



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

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Vol. XXXI - 46th year

Wednesday, January 15, 1964

No. 10

MOSCOW RADIO WARNS ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE AGAINST WAR WITH ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Israel was encouraged today by a broadcast in Arabic from Moscow cautioning the Arab leaders against turning the dispute over Israel's Jordan River irrigation project into a bloody campaign.

The Soviet caution strengthened the belief here that a firm stand by the major powers--coupled with Israel's deterrent power and the divisions within the Arab camp--was certain to prevent the 13 Arab rulers at the current Cairo summit conference from embarking on a military adventure in their opposition to the irrigation development project.

Official Israeli quarters here have so far refrained from commenting on proceedings at the Cairo summit meeting on grounds it was "too early" for such reaction. It was stressed here however, that the opening statements made yesterday by Arab leaders at the parley differed little from those of the past and that they were as venomous as ever, hardly creating an atmosphere for moderation.

Despite the encouraging prospects, Haaretz, the independent daily newspaper, said there was no room for complacency and for excluding even the extreme threat of an attack on Israel, if not in open war then by a terrorist campaign along the Israel-Arab borders.

The editorial also cited the danger of a concerted Arab diplomatic assault aimed at keeping the irrigation project from being implemented, and said Israel should launch a counter-offensive on the international scene to insure that, if the Arabs brought the issue before the United Nations, Israel would not suffer "a political debacle" there.

HaBoker, Liberal Zionist newspaper, noted that attempts had already been made in various British and United States newspapers to claim that the Jordan River issue was an international rather than a domestic issue. The paper said that "against such a combined front, it is doubtful whether Israel can remain indifferent as it has been until now." The Herut newspaper warned against "falling prey to the false moderation expressed by President Nasser of Egypt."

The Kol Israel Broadcasting System quoted a United States Department of State spokesman as saying that, as far as the United States Government knew, the Israeli Jordan River water project was in conformity with the regional plan developed by the late Eric Johnston at the request of President Eisenhower.

Military and Irrigation Experts Present Reports to Cairo Parley

LONDON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Military experts of the 13 Arab states which are participating in the summit conference in Cairo to prepare plans against Israel's project for bringing water from Jordan River and Lake Tiberias to the Negev today submitted to the conference a report on the outlook for military action against Israel. It was noted here that, at a military conference of the Arab states held last month, no unanimity on military action against Israel was reached because of a warning from the representative of Egypt.

Another report submitted in Cairo to the conference in Cairo today dealt with a plan by technicians of the Arab League to divert Jordan River waters before they reach Israel. It appeared that a plan of that nature is considered by some of the Arab rulers as the best way to counter Israel's water project. However, doubt was expressed in British circles today whether the Arabs would be prepared to invest \$100,000,000 needed to carry out the diversion recommendation.

President Nasser of Egypt indicated in his opening address to the Arab meeting yesterday that he would propose a united Arab military command as an essential first step in Arab plans to counter Israel's Jordan River irrigation project, it was reported here today from the Egyptian capital.

The last-minute announcement by President Charab of Lebanon, that he was not attending the conference, was seen as "a sad omen" by some Arabs. It was noted that the Jordan River rises partly in Lebanese territory, and any plan to dam or divert the Jordan River would affect Lebanon first.

U.N. MILITARY HEAD AND ISRAEL'S CHIEF OF STAFF CONFER IN ISRAEL

TELAVIV, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- General Odd Bull, chief of staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, and General Itzhak Rabin, Israel's new chief of staff, held a general discussion on problems of Israel and the truce organization today.

The meeting was the first between the two officers. It took the form of a courtesy call by Gen. Bull on Gen. Rabin. Gen. Bull was received by a guard of honor of the Nahal corps, which he inspected.

1,500 INVESTMENT PROJECTS APPROVED IN ISRAEL; BROUGHT MUCH CAPITAL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Investment projects totaling nearly \$500,000,000 and 423,000,000 pounds (\$141,900,000) have been approved by the Israel Government during the past four-and-a-half years since the law for encouragement of capital investment was revised, officials reported here today. During that period, a total of 1,500 projects was approved.

Thirty-five per cent of the dollar investment was in financial institutions and investment trusts, 27 per cent in industry, 11 in hotels, 12 in services, eight in real estate ventures, six in shipping, and one per cent in agriculture. Sixty-three percent of the investments in pounds was for industry, 13 for services, 14 for shipping, eight for hotels and two per cent for agriculture.

Private investments were matched by 500,000,000 pounds in government loans or guarantees. Approved investments with foreign currency and the absolute number of approved projects dropped in 1963 as a result of a change of policy introduced in 1963 to make the Government Investment Center much more selective in approval of projects.

Under the new policy, the Center either denied approval or limited approval in cases of proposed investments in financial institutions, real estate or services. In cases of investment in industry, approval was made conditional on location in development areas or on commitments to export at least 50 per cent of the output of the proposed new industry.

The new directives require that equity capital constitute at least 35 per cent of fixed assets and 20 per cent of working capital of the new ventures. A public committee is now studying the possibility of providing new benefits.

JEWISH DEPUTY NAMED AS RAPPORTEUR OF MOROCCAN PARLIAMENTARY BODY

CASABLANCA, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- Meyer Obadia, president of the Casablanca Jewish community and member of the Chamber of Representatives, was nominated today to serve as rapporteur of the Moroccan Parliament's Finance Commission. There are three Jews in Parliament; Obadia, a Deputy, and David Amar and N. Sedbag, who are Senators.

The Casablanca Municipal Council made a grant today of 15,000 dirhams (\$3,000) to three Jewish institutions in Casablanca. They were the OSE, aid for scholars, and the Bengio Home.

BILL ON RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION GETS FIRST READING IN COMMONS

LONDON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- A bill sponsored by Labor member Fenner Brockway, to make it an offense to discriminate to the detriment of any person on grounds of color, race or religion or to incite publicly contempt or hatred of any person on such grounds, received its first reading in the House of Commons today. It was the ninth time he had introduced the proposed law.

In proposing the measure again, the Labor member said that, in addition to cases of racial discrimination by hotels in refusing accommodation to high-ranking Embassy and United Nations officials, there had also been cases where accommodation had been refused in Britain to persons for religious reasons.

He said that slander against a person's religious faith might be more serious in its public consequences than slander against the individual, which had long been illegal. Citing some material published by "The Council for the Final Solution of the Jewish Question," he told the House that "it is too revolting to describe to this House but it is printed, and I find that it has even been published as an advertisement." He added that "we have laws against pornography and obscene literature, but racial obscenity is the worst of all."

He agreed that it was a minority which "betrays this poison" but he urged that it should not have the full protection of the law which it now has. He added that he agreed also that legislation could not cure the evils of such discrimination but, he added, the law should provide the lead in public places and in public expression. Countries throughout the world are moving toward recognition of the view that racial demarcation is a betrayal of the human family, he noted.

SOVIET COURT COMMUTES DEATH SENTENCE ON RABBI TO 15 YEARS IN JAIL

LONDON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The death sentence meted out in the Soviet Union several months ago to Rabbi Benjamin Gavrillov, of Platigorsk, who had been convicted of participation in alleged economic crimes, has been commuted to 15 years' imprisonment, according to a Moscow dispatch received here today.

The report, emanating from Novosti, an official Soviet news agency, stated that the rabbi's sentence had been reduced by the Superior Court of the Russian Soviet Federated Republic, largest component of the USSR. The same commutation was granted by the court to a second man given the death sentence in the same case, a Russian named A. Kazarov, Novosti reported.

Political circles here familiar with the persecutions of Jews in the Soviet Union noted that there were worldwide repercussions as a result of the death sentence originally imposed on Rabbi Gavrillov. He had been one of 10 men, and the only Jew, involved in a trial held last summer for alleged embezzlement of goods and the sale of the materials on the black market, as well as "speculation."

HIGHEST RANKING JEWISH GENERAL IN RED ARMY REMOVED FROM HIS POST

PARIS, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- General of the Army Jacob Kreizer, commander of all Soviet forces in the Far East, and the highest ranking Jew in the Red Army, has been removed from his post, according to dispatches from Moscow received here today.

Gen. Kreizer, who holds some of the highest Red Army decorations, including the medal of Hero of the Soviet Union, was the last of a number of Jewish officers holding senior rank in the Red Army. The reports stated that he has been replaced by another officer, but it is not known whether he has been assigned to another post.

Soviet authorities have frequently cited Gen. Kreizer in the past as "proof" that there was no official anti-Semitism in the USSR. Two years ago, another Soviet Jewish officer, Gen. Dragounsky, said he that Gen. Kreizer, while "not an Orthodox Jew," was "a traditionally minded Jew who tries, whenever possible, to attend religious services during the High Holy Days." Gen. Dragounsky also said that Gen. Kreizer's daughter had married a Jew, and that her children were being brought up in accordance with Jewish tradition.

SENATE BODY CONTINUES HEARINGS ON RELAXATION OF IMMIGRATION LAWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14. (JTA) -- The Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Senate today resumed its hearings on proposals to amend the present immigration laws.

Several bills to that effect have been submitted to the Congress, including one which was proposed by the late President John F. Kennedy and which would abolish the present national-origin quota system and increase the total number of immigrants to be admitted to this country each year.

In his testimony before the Senate Committee this morning, Senator Claiborne Pell (D.-R.I.) stressed the need for drastic revisions of what he described as "prejudicial and inequitable" immigration laws. He pointed at the aspects of discrimination implicit in the present quota. Senator Pell is co-sponsor of the bill proposed by the late President Kennedy as well as other bills to amend the present law, and he submitted a bill of his own on the subject.

Sen. Philip A. Hart, Michigan Democrat, and the Subcommittee's official chairman, testified that "discriminatory provisions against immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe have no place in the public policy of the United States."

In written testimony sent to the Subcommittee, Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, stated that the national origins theory of the existing law amounts to "an expression of gratuitous condescension."

Sen. Kenneth Keating, Republican, of New York, ranking minority member of the Subcommittee, stated that the question of immigration laws was not a partisan matter. "There are many men of good will on both sides of the aisle who feel that something needs to be done in this area to remove discrimination or injustice from the present immigration laws," he said.

Chairing the hearings was Sen. Edward Kennedy, who also attended yesterday's White House conference with President Johnson, and representatives of 36 organizations concerned with immigration and naturalization.

Strong support for the need to change the present immigration laws appeared to be bipartisan as the hearings continued. Three more Senators testified in favor of the changes: Hiram Fong (R. Hawaii), Paul Douglas (D. Ill.), and Hugh Scott (R. Pa.). The all strongly criticized the present national origins quota system and its implications of "more valuable" and "less valuable" immigrants.

JEWISH GROUP REQUESTS U.N. BODY TO DRAFT DECLARATION ON RELIGIOUS BIAS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 14, (JTA) -- An appeal to the United Nations urging immediate action by the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on formulating a draft declaration against religious discrimination--practiced against Jews in the Soviet Union--was submitted today by the World Jewish Congress to UN Secretary-General U Thant.

The Subcommittee opened its annual session here yesterday, but it was doubtful whether its discussions will reach the point of formulating a declaration on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, in accordance with UN General Assembly instructions. The session is scheduled to devote its discussions primarily to racial discriminations as distinct from religious bias.

In submitting the World Jewish Congress appeal, Dr. Maurice L. Pertzweig, WJC representative here, pointed out that the General Assembly requested this formulation as far back as 1962, and that "at least two years must now elapse" since the request was made, before the General Assembly can act on a draft. He added that "in view of the gravity of the issues involved, and the disabilities under which adherents of religions continue to suffer," the WJC calls for a special effort to formulate a draft declaration.

The WJC memorandum drew attention to two important problems with which the declaration should deal. It pointed out that one of these problems has already been defined by the Subcommittee in the following principles that it had submitted some years ago.

"1. The members of a religion or belief shall not be prevented from acquiring or producing all materials and objects necessary for the performance or observance of prescribed rituals or practices, including dietary practices; and 2. Where the Government controls the means of production and distribution it shall make such materials or objects, or the means of producing them, available to the members of the religion or belief concerned."

To deny the enjoyment of such facilities, the WJC stated, "amounts to a form of religious intolerance of a kind which must have the effect of gravely jeopardizing the survival of the religions concerned." It also urged that "in any draft declaration, the free movement of ideas and persons across frontiers, and the rights of assembly and association on an international scale, should be clearly reaffirmed."

JEWISH CLAIMS CONFERENCE TO OFFER INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK, Jan. 14, (JTA) -- The eleventh annual program of international scholarship and fellowship grants for the academic year 1964-65 will be offered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Jacob Blaustein, senior vice-president, announced today.

The grants will be awarded to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who qualify for scholarships in Jewish teacher training and in Jewish studies, and for fellowships to carry on independent research projects in the Jewish social sciences, literature and arts.

Last year, scholarship and fellowship grants went to 139 candidates in 18 countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, and Yugoslavia.

Applications for grants must be submitted on special forms which may be obtained from the offices of the Claims Conference here. Candidates in Europe may obtain the forms from the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation, London, or from the American Joint Distribution Committee, Geneva. The academic year 1964-65 will be the final year for which the Conference will accept applications for scholarship and fellowship grants. These applications must be submitted to the Claims Conference no later than March 31, 1964.

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY ORDERED TO CEASE ISSUING DOCTORAL DEGREES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 14, (JTA) -- Israel's Council for Higher Education ruled today that Bar-Ilan University must discontinue awards of Master and Doctoral degrees. One Ph.D. and 25 Masters' degrees have been granted by the University this year for the first time.

The Council ruled that those "who received the degrees in good faith" may not make use of them pending an investigation into each case by a Council committee. The Education Ministry said that the University awarded the degrees "out of an erroneous interpretation of the law under which authority to grant degrees is invested in the Council for Higher Education."

JUDGE KAUFMAN, ACTIVE IN LOS ANGELES JEWISH COMMUNAL AFFAIRS, DEAD

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 14, (JTA) -- Retired Municipal Court Judge Louis M. Kaufman, 66, died here. He was active in Jewish communal affairs.