



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

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Vol. XXVI No. 137 - 41st year Friday, July 17, 1959

BEN GURION STARTS TALKS ON FORMING NEW CABINET; DOUBTFUL ON OUTCOME

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- David Ben Gurion, in his capacity as Premier-designate, today embarked on an admittedly dubious effort to form a new Cabinet, as entrusted him yesterday by President Itzhak Ben Zvi.

He made a bid today to the National Religious Party to support a "minority Government"--comprised of the Mapai, Progressives and "neutral" Religious Ministers--until the November 3rd national elections, and was slated to meet later today also with leaders of the Agudah Party and with the Agudah Laborites. Tomorrow he will meet with the General Zionist leaders.

The leaders of the National Religious Party politely told Mr. Ben Gurion that they would not support the type of government he proposed. It was anticipated that the General Zionists would respond the same way. Mr. Ben Gurion will then report to the President on Monday or Tuesday that there is no other alternative for him but to remain with the present Cabinet as a caretaker government.

In a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Mr. Ben Gurion said today: "Although it is practically certain that I cannot form a new government which will obtain a confidence vote of the Parliament, I assumed the task entrusted to me by the President for two reasons: First, because it is my duty to expose the shameful behavior of members of the Cabinet who refused to resign after violating collective responsibility of the government and continue to sit in Cabinet councils despite their obligation to quit; and, second, because I am legally bound to continue the responsibility to head the government until a new one is formed."

Premier Ben Gurion was expected to return to his desk next Sunday, after breaking his indefinite leave announced ten days ago. It was reported today that he may even preside over Sunday's Cabinet meeting, thus ending his personal boycott of the four "disident" Mapam and Achdut Avodah Ministers who voted in Parliament against the Government two weeks ago on the sale of Israel-made arms to West Germany.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE SUNDAY ON ACTION OVER SUEZ CANAL BLOCKADE

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- The next meeting of the Israel Cabinet Sunday is expected to decide on whether to make a formal complaint to the United Nations Security Council against the new United Arab Republic blockade of the Suez Canal: to Israel cargoes, it was reported today. The complaint would charge the UAR with repeated violations of the international right of free passage through the canal, stressing that a Danish ship, the Inge Toft, has been detained by Egypt since May 21.

Israel's diplomatic representatives abroad have already contacted Security Council member states and the major maritime powers on the matter, it was also reported. Simultaneously, it was understood, the Israel Foreign Ministry has asked UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold to consider another visit to Cairo to clarify UAR President Nasser's reported conditions for Israel cargo transit through the canal. These are considered here as amounting to a de facto blockade.

These conditions, it was reported, were that Israel should not send cargo on Israel-chartered ships and that Israel should agree to keep Canal-bound shipments secret, when sent on regular foreign vessels.

Although the Western Powers were reported as unenthusiastic about an Israel complaint on the issue to the Security Council, it was expected here that the United States, Britain and France would join Canada, Argentina, Italy, Japan and Panama in a stand in support of the principle of free passage through the canal.

(Cairo radio today broadcast that the United States Government has adopted a "neutral attitude" in the question of Israeli maritime passage through the Suez Canal. "Despite its traditional support for Israel, this time the United States decided to keep out of the Inge Toft affair and not intervene," the Cairo broadcast claimed. It predicted that the report of UN Secretary General Hammarskjold on the Inge Toft issue "will drive Israel into a corner and force it to face new complications.")

TWO EGYPTIANS KILLED, THREE WOUNDED IN CLASH WITH ISRAEL BORDER PATROL

TEL AVIV, July 16. (JTA) -- Two Egyptian infiltrators were killed and three wounded and captured in a clash with an Israel Army patrol near the Egyptian border, an Army spokesman reported today.

He said the patrol spotted the five infiltrators, who were reported to be bearing typical fedayeen (commando) arms and wearing Egyptian army scouts footwear, this afternoon near a settlement in southern Israel. When the infiltrators were challenged, they opened fire on the patrol which returned the fire. The Israel patrol did not suffer any casualties.

KNESSET DEFEATS PROPOSAL TO ABOLISH MILITARY SERVICE FOR WOMEN

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, today defeated by a 46 to 16 vote a proposal by the National Religious Party seeking cancellation of the compulsory two-year military service requirement for women.

Another proposal of the Religious Party, which did not come to a vote after Prime Minister David Ben Gurion entered the debate to oppose it, was that women's service should be volunteer. Dr. Zorach Warhaftig, in making the second proposal, said that since 90 percent of women in the military service were doing clerical work, they could be dispensed with by the armed forces.

The Religious leader also argued that their mobilization adversely affected the future of home life in Israel. He supported this proposition by citing statistics that the Israel birthrate was declining and he attributed the decline to compulsory military service.

The Prime Minister ridiculed that argument, pointing out that married women were exempt from the law. He added that while women did not serve in fighting units, they were incorporated in liaison units. He said that the current calm on Israel's borders should not lull the armed forces whose task remained that of being alert to the "constant threat" of Israel's Arab neighbors.

Mr. Ben Gurion cited a recent press interview with President Nasser of the United Arab Republic in which Nasser said that while the Arab armies did not yet match that of Israel, they hoped to catch up soon. The Prime Minister said that because of the current manpower situation in relation to such dangers to Israel's security, Israel's armed forces could not dispense with women's services.

BEN GURION PLANS RELAXATION OF MILITARY RULE IN ARAB SECTIONS OF ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- A five-man Ministerial Committee of the Israel Cabinet today recommended relaxations of military government in Arab sections of Israel and the easing of restrictions on the movements of minority populations.

The law now provides for free movement during daylight hours in all parts of Israel except the Negev, which is a "security zone." Israel's Arab citizens have complained about the restrictions.

Independently of the committee recommendations, Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, acting in his capacity as Defense Minister, had announced plans for relaxations of the restrictions. However, he sought to delay implementation until after the forthcoming national elections to prevent the matter becoming a political issue.

The Progressive and left-wing members of the Ministerial Committee were reported as anticipating support of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, for immediate implementation.

RIFT BETWEEN ISRAEL RABBINATE AND MINISTER OF RELIGION SETTLED

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- An agreement for full liaison and cooperation on religious matters, ending a long-standing rift between the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Israel Rabbinate, was achieved today at a meeting between Sephardic Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim and Rabbi Jacob M. Toledano, the Minister of Religious Affairs.

Under the agreement Rabbi Toledano will resume his seat in the Religious Council of which he was a member before taking his Cabinet post over the protests of the rabbis. The meeting between the two rabbinical leaders was the first since the start of the "Who is a Jew" crisis a year ago.

Rabbi Toledano agreed to solicit the views of the Chief Rabbinate on all religious issues brought before the Government or initiated by it. He also agreed to support the Israel rabbinate as the exclusive authority on a pending kashrut fraud bill. Government sponsors of the measure made a point of excluding the rabbinate from the bill.

On the unresolved "Who is a Jew" issue, Rabbi Toledano agreed to back the opposition of the Israel rabbinate against any new regulations, such as those proposed by Prime Minister David Ben Gurion but held in abeyance while the Prime Minister polled Jewish scholars throughout the world for their advice.

STATE DEPT. FAVORS ADMISSION OF REFUGEES OUTSIDE OF REGULAR QUOTA

WASHINGTON, July 16. (JTA) -- The State Department today indicated to Congress its support for a bill to allow admission of refugees in the United States outside the regular immigration quota, on special parole. However, it recommended that the bill should limit such admission to 10,000 a year.

Speaking for the State Department, John W. Hanes, head of the Consular Section, told a House Immigration Subcommittee today that it is very important to enact some legislation at this session of Congress to help relieve the plight of refugees. He was testifying on a bill recommending the admission of refugees under special procedures each year. The hearings on the bill will continue.

S. C. A. D. TO APPEAL AGAINST COURT'S BARRING ARAMCO'S ANTI-JEWISH BIAS

NEW YORK, July 16. (JTA) -- The New York State Commission Against Discrimination announced today it would file an appeal to a higher court against a ruling by Supreme Court Justice Henry Epstein barring the Arabian-Aramican Oil Company from asking about the religion of job applicants.

Elmer A. Carter, chairman of SCAD, in announcing that his agency would appeal, said that the decision of SCAD permitting ARAMCO to make applicants state their religion "is an application of the consistent view of this agency first made in connection with Saudi Arabia in 1950. This ruling held that in matters affecting the national security, SCAD will be guided by statements of the Federal Government as to the best interests of the United States."

Justice Epstein, who had ruled on an appeal by the American Jewish Congress from the SCAD ruling, said in his decision he had ordered SCAD to end immediately its "bona fide" occupational exemption for ARAMCO from the New York Fair Employment Law. Judge Epstein called the ruling by SCAD "arbitrary, capricious and without basis in fact or law. The discrimination practiced by ARAMCO in New York State must cease and it is the duty of the commission to see that it does," he specified.

The SCAD notice of intention to appeal challenged Justice Epstein's contention that there was no basis in United States policy for the exemption. Mr. Carter declared in his statement today that the disputed ruling was in line with a judgment that "when a job applicant must travel to a foreign country to perform a job, SCAD will permit the employer to determine whether the applicant can satisfy the entrance requirements as a prerequisite."

The American Jewish Congress issued a statement hailing Justice Epstein's decision "as demonstrating once again the vital role of our American courts in upholding the civil rights and civil liberties of American citizens." It said that "the opinion of Justice Epstein will long be remembered as establishing that the onward movement in this country to strike down all barriers on grounds of race, religion or national origin will not be stemmed or reversed, either in obedience to Arab dictators or to the fancied notions of the requirements of American foreign policy."

COMMISSION STARTS HEARINGS TODAY ON BIAS IN NEW YORK'S SPORT CLUBS

NEW YORK, July 16. (JTA) -- The New York City Commission on Intergroup Relations will continue its investigation of membership policies of the West Side Tennis Club and other private sport clubs despite the disavowal by the Forest Hills club of racial or religious bias.

Dr. Alfred J. Marrow, commission chairman, said hearings would begin tomorrow with testimony from Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Nobel Peace Prize winner and United Nations Undersecretary. Dr. Bunche touched off the controversy by disclosing he had been told by Wilfred Burglund, West Side Club president, that neither he nor his son would be acceptable for membership because they were Negroes. Dr. Bunche said Mr. Burglund had told him the club does not accept Negroes or Jews.

After a week of widespread criticism, the board of governors of the club disavowed on Tuesday Mr. Burglund's statement and accepted his resignation. The board also announced that the club did not practice discrimination against members, that it had Jewish members now and that, while it had no Negro members, there was no record that Negroes had ever applied for membership.

Dr. Marrow said the commission had decided to proceed with its investigation, first "to establish a formal record of past events and well-defined standards for the future" and second, "to determine if new city legislation may be needed so that sponsors of public exhibitions will have their obligations to treat all citizens equally--both in their internal and external conduct--spelled out in unmistakable terms."

GOLDA MEIR ARRIVES IN N. Y. EN ROUTE BACK TO ISRAEL FROM LATIN AMERICA

NEW YORK, July 16. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, arrived in New York yesterday en route from her visit to Latin American countries. After a rest at a country place this week-end, Mrs. Meir will leave Tuesday for Israel.

LOS ANGELES UNITED JEWISH DRIVE REACHES \$5,109,712; EXCEEDS LAST YEAR'S

LOS ANGELES, July 16. (JTA) -- Contributions to the current Los Angeles United Jewish Welfare Fund have reached \$5,109,712, nearly \$750,000 more than was recorded at this stage of last year's campaign, Dr. Max W. Bay, general chairman, reported today.

Dr. Bay said that clean-up phases would continue through the summer and that he hoped for an additional \$1,000,000 in contributions when all cards have been solicited. He reported the overall campaign total as consisting of \$4,016,878 contributed to the regular fund and \$1,092,834 to the special fund for the United Jewish Appeal. The current figure was only \$200,000 short of the grand total recorded in the 1958 campaign, he stressed.

Denver Jewish Campaign Reaching \$1,100,000; Drives Goes On

DENVER, July 16. (JTA) -- The Allied Campaign of the Denver Jewish community has reached \$1,100,000 in contributions, Richard Tucker, chairman of the campaign, has announced.

Charles Goldberg, advance gifts chairman, warned that there were still many cards "with many thousands of dollars" still to be solicited and urged continued effort to finish solicitations.

St. Paul United Jewish Drive to Reach Highest Record in Gifts

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 16. (JTA) -- A record-breaking figure in the 1959 campaign of the United Jewish Fund of St. Paul, likely to top the 1951 record total of \$443,000--highest in the history of the Fund--was expected to be announced here.

Marion Newman, campaign chairman, said the 1958 total of \$360,000 already had been exceeded. Returns indicate an overall increase of some 40 percent over gifts from the same contributors in 1958.

Long Beach Jewish Welfare Fund Exceeds Quota of Last Year

LONG BEACH, Calif., July 16. (JTA) -- Sam E. Eddel, president of the Long Beach Jewish Community Council, announced today that the United Jewish Welfare Fund reached its 1958-1959 goal of \$188,466. Last year the Fund raised \$107,430.

36 AMERICAN STUDENTS LEAVE FOR FULL-YEAR STUDY AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK, July 16. (JTA) -- Thirty-six American collegians sailed today on the Israel liner S.S. Zion to spend a year of study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Composed of eight graduate students and 28 undergraduates, hailing from a cross-section of 26 U.S. universities, the group represents the fifth consecutive annual unit of Americans to participate in a special study course at the Jerusalem school.

They will pursue their studies under a program arranged by Hebrew University authorities in cooperation with the Academic Council of the American Friends of the Hebrew University, headed by Prof. Oscar I. Janowsky of the College of the City of New York. The students will join 150 other Americans from the United States, Canada and Latin America already matriculated in Jerusalem under various study projects. The Americans were selected after a rigid screening process entailing character, scholarship and health tests.

Extending from July until next June, the study program is divided into two periods, the first of four months duration being devoted to an intense training course in the Hebrew language which is given in an "Ulpan" or language center. The remaining eight months, known as the University period, are devoted to instruction at university level in special subjects. Dr. Janowsky said that the program for the American students is designed for those who wish to learn about modern Israel in its Middle East setting, offering a special opportunity to acquire an extensive knowledge of the Hebrew language and an introduction to the fundamentals of Jewish thought, history and literature.

Those students who qualify, and whose knowledge of Hebrew permits, will be enabled to continue with general studies in the broad range of subjects offered by Hebrew University. These courses may be selected from the general curriculum of the University's Schools of Humanities, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Science. The University's professional schools do not admit students from the program.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANTS FUND TO JEWISH INSTITUTION FOR MEDICAL STUDY

PHILADELPHIA, July 16. (JTA) -- The Pennsylvania Department of Health's Division of Chronic Diseases, has made a grant of \$15,790 to the Community Medical Home Care Program of the Federation of Jewish Agencies to set up a project to study rehabilitation of patients with neuro-muscular diseases.

The project is a service by Federation to physicians and their patients to bring medical and hospital-related service into the patients' own home, Morris W. Satinsky, president of the program, explained today. The program is sponsored by the Federation and offered through the home care department of the Einstein Medical Center.