



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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Vol. XXXII - 48th year

Thursday, March 11, 1965

No. 48

ISRAEL REPORTED AGREEING WITH BONN ON FULL DIPLOMATIC STATUS

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Birenbach, West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's special envoy, completed three days of talks with top Israeli Government officials today, and left for Bonn reportedly with Israel's acceptance in principle of the West German offer to establish diplomatic relations.

Israel maintained a complete blackout on the content of the talks between Dr. Birenbach and the Israeli officials. But it was reliably reported that agreement had been reached on all points of issue between the two countries, including that of the suspension last month by West Germany of its arms deliveries to Israel.

Premier Levi Eshkol is scheduled to announce the results of the talks to Israel's Parliament next Tuesday. The talks had gone so well, it was reported, that a second scheduled trip to Israel by Dr. Birenbach may be canceled. The West German Embassy would be located in Jerusalem.

Dr. Birenbach was whisked to Lydda airport this morning. Reporters were barred, and press photographers were stopped from taking pictures as the envoy, surrounded by special guards, prepared to board his plane.

Chancellor Erhard's emissary, who was in constant contact with Bonn throughout the talks, visited former Premier David Ben-Gurion's home in total secrecy and talked with him for an hour on West German-Israeli relations. The meeting was held at the special request of Chancellor Erhard, who wanted to convey a personal message to the former Premier. Dr. Birenbach in turn promised to convey Ben-Gurion's views to Dr. Erhard.

Premier Eshkol was understood to have consulted with his coalition partners on the tentative agreement with West Germany. The National Religious party was understood to support relations with West Germany. Achdut Avodah, which in the past has opposed closer ties with Bonn, indicated it would postpone a final decision, pending West Germany's reply but the reply also indicated it would not make any difficulties for Premier Eshkol on the question.

Knesset delegates of Mr. Eshkol's Mapai party met with the Premier and decided unanimously in favor of immediate full diplomatic relations with West Germany. The offer is favored by the Liberal party, while Herut, Mapam, Agudat Israel and the Communists remained opposed.

Dr. Birenbach's final act here, it was announced, was a visit to the Yad Vashem, the Memorial Center for the European Jews murdered by the Nazis, and lighted an eternal flame for the martyrs.

Arab States to Retaliate Against Bonn by Recall of Envoys

LONDON, March 10. (JTA) -- President Nasser of Egypt announced today that the Arab League states had agreed to withdraw their diplomatic representatives from West Germany, it was reported here from Cairo. He indicated that the action had been decided on in retaliation for West Germany's offer of diplomatic recognition to Israel.

Prior to that announcement, as a result of a top-level Arab League conference held since yesterday in Cairo, President Nasser had hailed the Kuwait National Assembly for proposing an immediate break with West Germany and establishment of relations with East Germany, along with a pan-Arab boycott of West Germany. Nasser told a rally that the Arabs would win "this political showdown" with Israel and West Germany. He added that, "if the Jews win this battle, then the Arabs' word is valueless and the Arabs had better go and bury their faces in the mud." He called the "showdown" with Bonn the "first step" toward "the liberation of Palestine."

Jordan has already recalled its Ambassador from Bonn, as did Saudi Arabia, but the latter country specified this recall was "for consultations."

(From Bonn, it was reported today that Chancellor Erhard told his Christian Democratic party yesterday that West Germany would "not go down on its knees" before President Nasser of Egypt. He made the statement in commenting on a Nasser speech which vilified the West German regime for offering diplomatic recognition to Israel and cutting off economic aid to Egypt.)

Goldmann Sees 'Political Wisdom' In Accepting Bonn's Offer

BRUSSELS, March 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, said last night that Israel should respond positively to West Germany's offer of full diplomatic relations. He spoke at a press conference on the eve of a fund-raising drive for the United Israel Appeal of Belgium.

He said he had always adhered to an opinion "that Israel and Germany are equally interested in normal relations." However, he added, "these should be full diplomatic relations without subterfuge." He felt Israel should accept the offer.

Dr. Goldmann said it would not be easy in a country where there were hundreds of thousands of survivors of concentration camps "and one may understand the emotion provoked by the idea of a German Ambassador." But, he added, he felt the "political wisdom of Israel and her friends will bring it to accept this offer if it is a real offer of full diplomatic relations."

U. S. SEES AID TO NASSER AS FACTOR IN SAFEGUARDING OF ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, March 10. (JTA) -- United States diplomats in Bonn have urged the West German government to continue economic aid to Egypt, reliable official sources made known here today.

Continued American aid to Egypt, and efforts to improve relations with the Nasser regime, were the top priority objectives of American Near Eastern policy, Phillips Talbot, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, told the House Foreign Affairs Committee, according to testimony made public today. He stressed the need for an American "presence" in Cairo, declaring that such a "presence" helped safeguard Israel, and asserted: "I have not heard any official Israel statement arguing that we should remove our presence from the Arab world."

Mr. Talbot made known that the State Department is trying to "go along" with the Nasser regime and there are indications that Egypt "does not seek a final confrontation with the United States at this stage." He said, "our concern at the present time is that we maintain a presence in the area which helps to reduce the prospects of polarization and the dangers to peace because the alternative seems to us to be a possibility -- on some days one could almost be tempted to say a likelihood -- of a very, very destructive situation indeed in the area."

He pointed out that Israel-Arab tensions are growing over the water diversion issue. He said "the visible diversion works, at present, are in Syria, within view of Israel. Tensions are growing, although our estimates are that it will be a long time, if ever, before the diversion works on the Arab side exceed the allocations provided for Arab use in the Johnston plan of 1955." He said: The Jordan water problem "could at any moment become very serious indeed. However, with restraint on the part of the different parties, I believe it may be possible for the area to get through this period without hostilities."

A report was also made by Mr. Talbot that "border incidents between Israel and its neighbors have in recent months increased in frequency, and tensions over the Jordan water issue and the build-up of arms have risen." He saw a time of "very great ferment" in the Near East, representing "considerable danger."

Citing what he considered the dangers of cutting off aid to Nasser, he said that "because of his appeal to the Arab masses as a leader in pan-Arab causes, we believe Nasser would have the capability to enlist most of the other Arab states in his support, if such a showdown with the West occurred." After aid to Syria was stopped, said Mr. Talbot, Syrian attitudes grew worse. The testimony indicated that Mr. Talbot suggested that the Soviet Union was provoking Syria's restlessness and incursions against Israel.

Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat, brought out through questioning of Mr. Talbot that new American aid for Egypt is contemplated by the State Department. Asked if German differences with Cairo would affect the future of American aid to Egypt, Mr. Talbot said "our efforts are going to continue to be actions which are best calculated to tamp down the very dangerous situation in the threat of hostilities and maintain the peace."

BUNDESTAG BACKS STATUTE EXTENSION, LEAVES DETAILS TO COMMITTEE

BONN, March 10. (JTA) -- The Bundestag, West Germany's lower house of Parliament, voted today by a substantial majority to refer to its Justice Committee the problem of working out a specific procedure to extend West Germany's statute of limitations on prosecutions for murder. The present law would bar such prosecutions after next May 8.

The Bundestag took the action after a day of debate on a measure which would simply extend the effective date for 10 years after May 8, and thus permit continued prosecutions of Nazi war criminals after that date. The only votes against the action were cast by

the Independent Democrats, including Justice Minister Ewald Bucher, and the Bavarian section of Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's Christian Democratic Union, which is headed by Joseph Strauss, former West German Defense Minister. The debate took place before packed galleries and with reporters present from many parts of the world, indicating the world-wide interest in the issue. Television and radio coverage also was thorough.

The first speaker in the debate was Justice Minister Bucher, who delivered in the name of the West German Cabinet a report on the status of prosecutions of Nazis which had been requested by the Bundestag. Dr. Bucher, a determined foe of extension, said each member of Parliament should decide the question on its legal basis and by "his individual conscience." He emphasized that Chancellor Erhard, who has consistently spoken for prolongation, was not dictating the "political line" on the question.

Bipartisan Speakers Seek Prolongation; Justice Minister Attacked

While there was strong support for the principle of extension manifested in the debate, questions were also raised as to how best to achieve it. Some members noted that a Parliamentary passage might be subject to court review and upset. It was also proposed that the extension be not for 10 years but indefinitely.

Ernest Benda, a leader of the CDU, the first Parliamentarian to propose an extension, said that, while he had originally been in the minority, he seemed now to be in the majority. It was Benda who proposed an indefinite extension of the cut-off date for prosecutions. He said that, on this issue he was unable to speak without emotion. He declared that, since there was a majority for passage, the only task was to agree on the length of the prolongation and its conditions.

M. Hirsch, a Social Democrat, hailed a decision of his party last night to propose a constitutional amendment for prolongation rather than a Parliamentary motion. He said his party feared that a Parliamentary decision could be declared unconstitutional by the courts. But, he added, everything should be done to assure that Germans would not live with murderers in the future.

Dr. Bucher spoke a second time, as an Independent Democrat member of the Bundestag, and defended his opposition to extension. He was answered by Social Democratic leader Jahn who expressed "deep disappointment" over Dr. Bucher's stand and said he was "not sure what Dr. Bucher's real motives are."

All members of the Bundestag who have come out for extension of the statute of limitations received mail threats of murder, it was reported here today.

The threatening leaflets bore swastikas and declared that "Deputies who are submissive to Tel Aviv and New York and who work against the May 8 expiration of the statute of limitations for so-called Nazi crimes will be sentenced to death on the date of the vote. The fuhrer of Brigade District 3 will be responsible for carrying out the sentences." Police immediately opened an investigation and indicated they regarded the matter as serious.

URUGUAYAN POLICE ALLEGE SLAYING SUSPECT WAS ISRAELI EMPLOYEE

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, March 10. (JTA) -- Police here today charged that an Israeli Government employee no longer in this country was involved in the slaying here of Herbert Cukurs, a former Nazi war criminals who took part in the killing of Jews in Latvia during the Second World War. The suspect was earlier identified by the police as a "diplomat" Israeli sources were quoted as saying that he had an official but not a diplomatic passport.

An autopsy here today disclosed that Cukurs, who was accused at the Nuremberg War Crimes trials of having killed 30,000 Latvian Jews in 1941, was killed on February 24 by repeated blows on the head. Police called the killing an "act of Jewish vengeance."

(In Sao Paulo, Brazil, where Cukurs was living when he arrived in Montevideo last month on a business trip, Gunnar Cukurs, son of the slain former Nazi, said today that Soviet agents might have been involved in the killing, since the dead man has been sought by the Russians because of his wartime activities against Communists in Latvia.)

Israel Indignantly Denies Report; Ready to Lodge Stiff Protest

JERUSALEM, March 10. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Israel Foreign Ministry described today as "unbelievable" a report that the Montevideo Police Chief had said that an Israeli diplomat was involved in the killing of former Latvian Nazi leader Herbert Cukurs. The spokesman added that, if the report about the police allegation was true, the Israeli Ambassador to Uruguay will deliver a stiff protest "against this malicious accusation."

According to the report, an Israeli who described himself as a diplomat is believed to have been one of the avengers who killed Cukurs. The report said that the Israeli stayed at the same Montevideo Hotel used by Cukurs, and that he flew to Brazil three days after the killing.

N. Y. FEDERATION NAMES DR. DAVID G. SALTEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York announced today the appointment of Dr. David G. Salten, a leading educational administrator, to a newly-created post as executive director. The Federation is the world's largest philanthropically supported health and welfare organization serving a metropolitan area.

Dr. Salten is currently School Superintendent of New Rochelle. A former School superintendent in Long Beach, N. Y. he was associated for 10 years with New York city public schools. Dr. Salten will assume his new post October 1 and will hold it until December 31, 1966 when he will be elected sole executive vice-president. In that capacity, he will succeed the federation's two long-time executive vice-presidents, Joseph Willen and Dr. Maurice B. Hexter, who will become executive consultants to the federation.

Irving M. Felt, federation president, said that a special committee spent more than 15 months in a nationwide search which ended with the unanimous selection of Dr. Salten, who is 51. He said that Dr. Salten was nationally recognized as an innovator of new and successful approaches to contemporary communal problems. He has served in a wide variety of consultant positions at the city, state and federal levels.

CONTEMPORARY ISRAELI MUSIC GIVEN OVATIONS AT SPECIAL CONCERT

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- A distinguished audience that included some of America's foremost musicologists and critics crowded Philharmonic Hall here tonight and applauded a unique concert of contemporary Israeli music that covered a broad spectrum of musical media from a cappella choral numbers to solo and instrumental works and electronic music.

The concert, presented by Composers' Showcase, an American organization specializing in the presentation of international music series, was held under the patronage of the Government of Israel, with the support of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and the sponsorship of the Women's League for Israel.

Among the musical participants were two Israeli composers, Joseph Tal and Gideon Partos, who came here especially to conduct and play the solos in their own compositions. Mr. Tal is a pianist and Mr. Partos is a violinist. Others on the program included tenor Jan Peerce, sopranos Jennie Tourel and Janice Harsanyi; conductors Charles Munch and Julius Rudel leading the American Symphony Orchestra; and the Masterwork Chorus under David Randolph.

BETH ISRAEL DEDICATES MEDICAL CENTER; OUTGROWTH OF SMALL CLINIC

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- With impressive ceremonies in which Mayor Wagner and other high city officials participated, Beth Israel Hospital, a facility founded 75 years ago as a small, Lower East Side clinic, officially changed its name today to Beth Israel Medical Center of New York.

One of the foremost medical treatment and research facilities in the city, Beth Israel includes in its broad complex a number of buildings and special departments covering a wide range of activities. Among these are two structures now being built, a home for the Beth Israel School of Nursing and a 350-bed building for patient care.

SAUL BELLOW, LOUIS FISCHER, NORBERT WIENER GIVEN BOOK AWARDS

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- Three Jewish authors were among those who received the National Book Awards last night, given the authors of "the most distinguished books written by Americans and published in the United States in 1964."

They are: Saul Bellow for his novel, "Herzog," who won the award in the field of fiction; Louis Fischer for his "The Life of Lenin," in the field of history and biography; and the late Dr. Norbert Wiener, who was given the award posthumously in the field of science, philosophy and religion for his book, "God and Golem, Inc." Dr. Wiener died in August in 1963. This was the second National Book Award for Mr. Bellow, who also won it in 1954 for his novel, "The Adventures of Augie March."

MRS. MOLLIE SILVERBERG DEAD; WIFE OF FORWARD ASSOCIATION HEAD

NEW YORK, March 10. (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Mrs. Mollie Silverberg, for years a leader in the affairs of the women's vision of the Workmen's Circle and Jewish Socialist organizations, who died at Tucson, Ariz., yesterday, at the age of 71. She was the wife of Dr. Samuel S. Silberberg, president of the Forward Association, which publishes The Forward, Yiddish daily. Born in Russia, Mrs. Silverberg came to this country in 1918, and had been active not only in the Workmen's Circle but also in the Jewish Labor Committee.