



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XXXI - 46th year

Thursday, February 13, 1964

No. 31

PRESIDENT JOHNSON MAY DISCUSS ISRAEL'S WATER PLAN WITH BRITISH PREMIER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The question of Israel's irrigation project, which is meeting with strong Arab opposition but is favorably looked upon by the United States Government in the light of the regional irrigation plan for Israel and the neighboring Arab countries proposed by the late Eric Johnston as special U.S. envoy, may come up for discussion between President Johnson and British Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home during their two-day talks which started here today.

Meanwhile, it was stressed here today that none of the Arab countries has so far displayed any interest in the offer made by President Johnson of American cooperation with all countries in the Middle East in research on the use of nuclear power for water desalination. In announcing last week the talks between the United States and Israel on desalination cooperation, President Johnson stated that the U.S. Government was willing to come to similar arrangements with other countries in the area.

The only Arab reaction thus far to the President's offer has been a wave of vituperation aimed not only at the United States but also against President Johnson personally. Arab officials, in their contacts with American diplomats, have similarly echoed the violent tone of the Arab press on the subject.

Moscow Links Israel to Anglo-American Efforts in Cyprus

Soviet propaganda, emanating from Moscow, is strengthening Arab incitement against American-Israel cooperation in research on desalination. At the same time, the Moscow radio linked up today Israel with the Anglo-American efforts to bring peace to Cyprus in the dispute there.

It was noted here today that the propaganda line, linking Israel with the Anglo-American efforts in Cyprus, is being followed simultaneously on the radio stations in the Arab capitals, particularly Cairo, and in Moscow. Whether this was coordinated in advance or one took a cue from the other is still not entirely certain. It is established, however, that the propaganda utterances of both sides are almost identical on this specific subject.

Moscow Radio, in its denunciation of the Anglo-American and NATO efforts in Cyprus, also declared that "The national liberation movement of Cyprus cannot be stopped all the more because the Arab countries, for instance, are not at all interested in the strengthening of NATO countries on Cyprus, as they understand that turning Cyprus into a NATO base would also turn the island into a bridgehead against the independent Arab countries, and strengthen the Israeli bridgehead of imperialism in the Near East."

Significantly, Moscow Radio's broadcast in Arabic espoused the above line even before it was presented on its Russian and English programs. Moreover, the Arabic programs were even more explicit in linking Israel with the Cyprus question. Alleging that "Washington is very much interested in infiltrating Cyprus to execute from there its policy in the Middle East," the Arab broadcasts referred to the statement made recently in Washington by the high State Department official Alexis Johnson in which he defined the attitude of the American Government toward the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Elaborating on this statement, the Arab broadcasts indicate that the United States can easily intervene with military force from Cyprus in case of an Arab war against Israel. They refer to a statement allegedly made by former President Eisenhower that the U.S. has a right to intervene in an Arab-Israeli military conflict under the Tripartite Agreement signed between the United States, Britain and France guaranteeing the existing Arab-Israel borders.

NEW DESALINATION METHOD DISCOVERED IN ISRAEL; FINANCED BY CANADIAN

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- An Israeli chemical engineer today displayed to newsmen a system for desalination of sea water which, he said, would produce fresh water at a cost of one-third the expenditure of any other process thus far attempted.

The demonstration of the new method was staged by the inventor, Israeli-born Ariel Osdor, at his laboratory at Petach Tikvah. His method involves use of a pressure system in which, at a critical point, the salts from the sea water are separated dry. Research on the process, Mr. Osdor said, has been financed by Robert Sherwood, a Canadian now living in Switzerland. He said he expected to have a pilot plant using his desalination process ready for operation in the next few months.

CONFERENCE ON SITUATION OF JEWS IN RUSSIA POSTPONED IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The scheduled conference to have been convened here tomorrow, on the situation of the Jews in Russia, has been postponed, according to an announcement made today. The parley of British Jewish organizations had been called by Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie. Postponement has been requested by two of the bodies slated for participation, the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the British section of the World Jewish Congress.

QUESTION ON AUSCHWITZ 'SELECTION' DOCTOR RAISED IN BONN PARLIAMENT

BONN, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The West German Government does not know the present whereabouts of Dr. Josef Mengele, the former Auschwitz murder camp "selection" doctor, a Foreign Office spokesman declared today.

Under Secretary Karl Garsteins, answering a question posed by Social Democratic Deputy Gerhard Jahn, told the Bundestag that rumors that Mengele, whose assignment at the camp was to choose victims for death, was residing in Paraguay, had been proven false. He said "we have been assured by the Government of Paraguay that he is not in that country."

The deputy then asked: "Do you know where he is?" and the Under Secretary replied, "No, but we are searching for him." Dr. Mengele, sought as an accomplice to murder, recently protested, through his wife, the action of two West German universities which deprive him of his doctorate titles. The legal action is being handled for him in absentia by an attorney empowered to represent his interests.

ROILING GALE HITS ELAT; PARTS OF PORT FACILITIES SWEEP AWAY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A roaring gale pounded port facilities at Eilat last night with 15-foot waves, and caused damages estimated at 2,000,000 pounds (\$555,000).

The winds swept away parts of new port facilities under construction and portions of a newly drained area. The heaviest damage was inflicted on a special crane mounted on a 50-foot raft. Technicians were compelled to blow up the crane because it had weakened supports on part of a new jetty. A number of rafts and motor ships, as well as fishing boats, were swept out to sea and either sank or were battered on to the shore.

The gale subsided toward morning today, but the waters were still muddy. The damage may jeopardize the timetable for activation of the new port facilities. A six month delay is expected because many of the wrecked machines, cranes and rafts must be ordered from abroad.

ISRAEL MINISTER WARNS SETTLEMENTS NOT TO OVERPRODUCE POULTRY PRODUCTS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Agriculture Minister Moshe Dayan warned today that Israel must assume that the six European Common Market countries intend to produce all the eggs they needed, and that poultry produce must no longer be considered as export items.

He issued his warning to the Israel Poultry Produce Marketing Board, declaring that "we should not be able in the future to depend on marketing outlets in those countries" for poultry foods. He added that farmers must not overproduce poultry products, and that new settlements should not be based on poultry farming.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS ALLOCATION FROM PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Officials of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra expressed astonishment today over the decision of the Government to withdraw its allocation of 120,000 pounds (\$40,000) because the orchestra had raised its subscription rates.

The officials said they had received a letter from the Finance Ministry several months ago criticizing the increase in admission prices but that the letter did not include any ban on such an increase. The officials added that the increases had been paid "willingly" by subscribers, and this fact had been made known.

ISRAELI HIGHER TAX ON TRAVEL BECOMES EFFECTIVE; EASED FOR STUDENTS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Effective today, Israel's travel tax was more than doubled to 310 pounds (\$106) on airline tickets and 270 pounds (\$90) on ship tickets, plus the previous five per cent flat rate on such tickets. The tax was reduced for Israeli students and for families abroad who return to Israel for a visit.

ISRAELI SHIPPING COMPANY ORDERS TWO LARGE FREIGHT VESSELS

HAIFA, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- El Yam, the Israeli Freight Shipping Company, announced today it had placed orders for two 40,000-ton ships for bulk transportation. The ships will be delivered within two years. The company now operates Israel's two biggest vessels, the 30,000-ton "Tel Aviv" and the "Azad."

A. M. SONNABEND, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE PRESIDENT, DEAD, WAS 67.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A. M. Sonnabend, president of the American Jewish Committee, died last night in Palm Beach, Florida, during a vacation there. He was 67. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Temple Israel in Boston, where he resided.

Mr. Sonnabend died in a hospital to which he had been admitted Saturday after suffering a heart attack. He had been a member of the board of the Associated Jewish Philanthropies of Boston and had been active in the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was also a member of the board of Beth Israel Hospital of Boston, of the Palm Beach Community Fund and of other numerous institutions.

A leading financier, he began his career in real estate with a loan of \$5,000 from his father which he built into a multi-million dollar corporate estate. He was a graduate of Harvard University and served during World War I as a naval aviation and flying instructor.

As president of the American Jewish Committee, he issued a statement several weeks ago accusing some of America's leading utilities of discriminatory practices against Jews and other minority groups in the recruitment and promotion of management personnel. He said that Jews made up less than one per cent of the total executive personnel in these utilities.

A statement emphasizing Mr. Sonnabend's services in every sphere of communal endeavor - education, health, civil rights, philanthropy - was issued today on behalf of the American Jewish Committee by Morris B. Abram, chairman of the AJC executive board, and Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president. Pointing out that Mr. Sonnabend "gave himself unstintingly to help others and to advance the cause of equality of opportunity and the dignity of man," the statement said:

"Both as president of the American Jewish Committee and its leader for many years, he founded the Institute of Human Relations of the American Jewish Committee, and made possible its extensive program in behalf of man's understanding of his fellow man. Thus devoted benefactor of mankind, a man of practical affairs and high ideals, knew no boundaries of religion, race or color in fulfilling his obligations to those in need."

SORORITY AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CHARGED WITH ANTI-JEWISH BIAS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Five top-ranking officers of Chi Omega sorority at George Washington University resigned here today, protesting against a blatant discriminatory practice against Jews upheld by the sorority's powerful alumnae and set forth as part of the sorority's national policy.

The group resignation, which followed a meeting between sorority members and alumnae representatives with university officials trying to mediate, came as a climax to a series of pressures which the alumnae had been trying to put on members since rush season began last fall. According to rush chairman and leader of the resignees, Linda Frost of Washington, the five officially resigned after a Jewish girl who had been voted into the sorority by members was vetoed by the alumnae. Sorority rules entitle the alumnae to have the final say on membership.

While the alumnae have avoided making any outright anti-Semitic statements, Miss Frost explained, the Jewish candidate was turned down by them because she did not have a recommendation from an alumna in her hometown. The vetoing group also added that according to the sorority's constitution, a prospective member must "be a believer in Christian ideals."

It was also explained that the alumnae had complained last fall when two Jewish girls had been pledged. At that time they had warned the officers that no more Jewish candidates would be accepted when the new rush season began. As is the case in most academic institutions, George Washington University policy prohibits discrimination in student honorary and professional societies, but social organizations are free to select their own members.

DETROIT JEWISH LEADER GIVES \$50,000 IN ISRAEL BONDS TO WAYNE STATE U.

DETROIT, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Combining two of his interests, Abraham Borman, Detroit Jewish community leader, gave an initial gift of a \$50,000 endowment in State of Israel Bonds to Wayne State University here, it was announced today. The university will establish a fund for scholarships from the proceeds of the interest on the Israel bonds.

The \$2,000 in interest to be received by the university annually from the Israel bonds will be administered through the university's Office of Student Financial Aids. Mr. Borman, co-chairman of the 1964 Detroit Allied Jewish Campaign, is an Israel Bond Golden Trustee. He is also a vice-president of the United Foundation here.

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION TO HONOR ISRAELI SCIENTIST WITH MEDAL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Ernst Wertheimer, professor emeritus of human biochemistry at the Hebrew University, was notified today that he had been chosen this year as recipient of the Banting medal of the American Diabetes Association. The medal was named for the discoverer of insulin.

JEWISH AGENCY STARTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR U. S. COLLEGE GRADUATES

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency announced today the inauguration of a three-year work and fellowship program in Israel for American college graduates in industrial engineering and business administration leading to a Master of Science degree at the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology. The fellowships will be offered beginning August by the Committee on Manpower Opportunities in Israel of the Jewish Agency.

An American Advisory Board has been set up for this program by Prof. Sebastian B. Littauer, chairman of Columbia University's Department of Industrial Engineering. This program will provide opportunities for young American college graduates in industrial engineering and management to apply their skills and abilities in the challenging industrial and social environment which Israel offers.

Full transportation expenses to and from Israel for the successful Fellows, and their families will be provided as well as loans and salaries that should cover all expenses including tuition and housing. Living expenses are provided during the orientation period, the announcement said. This is the first time that Israeli industry has offered any fellowship program to American engineers. Industrial Engineering graduates and students who will receive their degree in 1964 or 1965 are eligible to submit applications.

The program is divided into three phases: a five-month introductory program at an Ulpan that will include the study of Hebrew, travel throughout the country and orientation in local engineering practices and projects; a seven-month on-the-job training program; and two years of employment by industrial enterprises for specific engineering and research projects. During the two-year employment period, the Fellows will work toward their Master's or Doctor of Science degree at the Graduate School of Israel Institute of Technology.

Among the leading American educators from industrial engineering colleges and universities serving on the Advisory Board with Prof. Littauer are: Prof. Norman W. Barish, New York University; Dr. Lawrence Cohen, Columbia University; Prof. Edward Coleman, University of California; Prof. William Evan, M. I. T.; Prof. William Gomberg, University of Pennsylvania; Prof. W. G. Ireson, Sanford University; Prof. William Jaffe, Newark College of Engineering; Prof. James Monroe, Northeastern University; and others.

Moshe Gertzberg, a leading management consultant in Israel, and Israeli representative to this program, is now in the United States to present the program in a series of lectures to students at leading universities throughout the country. He will also interview candidates for this program in Israel.

ZIM EUROPE-ISRAEL PASSENGERS TO GET FREE USE OF AUTOMOBILES

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- An arrangement whereby passengers holding round-trip tickets on Zim liners between European ports and Israel may have five days free use of an Avis car at either end of their journey was announced here today by the American-Israeli Shipping Company.

The agreement, concluded in New York, requires passengers to rent an Avis car for a minimum of five days on their own, after which a coupon issued with the Zim ticket will be honored for an additional five days. The car may be rented in Europe if the first leg of the journey begins in Israel and in Israel if the voyage begins in Europe. Passengers will be required to pay a small mileage fee as well as the cost of gasoline and insurance.

The arrangement between the steamship company and the international car rental firm was brought about by the growing interest in motoring as an inexpensive and convenient means for sightseeing abroad, according to the American-Israeli Shipping Company. Many tourists find that renting a car is less costly and easier than taking a car abroad with them. The Zim Lines maintains regular sailings from Marseilles, Genoa, Naples, Venice and Piraeus to and from Israel.

EX-MINISTER ELECTED HEAD OF BRAZILIAN-ISRAELI CULTURAL INSTITUTE

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Professor San Tiago Dantas, former Foreign Minister and former Finance Minister of Brazil, was elected here today to the presidency of Brazilian-Israeli Cultural Institute. In an acceptance address, he pledged that he would strive for the tightening of the cultural relations between this country and Israel. The Institute is composed of some of the leading political and intellectual personalities in Brazil.

Three prominent Brazilian university rectors became the heads today of a national committee formed here for the annual Bible contest from which contestants will be chosen to participate in the Bible competition to be held in Jerusalem, next September. The educators are Dr. Pedro Calmon, Prof. Lisbao da Cruzia and the Rev. Dias da Mauro, a Catholic leader. They represent the three largest universities in this country.