15, 1, 289 persons, including 479 repatriates, left the country. In September, however, the number began to rise; there were 350 in that month and some 450 or 500 were expected to leave during October.

JDC carries on its programs in Poland through the Central Jewish Committee of Public Welfare, which includes representatives of the religious congregations, of the government-sponsored cultural association, as well as representatives of the repatriated Jews. In addition, JDC provides direct support for the Union of Religious Congregations, Mr. Leavitt stated.

Small Migration Movements of Jewish Population Noted During Year

"There were during the year small migration movements of the Jewish population," Mr. Leavitt continued. "As a result, the number of Hungarian refugees in Austria was reduced to manageable proportions, and all of the Hungarian escapees in Yugoslavia were resettled. But despite some notable advances during the year, the outlook at year's end was that in 1959 even greater numbers of men, women and children would require JDC's aid than in the year that was ending," he stressed.

"During 1958, despite the fact that nearly all of the DP's had already been resettled or integrated, despite the continued improvement of economic conditions in most of Europe, there were some 53, 800 men, women and children in Europe who required JDC's aid," Mr. Leavitt continued. He reported that since 1954 JDC has annually received large funds from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany for assistance to victims of the Nazi regime.

The main beneficiaries of these funds were the Jewish communities of Europe, the JDC leader stated. However, he drew attention to the fact that since the life span of the Claims Conference is limited to about 12 years, it is increasingly necessary to prepare the communities for the period, beginning in 1963 or 1964, when funds will no longer be forthcoming from the Claims Conference. Thanks to the grants of the Claims Conference, it has been possible since 1954 to embark on a series of so-called "investment projects." These consist chiefly of the improvement, repair or expansion of homes for the aged, children's homes, and medical institutions, as well as the establishment or remodeling of community and youth centers, schools and religious institutions.

For the five years beginning in 1954 the Claims Conference and JDC spent or allocated more than \$4, 000, 000 for 190 such "capital investment" projects in 14 European countries, Mr. Leavitt reported. In addition, \$3, 390, 500 were contributed by local sources, bringing the total funds for these projects up to \$7, 392, 400.

## ISRAEL DEFENSE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES U. J. A. AID FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Despite the "heartbreaking damage" and "dangerous implications" of last week's bombardment of eight Israeli villages near the Syrian border by forces of the United Arab Republic, Shimon Peres, director-general of the Israel Defense Ministry, declared today that a chief concern of Israel's people continues to be "the solving of our constructive and humanitarian problems."

"These severe problems," Mr. Peres said at a press conference at United Jewish Appeal headquarters, "are a combination of three 'musts.' We must constantly press ahead in building up the country. At the same time, we must provide housing and livelihoods for the continuous flow of newcomers finding haven in Israel and we must complete the absorption into the national lifestream of more than a quarter of a million of earlier immigrants."

The 35-year-old top administrator of Israel's defense programs, a close associate of Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, arrived here yesterday after a survey of the devastation wrought by the attack from across the Syrian border. He stressed that he was here on a humanitarian mission, in response to an invitation from the United Jewish Appeal. He will deliver the major address at the Saturday evening session of the UJA's 21st annual national conference here. The three-day conference opens at the Statler Hilton Hotel Friday morning.

### Emphasizes New Opportunities for Emigration from Communist Lands

Mr. Peres emphasized the new opportunities for emigration to Israel which opened recently in two satellite countries in East Europe. "The number of immigrants from these countries arriving in Israel is about 4,000 a month," he reported. "This limit is imposed by these governments. It does not represent our feelings. We are prepared to take all who come." He described the newcomers as "physically fit, arriving virtually penniless. They are permitted to take with them 40 pounds of luggage."

Asked what the policy was on military service for those of military age among the new arrivals, Mr. Peres said--referring to the military age limits of 18 to 29--such immigrants have the option of joining the armed forces immediately or postponing their entry into service for two years. The tour of duty is two and a half years, during which servicemen receive the equivalent of a four-year education course in Hebrew, plus other amenities.

He said 110,000 people are still in maarabot, most of them from North Africa and some from Eastern Europe. "We hope to settle them in permanent housing in the near future, but the problem, of course, involves the rate of incoming immigrants," he stated.

Mr. Peres revealed that the first of the two submarines purchased from Britain will arrive in Israel in June, at which time it will be made part of the Israel Navy. Crews are now being trained in England, he said. He also reported that he had met with Guy Mollet, Socialist leader, and Jacques Soustelle, head of the major Gaullist party, in Paris Monday. He said the major parties in France, as well as the French Government, remain committed to friendship with Israel. Mr. Peres will remain in the United States about nine days.

## JEWISH ATTORNEY IN SOUTH AFRICA NAMED MEMBER OF SUPREME COURT

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- A 52-year-old Jewish attorney of Pretoria, A. Galgut, was today appointed to the Transvaal Division of the South African Supreme Court.

Chairman of the Pretoria Bar Council, Mr. Galgut has been acting as a judge for the past year. During the last war, he served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the South African forces and was cited twice for bravery.

## YESHIVA UNIVERSITY GETS \$49,400 GRANT FROM U. S. SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Yeshiva University's Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences, has been awarded a research grant of \$49,400 by the National Science Foundation, the University announced today. The three-year project will be under the direction of Prof. Leo Zippin and Prof. Harry E. Rauch, both of the graduate school faculty.

## ANCIENT HAGGADAH, IN HEBREW AND ARABIC, BRINGS \$11,200 AT AUCTION SALE

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- An ancient Haggadah dating back to the 15th century today brought 4,000 pounds (\$11,200) at auction here. The manuscript, in Hebrew and Arabic, is one of the oldest known copy in existence. It was bought by a dealer, Henrich Eisemann.

## RABBI ELIEZER SILVER, U. S. ORTHODOX LEADER, CONGRATULATES TOLEDANO

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Israeli press today reported that Rabbi Jacob M. Toledano, new Israel Minister for Religions, has been receiving messages of congratulations from many Jewish communities abroad, including one from Rabbi Eliezer Silver, American Orthodox leader.