



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXVI No. 123 - 41st year

Monday, June 29, 1959

BEN GURION INSISTS ON UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT OF ARMS DEAL WITH GERMANY

JERUSALEM, June 28. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion was determined today to force the resignation of the leftist members of his Cabinet--the Mapam and Achdut Avodah--if they will not give him unqualified support on the arms deal concluded with West Germany under which Israel sold to the West German Government about \$3,000,000 worth of grenade launchers.

Prior to a six-hour meeting of the Cabinet, which will be continued tomorrow, the Premier invited the representatives of the opposition parties which are not in the coalition government to a meeting, this afternoon. This was considered as open notice to the leftist members of his Cabinet that unless they agree to accept collective responsibility of the government in fulfilling the arms contract with West Germany, he would turn to the opposition parties for the formation of a caretaker government.

The opposition parties whom Premier Ben Gurion invited for talks included the General Zionist Party; the National Religious Party, composed of Mizrahi and Mizrahi-laborites; the Agudat Israel Party; and the Agudah Laborites. The right-wing Herut Party, in the meantime, announced today that it will introduce a motion in Parliament tomorrow, demanding the cancellation of the arms deal, while the Communist Party registered a motion of non-confidence for tomorrow's meeting of the Parliament.

The Parliamentary Security and Foreign Affairs Committee is scheduled to discuss the issue, and will meet tomorrow prior to the session of the Parliament. It is considered as certain that Premier Ben Gurion will insist that the left-wing partners of his Cabinet should fully support him at the Parliamentary Committee, and in Parliament, when the arms deal issue will be discussed. Otherwise, he will present the resignation of the Cabinet to President Ben Zvi, and will try to form another Cabinet in which the Mapam and Achdut Avodah will not be given any representation.

Threatens to Retire to Sdeh Boker, if Not Given A Free Hand

Following the adjournment of today's Cabinet meeting until tomorrow, Mr. Ben Gurion invited the leaders of his own Mapai Party for a conference to acquaint them with the developments. Yesterday, he reportedly told them at a conference in Tel Aviv that he would demand a free hand on the issue, and that he would brook no partisan policy on anything connected with the defense of the country. He also reportedly told the leaders of his party that he would retire to Sdeh Boker if not given a free hand by the party.

The General Zionists today indicated that they will not participate in a caretaker government, which would take over until the national elections in November. At the same time, their leaders were reported taking the attitude of supporting the arms deal. "If we can sell vitamins--oranges--to West Germany, why not also arms?" was the stand they took. However, they made it clear that they do not want to come before the electorate in the national elections as a junior partner in a temporary coalition.

In an exclusive interview published in Davar, organ of the Histadrut, Premier Ben Gurion said "all Cabinet members were aware of the arms deal with West Germany which was approved unanimously." He added that the deal was not made public by Israel because "we were requested by the Germans to keep it secret." The Premier also said in his interview that, early this month, he reported on the deal to the Parliamentary Security and Foreign Affairs Committee.

The political committee of Achdut Avodah met to hear a report on the arms deal issue from its Cabinet member, Israel Bar Yehuda, following Mr. Ben Gurion's statement that the whole Cabinet was aware of the deal since last December. After the meeting was over, a spokesman for Achdut Avodah said: "Following Mr. Bar Yehuda's report, it appears that Premier Ben Gurion's statement is incompatible with the facts."

The spokesman claimed that there was no discussion in the Cabinet over the deal, nor was there any decision adopted. He said that the party supported the attitude of its Cabinet members opposing the deal, and demanding its cancellation, as well as to refrain in the future from selling any Israeli arms to Germany.

Premier Ben Gurion said last night that, after the Cabinet meeting is over, he would publish all documents relating to the fact that the entire government was aware of the deal.

CAIRO INDICATES STUBBORNNESS ON ISSUE OF HALTING ISRAELI CARGO

LONDON, June 28. (JTA) -- On the eve of United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's visit to Cairo this week, to try to untangle the Israeli-Egyptian impasse over freedom of shipping through the Suez Canal, the United Arab Republic indicated its intention to continue its action against Israel.

Over the week-end, the Egyptian War Prize Commission, at Alexandria, confirmed the confiscation of an Israeli cargo, taken at Port Said last March from the freighter Kapitan Manolis. The \$89,000 cargo of phosphates and cement, bound from Haifa to Ceylon, was officially declared by the UAR as "stolen goods," belonging to Arab refugees whose land had been "usurped" by the Israelis.

Mr. Hammarskjold's immediate concern is the cargo aboard the Danish freighter Inge Toft. That ship has been tied up at Port Said since May 21. The Egyptians announced they would confiscate that cargo as a "war prize," as soon as the captain of the Inge Toft has the shipment unloaded. The skipper persists in refusing to unload the cargo.

Mr. Hammarskjold is due in Cairo late Tuesday or early Wednesday, and is scheduled to be there two days. The precedents set up by the UAR are not regarded here as auguries of success to the UN Chief's latest Middle East mission.

IRAQ CHANGES STAND: AGREES TO JOIN ARAB PARLEY ON PALESTINE ISSUE

LONDON, June 28. (JTA) -- Iraq has notified the Arab League that it is ready to assign a diplomat from Baghdad to attend a top-level Arab meeting, at which "the Palestine Problem and immigration into Israel" will be discussed. An earlier effort to convene an Arab summit meeting on these problems collapsed when Iraq refused to attend.

League secretary general Abdel K. Hassouna announced Iraq's acceptance today, stating that all members of the League except Tunisia and Morocco have now accepted invitations to attend such a meeting. Answers from the two latter states are being awaited, he said.

At the same time, it was reported here, Premier Abdul Karim Kassem, of Iraq, has invited United Arab Republic President Gamal Abdel Nasser to send a ten-member delegation to Baghdad to help celebrate the first anniversary of the Iraqi revolution, next July 14. The latest steps by Iraq are being interpreted by diplomatic observers here as indications on the part of Iraq to end its differences with the United Arab Republic.

WORLD MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES TO HOLD NEXT CONGRESS IN ISRAEL

BERLIN, June 28. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the International Union of Municipal Authorities agreed today to hold the organization's next world congress in 1961, in Jerusalem. However, the committee has refrained to present that decision formally to the convention of the Union, which is now taking place here, because there is a wide rift among the delegates about the proposed site for the 1961 congress.

The dispute came yesterday to the floor of the convention because one member of the executive committee, Mayor Gershon Agron, of Jerusalem, has been forbidden by his City Council to attend the parley, on the grounds that an Israeli official should not go to a meeting in Germany.

The German and Austrian delegation favor holding the 1961 congress in Jerusalem, despite Mayor Agron's involuntary absence. The American delegation has sharply condemned the action of Jerusalem's City Council. At the plenum, the American delegation argued that, if Mayor Agron was not allowed to go to Germany--perhaps the delegates from other countries should stay away from Israel.

Sudan announced at the plenum that it would not attend any congress in Israel. All of the Arab delegations took a similar stand. Members of the executive committee, who favor holding the 1961 congress in Israel, indicated they will probably solve the argument by not reporting to the plenum here about the choice of a site for the 1961 session. Under the by-laws of the Union, the executive committee is empowered to choose the site for the organization's congress.

U.S. NAVY PLANE ARRIVES IN ISRAEL TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

TEL AVIV, June 28. (JTA) -- A United States Navy Constellation plane has arrived in Israel to participate in a world-wide communications research project with scientists of the Haifa Institute of Technology, it was announced today.

The object of the research is to determine how radio waves travel through the atmosphere over long distances. The Technion has a contract with the U.S. Navy receiving stations to measure signals received here from other parts of the world. The Constellation will test incoming signals from the air while they are being simultaneously received on the ground.

ADENAUER ASSURES GOLDMANN OF SPEEDY ACTION ON JEWISH CLAIMS

BONN, June 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, today expressed satisfaction with the results of conferences which he held during the week-end with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, West German Finance Minister Franz Etzel, and the Premiers and Finance Ministers of all the states in the West German Federal Republic.

The talks dealt with speeding up the processing of about 1,700,000 individual restitution claims by Nazi victims. Sixty percent of these claims are Jewish. At the present processing rate, about 700,000 claims will not have been dealt with when the German restitution law expires in early 1963.

Following his talk with Dr. Goldmann, Chancellor Adenauer announced that the Bonn Government was determined to complete compensation for the Nazi victims "as quickly and as well as possible." In an effort to accelerate the processing of the claims, Dr. Adenauer summoned an unusual meeting of the top-ranking officials of the 10 West German States, and urged them to assign more personnel to deal with the claims, as well as to simplify administrative procedures and to liberally interpret the restitution law.

On June 13, the Federal Parliament, here, adopted a budget in which 1,300,000,000 Deutschmarks were allocated for indemnification of victims of Nazism. The sum is the same as last year's appropriation for those purposes.

CONVENTION OF REFORM RABBIS FAILS TO ADOPT CODE ON RELIGIOUS PRACTICE

BRETTON WOODS, N. H., June 28. (JTA) -- The 70th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis concluded here today with the election of Rabbi Bernard Bamberger, of New York, as president. No action was taken by the convention on the major issue of establishing a code to guide Reform Jewish religious practice. Discussions at the convention developed no support for such an official guide.

The convention overwhelmingly defeated an executive board amendment to the CCAR constitution which would have prevented members of the organization of Reform rabbis from joining other national rabbinic organizations.

The delegates heard a report on Reform Judaism in Israel. Rabbi Jacob Shinkman, American director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, reported that the American board of the World Union, with which the CCAR is affiliated, has accepted main responsibility for cooperation with Israel's burgeoning Reform movement. He said that small Reform congregations function in Tel Aviv and Haifa and with interested individuals and groups elsewhere.

The formation of a Jewish society with Orthodox, Conservative and Reform representation for the specific purpose of propagating Judaism was disclosed at the CCAR convention. The new body, called the Jewish Information Society, is made up of prominent laymen and rabbis. Its headquarters is in Chicago, and its activities are confined to the Chicago area but it is expected that branches will be opened in other cities.

The preamble to the society's constitution reads: "The purposes of the society are the propagation and dissemination by means of lectures, pamphlets, books and such other means as may be deemed suitable of the views of God, man and the world set forth in the basic tenets of Judaism and expanded and explained in the Hebrew Bible and in the Jewish tradition and to unite all the people of the world in a commitment to the one Universal God and the Brotherhood of man."

Ben Maccabee, a Chicago engineer, is president. Co-chairmen are Conservative Rabbi Ralph Simon, Reform Rabbi Gunther Plaut and Orthodox Rabbi Aaron Ring. Rabbi Sholom Singer, Reform, a vice-president, said that the society would eventually place Judaism alongside Roman Catholicism and Protestantism as a third major missionary force. He said the society would operate on voluntary contributions.

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR LAUNCHED; RABBIS HOLD SERMONS IN SYNAGOGUES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., June 28. (JTA) -- Fifty-two nations, including Israel, have this week-end launched World Refugee Year, a UN-sponsored project which does not get underway officially until Wednesday. WRY is planned to help at least 2,000,000 of the 15,000,000 refugees throughout the world still needing resettlement or aid.

Statements by many world leaders this week-end inaugurated the world-wide effort on behalf of the refugees. Sermons on the subject were preached yesterday by rabbis in many Jewish houses of worship throughout the United States.

President Ben Zvi, in his statement, declared that "the State of Israel is in a very special manner concerned in the refugee problem." He pointed out that "a very substantial sector" of Israel's population "has a refugee past." He also noted that Israel is "particularly concerned with the yet unsettled problem of the Arab refugees." The duty to care for refugees, he declared, "rests on all states and nations, large and small, but particularly on those countries which possess rich natural resources and large areas."

50 PERCENT OF THE JEWS IN UNITED STATES ARE AMERICAN-BORN

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- Eighty percent of the 5,260,000 Jews now living in the United States are American-born, according to the 1959 edition of the American Jewish Year Book published jointly by the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Publication Society of America.

The year book, edited by Morris Fine and Milton Himmelfarb, carries data showing that in the 13-year post-war period, from 1946 to 1958, Jewish philanthropy contributed more than \$1,780,000,000 through central Jewish community organizations for a broad number of diverse causes. In another section, the year book reported that anti-Semitic agitation in this country has increased in the South with the growth of desegregation tensions. "The bulk of the hatemongers' activity continues to the extensive distribution of fliers, leaflets and pamphlets," the report said.

In a report on world Jewish population, the year book said there was a total Jewish population estimated at more than 12,000,000. Of this number, about 6,200,000 Jews live in North, Central and South America; about 3,500,000 are in Europe, while Asia has about 1,900,000. Some 560,000 Jews live in Africa, and about 65,000 are in Australia and New Zealand. The population of Israel, according to the year book report, is approximately 1,780,000 Jews and 217,000 non-Jews.

BRAZILIAN PARLIAMENT HONORS GOLDA MEIR; IMPRESSIVE RECEPTION HELD

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 28. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, today was invited to return to this country in April 1960, to attend the formal inauguration of Brazil's new capital, Brasilia.

Escorted by Foreign Minister Jose C. Macedo Soares, she visited the site of the new capital today, and was shown through the government development by the chief of the construction project, Israel Pinheiro, who is a personal friend of President Juscelino Kubitschek. Mrs. Meir planted an olive tree in front of the future Congress House at Brasilia, covering the tree's roots with a handful of earth she had brought from Jerusalem.

Among the formal sessions attended by Mrs. Meir, during the enthusiastic welcome she is receiving on her state visit here, was a joint impressive reception given by the Senate and Chamber of Deputies this week-end. Another reception was given by Israel's Ambassador here, Arieh Aroch. Among the 600 guests at Mr. Aroch's party were the Papal Nuncio and all other members of the foreign diplomatic corps here.

1,200 SATMAR HASIDIC FAMILIES TO ESTABLISH VILLAGE IN NEW JERSEY

FRANKLIN, N. J., June 28. (JTA) -- A group of 1,260 ultra-orthodox families, driven from the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn by new public housing projects, plans to create a village in this New Jersey suburban area where they can live according to the strict rules of the followers of the Satmarer Rebbe without outside interference.

Congregation Yetel Lev D'Satmar signed a lease for land here on which they hope to break ground in December for their village with the first 500 families scheduled to move into their new homes early in 1960. The site is a 250-acre dairy farm.

The village will include a synagogue, a day school, a ritual bathing establishment, a bakery and shops. The move was inspired by the Satmar Rebbe, who feared that the congregation would be dispersed as city development projects developed in the Williamsburg area. Most of the members are needle trade workers. They hope to establish factories here but until then they will commute by bus to New York City 50 miles away.

SOLOMON LITT ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- Solomon Litt, who has been chairman of the executive committee of the National Jewish Welfare Board since 1953, was today elected national president of the JWB at a special meeting of the organization's board of directors. Mr. Litt was chosen to succeed the late Lloyd W. Dinkelspiel, of San Francisco, who died on May 15.

Mr. Litt is a member of the board of arbitration of the New York Stock Exchange and a governor of the American Stock Exchange. He has been active in the Wall Street committee of the United Jewish Appeal; the Jewish Board of Guardians, of which he is a vice-president; the Jewish Big Brothers, of which he is a former president; and the New York Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, on whose finance committee he serves.

\$750,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS SOLD AT "DIPLOMATIC BALL" IN NEWARK

NEWARK, June 28. (JTA) -- More than five hundred persons attended the Israel Bond Diplomatic Ball this evening. This premiere event of the 1959 season accounted for the sale of \$750,000 of Israel bonds.

CHAYIM PET, JEWISH NOVELIST, DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS 57 YEARS OLD

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here today for Chayim Pet, well-known Jewish novelist, who died Friday after a prolonged illness. He was 57 years old.