



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

Contents Copyright: Reproduction only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXIX - 44th year

Thursday, October 11, 1962

No. 196

U.N. COMMISSIONER REPORTS ON ARAB REFUGEES; HIS VIEWS HELD BIASED

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 10. (JTA) -- A report on the Arab refugee problem, which is considered by most observers here as taking the side of the Arabs against Israel, was presented here today to the United Nations General Assembly by Dr. John H. Davis, Commissioner-General of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. Dr. Davis stressed in his report that:

1. Not only the refugees but "the Arab people as a whole feel deeply that an injustice has been committed against the Arabs of Palestine."
2. Implementation of a 1948 resolution calling for "repatriation" of the refugees or their compensation or resettlement is "demanded" because this 14-year-old resolution has "not yet been realized."
3. Sponsoring work projects for refugees, especially such as might lead to resettlement, should not be attempted by the UN agency.
4. The Arab refugees must "cross an international boundary," making it clear that he means they must cross into Israel.

These were only some of the statements made by Dr. Davis, in his formal report on the activities of the UN body whose job it is to aid the refugees but not to enter into politics. Viewing the Arab refugee situation over the past 14 years, two years prior to the creation of UNRWA in 1950, Dr. Davis declared:

"It now seems quite clear that the dominant forces responsible for the continuation of the refugee problem are the impasse in regard to the basic issues involved, resulting from the deep feelings of the peoples in the Middle East with regard to those issues; the general unemployable status of dependent refugees; and the overall economic limitations of the host countries in absorbing refugees in addition to their own growing populations." The "host" countries are Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria who, according to Dr. Davis, could not "absorb" the refugees.

"With respect to the feelings of the inhabitants of the Arab countries of the Middle East," he held, "it is, in the opinion of the Commissioner-General, the Arab people as a whole, and not just the million-odd displaced refugees, who feel deeply that an injustice has been committed against the Arabs of Palestine. As they view the situation, they see a country obliterated and a people uprooted and dispossessed, a majority of whom have been subjected to conditions which have deprived them of their means of livelihood and left them dependent on international charity.

"Perhaps even worse has been the psychological damage inflicted on them by their prolonged dependence on charity. As one would expect, such an experience inevitably has had a corroding effect on the personality of the individuals involved," Dr. Davis commented.

Ignores Request for Peaceful Settlement of Arab-Israel Issues

He then reiterated the "demand" of the refugees for implementation of the 1948 resolution, singling out of that lengthy document only one article, paragraph eleven, the article which the Arab spokesmen constantly hammer against Israel, ignoring other vital clauses in the same resolution which provide for peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Arab issues as a whole.

He insisted that, aside from the "political aspects" of the Palestine problem, "one cannot but be struck by the limitations" of the capacity of the Arab states "to absorb the refugee population." "A major proportion of the refugees," he declared, "must cross an international boundary if they are to find suitable employment without resort to the aid of the host countries to uneconomic investment."

Here he made it clear that in his "considered judgment" the Arab states could not afford to develop an economy that would employ the refugees. Thus he disregarded completely the plan for overall integration of the Middle East economy, proposed by the late secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld. The Arab states had fought bitterly against the Hammarskjöld proposal, succeeding in shelving it.

Dr. Davis told the Assembly that UNRWA's past efforts to settle refugees "and the actually fruitless outcome of past broader efforts, under other auspices to negotiate

a settlement of the Palestine problem, indigenous to the region, and to the Governments which represent them." Due to these feelings, he said, it is his "considered opinion" that "UNRWA should not again attempt to undertake works projects designed to settle the refugees."

Further in his report, he made the point clear again by asserting: "It is not UNRWA's responsibility to solve the Palestine problem in its broader aspects and, in the opinion of the Commissioner-General, experience has indicated that, at least pending progress toward a general solution, UNRWA is not an appropriate agency to attempt works projects to provide rehabilitation."

Reports There Are 1,174,760 Arab Refugees; Wants More Aid

Again he made it clear that any "boundary crossing" by the refugees must be in the direction of Israel only by declaring that "any absorption of the refugees into the economy and society of the Arab world would not, of itself, dispose of the underlying, more basic issues of the Palestine problem."

Dr. Davis devoted a section of his report to explaining UNRWA's efforts to "rectify" the agency's ration rolls. UNRWA has for years been criticized for giving relief on ration cards held by the families of deceased refugees who fail to report the deaths. Conceding that such "rectification" efforts depend "on the cooperation of the refugees as well as of the host Governments," he absolved two of the "host" governments, Jordan and Syria, by stating that the "rectification" efforts were "somewhat delayed owing to political developments."

He claimed that, nevertheless, there has been some "rectification," and referred the Assembly to a statistical table allegedly showing such progress. However, that table, printed 12 pages further down the lengthy report, showed merely that, among the refugees taken off the ration rolls, were included 40,930 of them absorbed by Israel between July 1950 and June 1953. He said that, in the year ending June 1962, 18,660 dead refugees were removed from the ration rolls.

Dr. Davis said in his report that, as of June 30, 1962, there were 1,174,760 refugees. He told the Assembly that UNRWA 1963 budget will require \$37,000,000 in governmental contributions, "an increase of about \$3,000,000 or nine percent over 1962." Dr. Davis took note in his report that UNRWA's current mandate will expire on June 30, 1963, and expressed the hope that the United Nations would find some way of continuing refugee relief in one form or another.

ESHKOL FORESEES 'TOUGH' NEGOTIATIONS WITH EUROPEAN MARKET BODY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Levi Eshkol returned to Israel last night from a lengthy visit to the United States and France with a warning that talks to implement the European Economic Market decision for negotiations for trade agreements with Israel would be "very tough."

He added that "even when the talks are successful, the Euromart will not give us everything on a silver platter." Declining comment on reports of plans for increases in Israeli income taxes, the Finance Minister reiterated that Israel's economic problems were far from solved in spite of the Euromart decision to open negotiations.

He said the United States decision to sell ground-to-air defensive Hawk missiles to Israel "had great political value" and that it had raised Israel's prestige. He asserted that the Arab boycott was still hurtful to Israel particularly in the ban on Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal. He reported that he expected a World Bank announcement of a \$20,000,000 loan to Israel for highway development would be forthcoming in a few weeks.

The Finance Minister reported that during his visit to the United States he met Dr. Ludwig Erhard, the West German Economics Minister and A. Benn, the West German State Bank president. While he declined comment on the content of his talks with the two West German finance experts, he stressed the importance of West Germany in international financial institutions, particularly the role of West Germany in the International Development Association. He said Israel had asked the association of a loan to develop its water resources.

BRITISH NEC-NAZI, CN TRIAL IN LONDON, SAYS IN COURT HE HATES JEWS

LONDON, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Colin Jordan, leader of the British National Socialist movement, declared in court today at his trial that "I am guilty of being anti-Jewish because I love my country and hate what the Jews have done to it."

He and three officers of his movement are on trial on charges of having violated the Public Order Act, which bans organizations seeking to achieve political goals by force, through the organization of a paramilitary force called "Spearhead."

Earlier, Mervyn Griffith-Jones, the prosecutor, quoted from "Spearhead" documents to the effect that "The Spearhead man steps forward and marches in the spirit of the storm-troopers of the National Socialist revolution in Germany." He asked Jordan: "Is that your purpose?" and the neo-Nazi replied, "that is correct."

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OPENS TODAY; CARDINAL URGES CHRISTIAN-JEWISH AMITY

RCME, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- The Ecumenical Council to be convened here tomorrow at the Vatican is "the occasion for Catholics, Protestants and Jews to know each other better," Richard Cardinal Cushing, of Boston, declared here today. Cardinal Cushing is one of the five American prelates heading 240 members of the American hierarchy scheduled to participate in the Council, the first summoned by the Catholic Church in 100 years.

"There are many differences among us," Cardinal Cushing said. "But there are still more things that we have in common. I have always invited Catholics not to lock themselves in their own communities, and I can say the same in regard to Protestants and Jews."

"We must stand together, love each other and know each other. In Boston, there are conferences between Catholics, Protestants and Jews. All are praying for the success of this Council. The Jewish community and the Protestants have sent me their best wishes for our Council's work."

A delegation of the Israel Government will officially participate in the ceremonial opening tomorrow. However, neither Israel nor any Jewish community outside of Israel will have observers at the session, which is expected to last until the middle of next year, with an interval during the Christmas season.

Jewish groups have submitted memoranda to the Vatican in anticipation that the Ecumenical Council might agree to eliminate passages in the Catholic liturgy harmful to Jews and modify in Catholic textbooks all references which are offensive to Jews. They also focussed attention on the "Christ-killer" doctrine which creates a false image of the Jew in the minds of many Christians and stressed the need for a permanent Church body to deal with means of bettering Catholic-Jewish relations.

However, it is reported that there is a strong body within the Ecumenical Council which opposes any revision of the Church's traditional attitude toward Jews, although Pope John XXIII and a progressive-minded group of Church dignitaries within the Vatican are favorably inclined to some of the Jewish presentations.

FIRE SET TO BELZER YESHIVA IN NEW YORK, CAUSING \$80,000 DESTRUCTION

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Police officials continued today their still unsuccessful search for clues to the cause of a suspicious fire which caused \$80,000 worth of damage on Monday night to the Yeshiva Machzikel of Belz, a target of repeated vandalism in recent months.

Rabbi Maximilian Gruenberg, dean of the Orthodox Jewish school for boys, anticipating a Yom Kippur attack, wrote on September 25 to New York City Police Commissioner Michael Murphy and Mayor Robert F. Wagner. The rabbi asked for special police watch on the building which had been repeatedly damaged since July.

Commissioner Murphy replied that the matter had been referred for "appropriate attention" and Mayor Wagner personally signed a reply assuring the rabbi "of my interest." Police insisted the building did get special protection on Monday night when the fire broke out on the second floor. Extensive damage occurred in the dean's office, two classrooms and to educational paraphernalia. The building is a three-story former public school purchased from the city for \$29,000 and extensively renovated.

Rabbi Gruenberg said only \$50,000 of the damage was covered by insurance. Heartsick over the persistent attacks, he said he would like to trade with the city for another building far away in some other section. He showed visitors how vertical steel bars of the school fence had been wrenched with such force that their concrete holding base had been split. The city fire department said that evidence had been found of malicious damage done before the fire began.

ROCKWELL SPEECH ON NAZISM IN U.S. CANCELED IN URBANA; VIOLENCE FEARED

URBANA, Ill., Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Urbana police canceled yesterday a scheduled speech by American Nazi George Rockwell which was to have taken place tonight at the Channing Murray Forum here. The reason given was fear of violence.

Rockwell's topic was to have been "The Need for Nazism in American Politics." The sponsoring group was the Urbana Forum for Dissent Committee.

JEWISH COUNTRY CLUB GOLFERS FIRED AT FROM WOODS NEAR WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Police are investigating a mysterious fusillade of gunfire, lasting 15 minutes, which raked the golf course at the Woodmont Jewish Country Club in nearby Rockville, Md., and caused golfers to hide in a sandtrap to save their lives.

A Washington physician, his wife, son and their caddy were pinned for a harrowing 15 minutes while bullets whistled over their heads. The firing came from a nearby woods. Police said the fire apparently was aimed over the heads of the Jewish golfers to frighten or harass them rather than actually cause their death. A Montgomery county police spokesman said that an investigation has so far failed to disclose the identity of the mysterious riflemen.

\$1,250,000 RAISED AT DINNER IN NEW YORK FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- More than \$1,250,000 for the economic development of Israel was raised tonight at a dinner inaugurating the 1962 fall campaign of the Greater New York Committee for State of Israel Bonds at the Americana Hotel. William Goldfine, president of the Royal State Bank of New York, was dinner chairman.

Ambassador Avraham Harman of Israel was the principal speaker. The dinner was a high point of a drive to mobilize \$15,000,000 in the metropolitan area by the end of the year. Speakers emphasized Israel's need for Israel bond investment funds for the economic development of the Negev, the country's southern desert region, and for the expansion of Israel's industry, agriculture and commerce.

The event also honored Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Stern for leadership in the Israel bond campaign and for efforts to promote cultural interchange between Israel and the United States. Mr. Stern is the eminent violinist. Mrs. Stern is chairman of the Greater New York Women's Division of the Israel bond campaign. Mr. and Mrs. Stern were presented with a hand-illuminated scroll "for their individual and combined records of distinguished service to their fellow men and their fellow Jews."

Other speakers included Abraham Feinberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization; Ira Gilden, general chairman of the Greater New York Committee for State of Israel Bonds; Samuel Rothberg, national campaign chairman of the Israel Bond Organization; Rabbi William Berkowitz, chairman of the Manhattan division of the Israel bond drive; and Leonard Bernstein, the conductor.

HISTADRUT CAMPAIGN LEADER GIVES \$100,000 FOR NEGEV RESEARCH INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- A \$100,000 gift from a member of the board of directors of the National Committee for Labor Israel Histadrut campaign, made anonymously, has been received for a \$250,000 campaign for establishment of a residential compound and other facilities at a projected Education and Research Institute at Sde Boker, the Negev retreat of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

The gift was announced today by Dr. Sol Stein, executive director of the Histadrut campaign, who said the balance of the funds will be raised among American friends of the Israel Labor Federation on an individual basis. The Negev Institute will serve as a cultural center for the Negev and will provide educational opportunities at the college level for settlers of the area. Social research programs and studies in international affairs will be among the goals of the Institute.

CLARK UNIVERSITY GETS \$250,000 GIFT FROM WORCESTER JEWISH FAMILY

WORCESTER, Mass., Oct. 10. (JTA) -- Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hiatt have presented Clark University with a \$250,000 gift to endow the Jacob and Frances Hiatt Chair in European History. Mr. and Mrs. Hiatt in 1961 endowed the Brandeis University Jacob Hiatt Institute in Israel, which gives students from United States schools a chance to study in Israel.

1,500-YEAR-OLD BIBLICAL COMMENTARY DISCOVERED; IS PART OF MIDRASH

NEW YORK, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- An important early work of biblical commentary, the Pesikta de Rav Kahana, will be published by the Jewish Theological Seminary, thus making it available to Bible scholars in its original form after it was lost for centuries.

The Seminary said that Prof. Bernard Mandelbaum, its Provost, prepared the definitive edition of the fifth century work. The Pesikta is part of the Midrash, the non-legal commentary on Jewish religious lore.

The publication was made possible in part by the discovery of a version of the work, previously unidentified, in a collection of photostats ordered from the manuscript catalogue of the Oxford University Library. Prof. Mandelbaum also had available part of a collection of fragments in the Leningrad Library which had been microfilmed by Russian scholars with copies made available in the United States.

1,000TH ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE-JEWISH WEEKLY 'AONDE VAMOS' PUBLISHED

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- The Portuguese-Jewish weekly, "Aonde Vamos," appeared here today in a special enlarged edition to mark the 1,000th issue of the publication. Aaron Newman is editor of the paper.

ARAB DELEGATION LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISRAEL IN BRAZIL

RIO DE JANEIRO, Oct. 10. (JTA) -- A delegation of three "Arab refugees" has arrived in Brazil and has launched a hate campaign against Israel. The "refugees," who were brought to this country by the local Arab League office, said in a press conference here today that Jewish "slaughter" of Palestinian Arabs was the reason the Arabs fled the country during Israel's War of Independence. The local press has so far largely ignored the Arab visitors.