



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXX - 45th year

Monday, June 17, 1963

No. 113

BEN-GURION RESIGNS 'FOR PERSONAL REASONS'; TAKES COUNTRY BY SURPRISE

JERUSALEM, June 16. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion today took all of Israel by surprise in announcing, at the end of the regular Cabinet meeting, that he is resigning from his post "for personal reasons." He followed up this announcement by submitting formally his resignation to President Shazar.

His dramatic resignation came as a surprise even to the members of the Cabinet. There was not the slightest indication of Ben-Gurion's intention to announce his resignation when the Cabinet meeting started. He was presiding over the meeting and started it with a report on his communications with heads of various states on the situation in the Middle East.

After disposing with other routine matters on the agenda of today's meeting, he made a simple announcement that because of personal reasons which are in no way linked to any matter of state, or to any particular event, he is submitting his resignation today to the President. He expressed regret that this calls automatically for the fall of the entire Cabinet, and stressed that this was not his intention. He expressed hope that his colleagues will set up a new government under the present coalition within one week.

Wants Eshkol to Take His Post; Resigns Also from Knesset

"The reasons for my resignation are my own and I am keeping them to myself," he told the members of the Cabinet when questioned as to why he resigned. In submitting his resignation to President Shazar, Ben-Gurion reportedly intimated that he would consider Levi Eshkol, the present Finance Minister, as his worthy successor. The 68-year-old Eshkol is expected to be entrusted by President Shazar with the formation of the new Cabinet.

Mr. Ben-Gurion indicated that his resignation is irrevocable. Simultaneously with his resignation from the Premiership, he also sent a letter of resignation to the Speaker of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, informing him that he is resigning also as member of Parliament. A formal announcement of Ben-Gurion's resignation as Prime Minister will be made in the Knesset tomorrow, after which President Shazar will start the procedure of inviting leaders of various political parties to consult them on the formation of a new Government.

The news of Ben-Gurion's resignation came like thunder from a clear sky to the people in Israel. It seems that even leaders of Ben-Gurion's own Mapai party were not aware of his intention to resign. Mr. Ben-Gurion, who is also Israel's Defense Minister, made his unexpected announcement at a time when Deputy Defense Minister Shimon Peres is in Paris together with Chief of Staff Zvi Tsur and the chief of Israel's Air Force, Ezer Weizmann. Mr. Peres is expected to be back in Jerusalem tonight.

ISRAELI TOURIST ARRESTED IN SOVIET RUSSIA; ISRAEL SENDS PROTEST

JERUSALEM, June 16. (JTA) -- Israel today protested to the Soviet Government, the arrest earlier this month in Kharkov of an Israeli citizen on charges he was a Soviet national who deserted a Russian army unit, it was announced by the Foreign Ministry.

The Israeli, Yehuda Cohen, 41, was among a group of 37 Israeli tourists who left for the Soviet Union on May 7. On June 9, it was learned that he was arrested on a Kharkov street, forcibly taken in a car, arrested and held incommunicado. The Foreign Ministry protest asked that a representative of the Israel Embassy in Moscow be permitted to see Cohen without delay and that he be returned to Israel.

MAPAM LEADER RELEASED UNDER AMNESTY; GAVE DATA TO FOREIGN AGENTS

JERUSALEM, June 16. (JTA) -- President Zalman Shazar today ordered a reduction in the sentence of Aharon Cohen, the Mapam leader who was given a five-year prison term for conveying information to foreign agents in violation of the Official Secrets Act.

Cohen, who was first sentenced in January 1962 and whose term was reduced last September by the Israel Supreme Court to two-and-a-half years, will be released on Tuesday under today's Presidential order.

ISRAEL WILLING TO NEGOTIATE PACT FOR LINK TO EUROMART COUNTRIES

BRUSSELS, June 16. (JTA)-- The second round of talks between Israelis and Euromart negotiators was over today with the Israelis on record as still seeking a general overall agreement but willing to consider a more limited temporary pact if this would ease the growing pinch on Israeli exports to the six European nations.

The second round began on June 5 and included a flat rebuff to Israel hopes for a pre-negotial agreement to cover a majority of the 200 products Israel exports to the six nations. On instructions from the European Economic Council of Ministers, the chief governing body of Euromart, the EEC negotiators told the Israelis that an overall agreement was out of the question. The negotiators offered instead tariff concessions on bathing suits, grapefruit and fertilizers and proposed a joint committee to consider Israeli complaints of especially painful tariff pressures on its exports.

The Israeli negotiators rejected these proposals as not providing a basis for an agreement and reiterated that only a "global agreement" which took into consideration both the highly diversified pattern of Israel's foreign trade and the dynamic aspects of the Israeli economy, would solve the problems posed for Israel by the creation of Euromart.

However, the Israelis added, they were ready to negotiate a more limited temporary agreement if it would provide solutions to the immediate or most pressing problems. For that purpose, the Israelis provided at the final plenary session last Thursday a set of detailed technical proposals.

Some EEC sources indicated that the proposals might be a basis for a somewhat better agreement than the EEC had offered in the two rounds of talks but that they would have to be referred back to the Council of Ministers. A third round of talks would be possible only if the Ministers Council issued orders to that effect.

Following the conclusion of the second round of talks, Ambassador Emil Najjar, head of the Israeli Mission to the EEC, met with Jean Rey, Minister of the EEC Commission in charge of foreign relations. Details as to what was discussed at the meeting were not disclosed but EEC sources said that the final proposals of the Israeli delegation might be submitted to the next Ministers Council in Brussels on July 10.

ISRAELI SOLDIERS ARE TRAINED IN WEST GERMANY, BONN DEPUTY REVEALS

LONDON, June 16. (JTA) -- A ranking member of the West German Bundestag, lower house of Parliament, said yesterday that Israeli soldiers are being trained in West Germany in the use of modern equipment, it was reported in the press here today from Bonn.

Hans Merten, a Social Democrat and chairman of the Parliamentary Defense Committee, declared in an interview with the Neue Ruhr Zeitung: "We provide instruction to Israeli soldiers, especially in the use of modern equipment, here in the Federal Republic." He added that the training of small groups of Israelis in technical matters had been going on for years. The Socialist deputy emphasized, however, that West Germany "delivers neither equipment nor weapons to Israel." Last week the Bonn Government made a series of disclosures about German military aid to Afro-Asian countries, but it was stated then that the Cabinet had not discussed military aid for Israel.

The Sunday Observer said here today that "a possible explanation of this apparent contradiction is the fact that until a few weeks ago, many Cabinet members were themselves acting in ignorance of the military aid program. The training arrangement with Israel was evidently agreed on before the recent visit to Israel of former Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss."

WORLD JEWRY TO BE REPRESENTED AT REQUIEM MASS FOR POPE JOHN TODAY

ROME, June 16. (JTA) -- A delegation representing world Jewry arrived here today to take part in the requiem mass tomorrow which will formally conclude the nine-day mourning period for the late Pope John XXIII. Also taking part in the rites will be Maurice Fisher, Israel's Ambassador to Italy, and Shmuel Tsur, the Israeli Ambassador to Switzerland.

Included in the delegation representing world Jewry are Dr. Gerhard Riegner, director of coordination of the World Jewish Congress; Dr. Segio Piperno, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities and a member of the executive of the World Jewish Congress; Dr. Paul Jacob, president of the European B'nai B'rith; Dr. Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich, European director of B'nai B'rith; and Fritz Becker, permanent representative in Rome of the WJC.

"This is the first time in history that a delegation of World Jewry is taking part in a funeral rite of a Pope," Dr. Riegner declared on his arrival here.

TRIAL OF NAZI CHARGED WITH KILLING JEWS IN VILNA STARTS IN AUSTRIA

GRAZ, Austria, June 16. (JTA) -- The trial of Franz Muerer, a 51-year-old farmer charged with the murder of 15 Jews in Nazi-occupied Vilna, Poland, between 1941 and 1943, opened here this weekend. His victims included women and children.

Muerer was condemned to 25 years' imprisonment by the Russians, but they released him after the treaty was signed giving Austria independence. He was arrested in Austria two years ago. A number of Israelis are scheduled to testify during the trial.

JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE LEADERS DISSATISFIED WITH GERMAN BILLS

BONN, June 16. (JTA) -- Dissatisfaction with two bills of supplementary laws on restitution and indemnification drafted by the West German Ministry of Finance was expressed here today by three top leaders of the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany who spent three days in Bonn discussing these laws with members of the German Government.

The three Claims Conference leaders are Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jacob Blaustein and Moses A. Leavitt. They met with Chancellor Adenauer, Vice Chancellor Erhard, Foreign Minister Schroeder, Finance Minister Dohlig, important members of Parliament, Mr. Hirsch and Prof. Boehm, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Indemnification Committee of the Bundestag.

The representatives of the Claims Conference made it clear to the members of the German Government that while they welcome the fact that after years of negotiations the Finance Minister is on the point of presenting drafts of the two bills to the Cabinet and the Parliament, they have strong objections to various provisions of the bills and are opposed to them in their present form.

They criticized above all the attempt to take away certain rights from categories of Nazi victims, which they enjoyed until now. They also demanded that the claims of the Nazi victims, who left Eastern European countries after October 1, 1953, and who cannot file claims under the present law, should not be taken care of, as it is stipulated now, by a special fund, but included in the existing indemnification law. Also, they raised objections to a number of other provisions of the bills.

The Finance Minister assured the representatives of the Claims Conference that while he does not want to delay the presentation of the bills to the Cabinet and to the Bundesrat before the summer recess of the Parliament so as to set the parliamentary machinery into motion, he is ready to continue talks with the representatives of the Claims Conference and to discuss their proposals and demands.

The Claims Conference leaders indicated today that they are "determined to draw the attention of the German parties and of public opinion, in Germany and outside of it, to the just demands of the persecutees as far as they remain unfulfilled in the new bills, and to do everything to bring about necessary substantial improvements." They expressed hope "that both the Federal Government, the Laender and the Bundestag will recognize the supreme moral duty of Germany to do the utmost to compensate the victims of Nazism at least materially, in a generous way, and that the leaders of Germany will regard this sacred obligation as overriding fiscal and financial considerations."

U. S. SCIENTIST CAUSES STIR IN MOSCOW; WANTS STUDY ON ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, June 16. (JTA) -- An American professor told Soviet scholars that real studies in many social science fields are impossible in the USSR due to curbs imposed by the Soviet system. He cited the study of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union as an example, the New York Times reports Sunday from Moscow.

Dr. Lewis Feuer, professor of philosophy at the University of California, was reporting to his Soviet hosts at the Moscow Institute of Philosophy on his impressions of four months of research on Soviet sociology. Dr. Feuer is in Moscow on an exchange basis. His observations, especially his remarks about the impossibility of making a study of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union provoked a stormy discussion.

"Take anti-Semitism," Dr. Feuer told his Soviet hosts. "At the University of California we have a \$500,000 project to investigate this problem through interviews in industry, the arts and academic life. When I raised the question here I was told there was no anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. But I spoke to people in synagogues and heard stories to the contrary."

Dr. Feuer's Soviet hosts could restrain themselves no longer. "What evidence do you have that there's anti-Semitism here?" Feodor Konstantinov, director of the Philosophy Institute, asked. "You talk to two or three old women in synagogues and consider that a basis for scientific investigation. We have laws punishing discrimination against Jews or any other national group. If anyone were to investigate anti-Semitism here it would be the Institute of Criminology. To justify a scientific study you must be confronted by a mass phenomenon. Look at Birmingham; there's a problem for you to study."

Dr. Feuer answered that he did not prejudge the extent of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. He said it did appear to exist and it required sociological study to determine how much, where and how it varied. "You don't dare face the facts of your own society," he told his Soviet hosts.

The atmosphere became heated and tempers flared.

"How dare you Americans come here and accuse us of anti-Semitism?" Mr. Konstantinov shouted. "You are now allied with the destroyers of the Jewish people. We are the ones who saved the Jews in World War II." Asserting that "Marx the Jew is our teacher," Mr. Konstantinov accused Dr. Feuer of being "a cold war agent" who came to study our failures."

ISRAEL MINISTER REPORTS IN NEW YORK ON RISE IN COUNTRY'S EXPORTS

NEW YORK, June 16. (JTA) -- Josef Almogi, Minister of Development and Housing of the State of Israel, who arrived in the United States two days ago for a tour of major American cities in behalf of the Israel bond drive, reported today that Israel's exports for the first five months of 1963 were \$179,000,000, as compared with \$137,800,000 during the same period of 1962.

Mr. Almogi was the principal speaker at a luncheon at the Astor Hotel in behalf of the Israel bond drive. The occasion, attended by more than 350 people, celebrated the seventieth birthday of Joseph Arnold, outstanding Labor Zionist leader, and was sponsored by The Farband, Labor Zionist Order.

JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL, INC. ELECTS SIX NEW DIRECTORS

NEW YORK, June 16. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., announced this weekend the election of six new directors. They are: Philip M. Klutznick, a former member of the United States delegation to the United Nations and former president of B'nai B'rith; Hyman Brand of Kansas City, Mo.; Jacob Feldman of Dallas, Tex.; Max Firestein of Los Angeles; Label Katz of New Orleans, president of B'nai B'rith; and Lewis Weinstein of Boston.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN DECIDES TO MOVE TO LONDON

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 16. (JTA) -- The International Council of Jewish Women concluded its triennial convention here today with the decision to move the headquarters of the organization from Montreal to London. Mrs. Alfred Rubens of London was elected president of the worldwide body, succeeding Mrs. Benjamin Robinson of Montreal.

The 100 delegates attending the conclave represented women's groups in 17 countries in North and South America, Europe, Africa, Australia, Asia and the Middle East. Delegates attending the convention also attended an informal leadership training institute which dealt with such subjects as the training of service volunteers, leadership training, organizing new groups, programming and fund-raising.

SAMUEL DAROFF HONORED IN PHILADELPHIA BY ISRAEL INVESTORS CORPORATION

PHILADELPHIA, June 16. (JTA) -- More than 100 noted Philadelphians joined the officers and directors of the Israel Investors Corporation at the Warwick Hotel here to pay tribute to Samuel H. Daroff for his outstanding contributions to every effort on behalf of the State of Israel.

Avraham Harman, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, brought Israel's greetings to Mr. Daroff and to the assemblage. He also told of the great strides being made by private investments in Israel. The dinner meeting was presided over by Philip Zinman, one of the founders of Israel Investors. In honor of Mr. Daroff, over \$300,000 in stock purchases were made at the dinner.

SAMUEL BRIMBERG, NOTED NEW YORK JEWISH PHILANTHROPIST, DEAD; WAS 75

ATLANTIC BEACH, L.I., June 16. (JTA) -- Samuel N. Brimberg, a founder of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University and donor of New York University's Chair of Hebrew Education and Culture, died in his home here, aged 75.

Born in Warsaw, Poland, he came to the United States as a young boy and became a successful industrialist here. He retired eight years ago as president of the Universal Steel Corporation. He was a director of the Hebrew Home for the Aged in Riverdale, the Bronx, and a benefactor of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. Mr. Brimberg was also a founder and trustee of the Jewish Center of Atlantic Beach. He was a former trustee of Beth Israel Hospital and was active in the United Jewish Appeal, and the Guild for the Jewish Blind.

JOE WEINSTEIN, GENEROUS GIVER TO JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH CAUSES, DEAD

NEW YORK, June 16. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here this weekend for Joe Weinstein, 66, owner of a department store chain and outstanding Jewish philanthropist, who gave generously to both Jewish and non-sectarian causes. He died in his home of a heart attack after having been ill for several months.

Mr. Weinstein was born in Galicia, formerly Austria-Hungary, and came to this country by steerage in 1909 when he was 13 years old. His most generous gift -- \$1,000,000 to New York University for two residence halls in Washington Square to be named for him -- was made last month.

He was active in Israel bonds campaigns and also gave money to the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Jewish Community Council, the Menorah Home and Hospital for the Aged and Infirm, the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and the Jewish Sanitarium and Hospital for the Aged.