



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXX - 45th year

Wednesday, August 21, 1963

No. 159

ESHKOL SENDS LETTER TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY ON 'VITAL' MATTERS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Premier Levi Eshkol was disclosed today to have replied to letters from President Kennedy in a correspondence which started when David Ben-Gurion was Prime Minister. The content of the exchanges has been the subject of intensive consultations at top levels of the Israel Government.

Officials have been maintaining the strictest secrecy about the content of the exchanges. But it was generally known that the correspondence dealt with such vital aspects of Israel policies as the situation of the Arab refugees, and diplomatic and long-range security problems. A copy of Mr. Eshkol's reply was submitted yesterday to United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour.

After Mr. Eshkol succeeded Mr. Ben-Gurion as Premier, President Kennedy sent a letter to Mr. Eshkol in which he indicated, in a recapitulation of his prior correspondence with Mr. Ben-Gurion, that he assumed a reply would be delayed because of the changes in the premiership.

The exchanges were considered in recent talks here in which the Israeli envoys to the United States, France and the United Nations were summoned to Jerusalem. The general tenor of the talks was conveyed to leaders of the opposition Herut and Liberal parties.

SYRIA ATTACKS ISRAEL IN AIR, ON LAND; CABINET HOLDS EMERGENCY MEETING

JERUSALEM, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Persistent Syrian attacks on Israel's northern border, climaxed by an incursion last night in which two Israeli settlers were killed, and an air battle today in which Israeli jets intercepted and shot down a Syrian Mig-15 plane over Lake Tiberias, spurred Israel today to make a formal request for an emergency session of the United Nations Security Council to take up the swiftly deteriorating border situation.

The Israel Cabinet met in emergency session this morning and decided to appeal to the Security Council, after hearing a report on the night incursion near Almagor, north of Lake Tiberias. The Cabinet was told that a group of Syrian soldiers crossed over into Israeli territory under cover of darkness and ambushed three youths on their way home from the fields on a tractor. The third Israeli youth escaped, unharmed.

An Israeli Army communique said that a number of Syrian Soviet-made Mig-17's tried to cross over Israeli territory, and were intercepted by Israelis flying the French-made Mirages today. In a brief air clash which followed, the Syrians fled, but one plane was seen falling as parts of it disintegrated. On the ground, the area was generally quiet today except when Syrian gunners fired one burst from automatic weapons against Ashmura.

(Washington reports said a new armed clash on the Israel-Syrian frontier occurred today, in which Syria claimed heavy casualties had been inflicted on the Israelis, and that Israel armored forces took part.)

Golda Meir Confers With U. N. Truce Chief; Comay Returning to N. Y.

Earlier in the day today, Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, conferred with Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization, who came to the Foreign Ministry at Mrs. Meir's request. Ambassador Michael S. Comay, head of Israel's Permanent Mission at the United Nations, interrupted a vacation in Israel, and left tonight for New York to attend the expected Security Council. The Israel Parliamentary Committee for Security and Foreign Affairs will hold an extraordinary meeting on the Syrian situation tomorrow.

Israel lodged a complaint with the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission over the incursion and killings last night, and UN observers began an investigation of the incident. That attack followed reports that Syrian artillery had been moved into villages along the Israel border and trained the guns on Israeli villages. Israel previously denied as "propaganda" Syrian charges that Israeli forces were being massed on the frontier.

Experts on Arab politics here indicated they felt that both Iraq and Syria view the arrival of an Iraqi military delegation in Damascus yesterday as a token of the armed support Iraq promised Syria in the event of a Syrian-Israeli clash. The head of the Iraqi military group in Damascus is Brig. Hardan Takriti, Iraqi Air Force commander. It was also learned that President Arif of Iraq was planning a visit to Cairo tomorrow. He will be accompanied by six Ministers and the Iraqi Chief of Staff.

ISRAEL REQUESTS URGENT MEETING OF SECURITY COUNCIL ON SYRIAN AGGRESSIONS

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Israel today requested an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council to deal with aggressions by Syria along Israel's northern frontier. The request was presented formally to Ambassador Sivert A. Nielsen, of Norway, this month's president of the Council. The Council is expected to meet on the complaint Thursday or Friday.

Two ranking members of Israel's mission here, Acting Permanent Representative Joel Barroumi and Col. Yaakov Monbaz, an armistice affairs expert permanently attached to Israel's UN delegation, conferred on the Syrian situation this afternoon with Secretary-General U Thant.

A statement issued by the Israel delegation declared that the request for an "immediate" meeting of the Security Council was motivated by "a new climax in Syrian acts of aggression against Israel last night, when two Israelis were shot to death by Syrian soldiers who had set up an ambush inside Israel." The statement revealed that Israel has informed "friendly governments of its grave concern at the situation which has been created by Syria," and declared:

"The latest Syrian act followed a period of continued Syrian firing across the armistice lines. During the past four weeks, Syrians opened fire on more than 20 occasions, mostly on Israeli villagers working in the fields of Haon, but also in the Almagor and Huleh areas.

Ambush Shows Aggressive Intentions; Kidnapings Recalled

"The ambush yesterday near Almagor, north of Tiberias, indicated Syria's determination to commit aggressive actions against normal Israeli life and peaceful activities along the whole armistice line. Since last night, the Syrians have opened fire twice, this time in the Huleh area.

"The latest chain of Syrian acts of violence was initiated by the kidnaping on July 13 of six vacationers, including three Israelis, from a boat beached on the northeastern corner of the Sea of Galilee (Lake Tiberias). The three Israelis are still held by the Syrians.

"Throughout the whole period of Syrian aggression, Israel has been consistently in touch with the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization on the spot, as well as with the United Nations Secretariat in New York, but Syria has shown no response to repeated requests to honor its obligations. On the contrary, the latest climax shows that Syria has escalated its acts of aggression in defiance of its obligations. It is to deal with this dangerous situation that Israel has requested an immediate session of the Security Council."

In recent years, both Israel and the Arab states have avoided calling for a Security Council meeting on any of their grievances. The last time the Council held hearings on an Arab-Israeli issue was in April 1962. At that time, eight sessions were devoted to Syrian and Israeli grievances and counter-complaints, in which each accused the other of aggression.

Harman Asks State Department to Push for U. N. Censure of Syria

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Avraham Harman today met with a ranking State Department official on what he described as the "very grave" situation on the Israel-Syrian frontier, and asked American support of the Israeli complaint before the United Nations Security Council. His conference was with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Howard R. Cottam.

Mr. Harman said he asked United States support of a planned Israeli move to bring about condemnation of Syrian aggression by the Security Council, and issuance of an order by the Security Council for Syria to cease aggressive actions. Mr. Harman expressed hope that the United States, a permanent member of the Security Council, would address itself to the complaint.

Mr. Harman said his call on the State Department and the expressions of his Government indicated the "very grave" view which Israel takes of the situation created by Syria. He reviewed recent aggressive infiltrations and actions by the Syrian armed forces, and familiarized the Department with the chain of events that led to the present crisis.

Prior to Mr. Harman's visit, State Department sources said that the Department was observing the Syrian-Israel frontier difficulties, but as yet had no information to confirm "alarmist" reports. The Department is not at this time convinced that any major threat to peace exists, according to these sources. It was made clear, however, that subsequent reports could alter this evaluation.

STATE, DEFENSE DEPTS. ASK WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN AID CURBS ON EGYPT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- A joint appeal by the Secretaries of State and Defense to Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, to forego any "restrictive amendment" to the Foreign Aid bill that might interfere with assistance to the Arab states was rejected today by Rep. Halpern.

Timed to coincide with the opening today of House floor debate on the Foreign Aid bill, Secretaries Dean Rusk and Robert S. McNamara wrote to Rep. Halpern, co-sponsor of the

Keating-Halpern amendment, that "a number of restrictive amendments have been proposed to cut off or drastically aid to some countries or organizations whose actions disturb us."

The two Secretaries said they believed such amendments stemmed from "an inadequate appraisal of the long-term objectives of U.S. foreign and military policy. Attempts to place the conduct of our foreign policy under rigid legislative restrictions will prevent us from acting in support of American interests in a rapidly changing international scene. We strongly urge your support of this bill without further restriction or reduction."

Rep. Halpern replied to Rusk and McNamara that it was inconceivable to him that America's objectives "could countenance continued aid to a nation like the United Arab Republic, which is pursuing policies negating and undermining our professed long-term objectives." He referred to "the aggressive role of the UAR against neighboring states, her acquisition of Soviet weapons systems and training of Egyptian military personnel in the Soviet bloc, her proliferation of the rocket race, and other actions contrary to the cause of peace and the broad goals of United States foreign policies, as I understand them."

Rep. Halpern stated that "my legislative responsibilities are such that I cannot refrain from support of such amendments that sincerely reflect my own thinking and the views of a large section of the American public." He stressed that the taxpayer "pays the bill for these Foreign Aid programs and I, as a member of Congress, can do no less than take note of the solid thinking that arises among our people."

Assuring the Secretaries of his support of the "broad goals" of the foreign assistance program, Rep. Halpern added: "I am sure that you will understand my inability to comply with your request that I refrain from backing amendments that I believe to be vital to the national security and true interests of the United States."

It was apparent that the Secretaries referred not only to amendments of the Keating-Halpern type, which deprive recipients of aid if they divert their own resources to aggressive Soviet military build-ups against other beneficiaries, but also to anti-bias amendments and similar measures.

ARAB BISHOP OF ANGLICAN CHURCH SEES POSSIBILITY OF WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

TORONTO, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- The Anglican bishop of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria asserted here today that, if the Arabs cannot get a solution to the Palestine problem by peaceful means, "they may be driven to war."

The Rt. Rev. Najib Cuba'in, here to attend the Third World Congress of the Anglican Church, of which he is the only Arab bishop, said Israel's "intransigence" is pushing the Middle East toward a new conflict.

He said war is the last thing any Arab, including Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser, wants. However, he contended, all Arabs are united in desiring "repatriation" of the Palestine refugees and Israel's withdrawal to the boundaries set by the United Nations in 1947.

Israeli News Briefs

TEL AVIV, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Israel's total output of crude oil may be doubled as a result of the latest drill in the Kochav oilfield, it was reported here today. An American petroleum expert working at the field said the well, which was opened earlier this month, can produce at least 2,000 barrels daily without pumping. However, the Lapidot Oil Company, which has title to the well, refused comment on the well's prospects pending production tests. The rate described by the American expert would be equivalent to more than 100,000 tons of crude oil annually, compared with the aggregate production of 125,000 tons from Israel's 30 currently producing wells.

JERUSALEM, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Criticism of investment in private industry by government officials led today to a report to the Treasury that, while there was no conflict of interest involved, such investing was no longer desirable. Dr. Yitzchak Nebenzahl, Israel state controller, found that, while formerly such investing was considered a public service as an example to others to speed development of Israel's economy, it was no longer necessary. His investigation, made at the request of the Treasury, indicated that there were no grounds to suspect any unethical tie between performance of duties and the investment.

JERUSALEM, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohen was quoted in the local press today as standing firm on the remarks he made at the American-Israel Dialogue last June, in which he linked application of Jewish religious law in determining Jewishness in Israel with the Nazi racist Nuremberg laws. He told newsmen that, while he regretted that "certain expressions" had created the "mistaken view" that he meant to smear the Jewish religion, he saw no reason to retract any of his remarks. An Agudat Israel spokesman disclosed that attorneys were examining the possibility of litigation against the Justice for his remarks.

JEWISH BURIALS IN MOSCOW REPORTED SHUNTED TO GENERAL CEMETERY

LONDON, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Fresh details on reports that Jews in Moscow were being refused permits to give their departed a traditional Jewish burial were received here today from the Soviet capital. The reports indicated that while Moscow officials had allocated a new site for a cemetery because one of the biggest Moscow cemeteries was full, the new site has no place within it for a Jewish cemetery section.

Earlier reports were confirmed that the large general cemetery on Vostrakovskoe Street, which has within it a consecrated Jewish burial ground, was full, as was the Jewish section. It was also reported that the fact that the Jewish section has no more room for graves was not announced in advance, and there were cases in which burial groups arrived and were told on the spot that there was no more room in the Jewish section.

In some cases, the mourners persuaded officials to permit burial but, in the others, burials had to take place in mixed cemeteries where no special sections exist for consecrated Jewish burials. Both separate and mixed cemeteries have been the custom in Russia since 1917.

It was feared that the ruling in the Vostrakovskoe cemetery situation, giving Jews the alternative of burial in mixed cemeteries or of cremation--which is contrary to Jewish religious law--might be applied in other Russian cities where Jewish cemeteries are becoming filled.

Young Israel Requests Soviet Ambassador to Help Restore Burial Rights

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- The Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Anatoly F. Dobrynin, was urged today by the National Council of Young Israel to intervene with his government to restore to Moscow Jews the right to be buried in a Jewish cemetery in accordance with Jewish religious burial rites.

In a telegram to Mr. Dobrynin, Rabbi David H. Hill, the council's national president, said "consecrated burial is one of the basic requirements of the Jewish religion." He asked that a special section of a new burial ground in Moscow be reserved for Jews.

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH WARNED ABOUT SHUNNING JUDAISM FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AID

STARLIGHT, Pa., Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Teen-age delegates to the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization's annual conventions of Aleph Zadik Aleph and B'nai B'rith Girls were told here today that Jewish heritage demands "Jews be in the forefront of the current civil rights struggle in America." Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, of Washington, told the more than 400 delegates attending the joint opening sessions of the two organizational conventions that being Jewish "means being sensitive to the problems of others." He said the plight of the American Negro "is one of the most pressing social problems of our day."

But he emphasized that compassion for others is only one aspect of Judaism's tradition. He condemned those who "forsake another important aspect of being Jewish, the struggle for the survival of our people, on the pretext of being too involved with fighting injustice. Fighting injustice is fine," he said, "but those of us who live in two cultures must be true to the best of both. The time has long since passed when young people have sought to find their fulfillment by helping others, and evading their other responsibilities as Jews, or by masquerading their identity as Jews."

WASHINGTON POLICE READY TO CURB NAZIS; ROCKWELL THREATENS 10,000 MARCHERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Federal and local law enforcement officers here have been ordered to arrest any member of the American Nazi Party who attempts to disturb marchers in the civil rights march "for jobs and freedom" scheduled to be held August 28. Photographs of known Nazi activists were shown the officers to alert them against known followers of American "fuehrer" George Lincoln Rockwell, whose headquarters are across the Potomac River in Arlington, Va.

Meanwhile, Rockwell predicted that 10,000 of his sympathizers would be with him on the grounds of the Washington Monument here to protest the march. He said he expects to be arrested that day since he has been denied a parade permit by the National Park Service, which has charge of the grounds. He said the arrest would occur "when I'm told to move along and I refuse to budge." Washington's chief of police, Robert V. Murray, said his men "will be able to handle" Rockwell.

Rockwell also reported that he had distributed 100,000 copies of an anti-Negro pamphlet among white people, mainly in Southern cities. In it he warns that on August 28 the Negro "revolutionists will openly threaten to plunge their final dagger into the beating heart of our republic."

RABBI JESSE SCHWARTZ, ZIONIST LEADER IN CANADA, DIES AT AGE OF 71

MONTREAL, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Rabbi Jesse Schwartz, director of the Canadian Zionist Organization, who was active also in many other Zionist groups, died here today at the age of 71. He had headed the United Palestine Appeal in Canada from 1932 to 1959. A graduate of New York City College and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, he was ordained in 1925. He occupied pulpits in Toronto and Minneapolis.