



Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

*Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement*

Vol. XXXIII - 49th year

Monday, February 7, 1966

No. 26

## ARMS DEAL BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL REVEALED; MADE PRIOR TO ESCALATION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Israeli sources here made it clear today that the deal between the United States and Israel under which the American Government consented to supply Israel with a number of M-48 Patton tanks -- revealed yesterday by the State Department -- had been made prior to the recent escalation and intensification of the re-armament of the Arab states.

The Israeli sources voiced their comment after the State Department reported here that the U. S. A. has been selling tanks to Israel. The State Department confirmed the deal with Israel after Al Ahram, an influential daily newspaper published in Cairo, had claimed last week that Israel had received 200 of the Patton tanks from the United States. However, the State Department did not indicate the number of tanks sold to Israel.

The American consent to the tank deal with Israel, the Israeli sources said today, had not been given recently, since the negotiations on this matter had been concluded a long time ago. The U. S. A. decided to provide Israel with these tanks, the sources said, after the American Administration was convinced that the tanks were needed for the defense of Israel, and were regarded as part of the U. S. policy to maintain the stability and the balance of armaments in the Middle East.

The State Department's confirmation of the tank deal with Israel was couched in similar terms regarding the balance of power in the Middle East. Pointing out that it could not remain indifferent to the "massive" sales of Soviet arms to the Middle East region, the State Department declared: "Over the years, to meet modernization requirements, we have sold the Government of Israel various items of military equipment to help it meet its own defense and internal security requirements. These have included Patton tanks."

State Department officials said they could not say specifically that the supply of tanks to Israel involved an assumption that the U. S. arrangement was a substitute for a West German deal to supply Israel with various armaments. But they indicated that it was fair to draw such a conclusion. The West German Government canceled an \$80,000,000 arms deal with Israel in October, 1964. It was presumed here that the U. S. A. has also taken up the remainder of that German-Israeli contract.

### Text of State Department's Statement on Arms to Middle East

The full text of the statement issued by the State Department yesterday, in which reference was made for the first time to the U. S. arms deal with Israel read as follows:

"There has been a recent spate of news stories relating to reported sales of military equipment by the United States to various countries in the Near East. The established United States policy has been to refrain from becoming a major supplier of arms in this area while retaining the option of helping the countries of the area meet their defense requirements through occasional, selective sales.

"These exceptions to our general policy have been based on careful case-by-case examination and a determination that such a sale would not be a destabilizing factor. The United States has made over the years repeated quiet efforts to encourage limitations on arms buildups in the area. Until those bear fruit, however, the United States cannot be indifferent to the potentially destabilizing effect of massive Soviet sales of arms to the area.

"Over the years, to meet modernization requirements, we have sold the Government of Israel various items of military equipment to help it meet its own defense and internal security requirements. These have included Patton tanks.

"We and the British recently have agreed to provide an air defense system to Saudi Arabia, the United States component being Hawk missiles. Similarly, in 1962, we sold the Hawk missile to Israel to provide the basis for an air defense system. We have also had a small military assistance program in Jordan under which we have furnished that country with modest amounts of military equipment and services, including Patton tanks. It is our policy not to discuss the specifics of these types of transactions. Accordingly we are

not in a position to go into the details of military material furnished individual countries, beyond stating that supplies to these countries has been in accordance with our established policy."

(The New York Times reported Friday from Cairo that the Soviet Union refused to sell nuclear weapons to Egypt but promised President Nasser nuclear protection if Israel developed such weapons. The reports were attributed to Western embassies in Cairo but were described as still not officially confirmed. The refusal and the pledge were asserted to have been made in discussions in Cairo last December between Egyptian official and a Soviet military delegation headed by A.A. Grechko, First Deputy Defense Minister. The Times report said that though neither Egypt nor Israel have atomic weapons, fears of an atomic arms race in the Middle East are widespread.)

#### STATE DEPT. 'CATEGORICALLY' DENIES REPORT ON SEEKING TO CHECK ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Recent press reports claiming that the State Department has sought to check Israel by deferring action on loans to Israel were denied categorically by the Department here this weekend.

A statement issued by the Department declared: "The Department categorically denies that any Israeli requests for aid are being held up for any reason. Several matters are under discussion, but there is no deliberate hold-up."

#### EBAN DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST ISSUES WITH U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Israel's Foreign Minister, Abba Eban, conferred this weekend with United Nations Secretary General U Thant and Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Undersecretary for Special Political Affairs, who is considered the U.N.'s principal expert on the Middle East. He was accompanied by Michael S. Comay, Israel's permanent representative here.

The conference with the U.N. secretariat leaders, Mr. Eban said, provided an opportunity for a general review of U.N. problems, Middle East issues, questions concerning the Far East and included "special reference to the armistice system in our region." There were no specific new problems involved, he said. However, it was understood that among the problems discussed were the arms race in the Middle East and the United Nations Emergency Force.

#### ALL ISRAELI INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING FACE STRIKE TODAY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The academic staffs of all five Israeli institutions of higher learning threatened today they will launch a general strike tomorrow, unless they are given retroactive pay increases due them under an agreement signed last November by the Israeli Treasury and the academic coordinating committee.

Involved in the possible walk-out are the faculties of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University here, Bar-Ilan University at Ramat Gan, the Israel Institute of Technology-Technion at Haifa, and the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot.

A proposal by the Treasury for partial payment of the claims was rejected overwhelmingly today by the representatives of the five academic staffs. The Treasury had proposed to make partial payment now, offering the remainder of the salaries due in Government bonds. The academicians employed by the Government itself are receiving back pay, but the Treasury has disclaimed responsibility for payments due to lecturers, although the universities are subsidized by the Government.

#### 200 STEVEDORES WALK OUT ON STRIKE IN ISRAEL'S NEW PORT OF ASHDOD

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Two hundred stevedores walked out on strike at the new port of Ashdod today, insisting that a number of special payments be included in their new contract. The old contract had expired Friday. The strikers are the same men who had staged a slow-down in loadings at Ashdod last month.

The Citrus Marketing Board immediately ordered a halt to the shipment of all fruits for loading at Ashdod until the situation is clarified. Four ships that were being loaded Friday were compelled to sail with only partial cargoes, due to the slow-down and strike.

#### PRICES FOR CIGARETTES AND ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES RAISED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Consumer prices are continuing to rise in Israel. Announcements were made today that the prices for cigarettes are to go up by 25 percent, while the cost of alcoholic beverages are to rise by 15 to 20 percent.

GOLDA MEIR STARTS RESTORING UNITY IN MAPAI PARTY; DEPLORES SPLIT

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, the new secretary-general of Premier Levi Eshkol's Mapai party, began today the task of restoring the party unity splintered by former Premier David Ben-Gurion.

She was elected by acclamation, first by the party Secretariat and then by its Central Committee at a meeting at which Premier Eshkol said he believed that the party could find sufficient internal strength to respond to Mrs. Meir's leadership. The split developed from Mr. Ben-Gurion's decision to form a splinter party, the Israel Worker's list (Rafi) which unsuccessfully challenged Mr. Eshkol's leadership in the general election last November 2.

Mrs. Meir said that, in assuming the post, she did so in full understanding of the damage wrought by the split which, she said, was in contrast to the movement's tradition of unity. Acknowledging the "residual wounds" among Mapai comrades, she promised to work to heal them.

She also reiterated her belief that the Mapai alignment with Achdut Avoda, which won a resounding victory in the November elections, and which was one of the reasons for Mr. Ben-Gurion's fight, was the first stage toward a full merger of the two parties, which should be expedited.

ISRAELIS ENTITLED TO PRAY 'AT ANY PLACE IN ANY FORM,' CABINET DECIDES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet decided unanimously here today that everyone in Israel is entitled to pray "at any place in any form." The decision followed a report to the Government by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol about alleged pressures against a group of Reform Jews who had held worship in a hall belonging to the B'nai B'rith, in Tel Aviv, and then were said to have been expelled from the hall.

Mr. Eshkol told the Cabinet that he had investigated the development in response to many letters on the issue from Israelis and from other sources abroad. He said his findings showed there was no pressure against the Reform group, and that the Tel Aviv municipal authorities had not threatened to increase taxes on the B'nai B'rith building if the hall had been permitted for use for Reform worship.

Dr. Zorah Warhaftig, Minister for Religious Affairs, added that his Ministry had not threatened to withdraw its kashruth certificate from the management of the B'nai B'rith building. He said the hall had been leased for one evening only, and that the management of the B'nai B'rith building never leases its hall on a permanent basis.

In reply to a question by newsmen, a spokesman for the Government said that the question of "freedom of religion" was mentioned by the Cabinet only in connection with the resolve to permit prayer to any one in "any place in any form," and did not mean that Reform or Conservative rabbis in Israel will be entitled to perform marriage ceremonies or "other official acts." These, he noted, are restricted only to rabbis authorized to conduct such activities by the Chief Rabbinate, which is "the only one with standing recognized by the State." The Chief Rabbinate is Orthodox.

TEL AVIV MAYOR ORDERS PROBE INTO FIRE OF FIVE-STORY ZIM BUILDING

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Mayor Mordechai Namir today appointed a special committee to investigate what was described as the worst fire in this city's history, in which a 70-year-old man was killed and 64 persons were injured when the five-story Zim Building in downtown Tel Aviv was gutted by flames this weekend. All of the injured were discharged from hospital by last night.

Only a skeleton hulk remained of the modern structure with damage estimated at 2,000,000 - 4,000,000 pounds (\$667,000 - \$1,333,000). The cause of the fire, which started on the ground floor, is still unknown. The flames spread quickly through the interior of the building, which was lavishly decorated with wood and asbestos.

Israeli Air Force helicopters rescued 60 persons who were trapped on the roof and upper floors of the building, while some 500 persons made their way down a ladder lifted to the roof by the fire brigade. The single fatality occurred when the elderly man attempted to climb down pipes outside the building after some younger persons had escaped that way.

One theory relating to the cause of the conflagration is that a fluorescent light had exploded, setting fire to wood fiber paneling. Another possible cause was seen in a suspected, faulty fuse box.

TWO-DAY CONFERENCE OF COMMUNITIES DISCUSSES AID TO JEWISH AGED

BALTIMORE, Feb. 6: (JTA) -- A two-day regional conference of Jewish communities, devoted to discussions on "Jewish community planning for the aging in the next decade," was opened here today under the chairmanship of LeRoy E. Hoffberger, Baltimore Jewish leader.

The conference, which was arranged by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, opened with addresses by Wilbur J. Cohen, Under Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and by Philip Bernstein, executive director of the CJFWF. Louis J. Fox, president of Associated Jewish Charities of Baltimore, greeted the delegates, who represented the communities of Boston, Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, Miami, Newark, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington.

Views on the role of Jewish agencies and of the Government in the next 10 years, in providing services for aged Jews, were exchanged by lay and professional leaders at the session today. Representatives of Jewish federations, hospitals, homes for the aged, family services, vocational services and community centers reported on current services for the aged now offered by each agency. Reports were also presented on special projects involving the Jewish aging under Jewish or community-wide auspices.

Under Secretary Cohen spoke on the philosophy behind Government involvement in planning for services to older persons, which include social security, old age assistance, medicare, anti-poverty projects, construction for housing including loans and rent subsidies. He outlined the expanding role of the Government in aid for the aged and its implications for planning by voluntary agencies.

Mr. Bernstein dealt with the role of the Jewish federations in services to Jewish aged. He analyzed the range of services provided by Jewish communal agencies and the relationship among these agencies with federations in planning, coordination and financing the services to older persons. He also analyzed the relationship of the Jewish agencies to other general community voluntary agencies in the same field.

Bernstein Outlines Community Goal for Services for Aged

Pointing out that "perhaps no services in the Jewish community are so old, nor any concepts of service so new, as our service to the aged," Mr. Bernstein stressed that the concepts have been changing "more drastically and dramatically" in the past two decades. He urged examination of the changes and the common planning for the future.

"We must start with the aged themselves," he said; "Who are they? What do they need? It has been said that we really have three generations of the aged: those from 65 to 75, another group from 75 to 85, and still others from 85 and over. That may not be a fully accurate definition, but there is much truth in recognizing that we are not dealing with one group.

"Except for the legal retirement age of 65, or for some at 62 or 63, are those people really 'aged'? Not as we know many of them. There are almost no people in our homes for the aged under 70, and very few under 75. People at 65 are not ready to change their lives drastically. They are not ready to accept radical changes imposed by society. They want the same freedoms they had had until 65 -- the freedom to work and the freedom to live as they would like to live.

"We must recognize that what was the boon of retirement of the 1930's, is for many the bane of the 1960's. Many people are not ready to retire at 65, when they are in good health and vigor, and when they have the most to give.

"Thus, the prime goal now of many people at 65, and our prime goal with them, is to help assure that they can continue to be useful and creative. Our goal is to enable them to look ahead, and not only back, to continue their own fulfillment. Our goal is to help them maintain what is most precious to them and to our society -- their independence, their dignity, their self-support and their self-respect.

"What I am trying to say, in short, is that, for many people, there is no more radical change in our lives at 62 or 65, than there was at 52 or 55; that society owes them an opportunity to go on living as they want to do; that it is the essence of democracy and of our religious faith and purpose to treat them as individuals, and not as categories.

"Most of these people will remain in the community, as part of the community. A prime responsibility of the community is to help assure decent and dignified housing. For those who can maintain their own homes, and for those who can live with their adult children, that opportunity surely must be afforded; And if it is of interest that 22 percent of the aged are in fact still living with their adult children.

"And for those who need foster homes or boarding homes, or who need home-maker services to enable them to live alone, that too must be assured."

B'NAI B'RITH PROTESTS U. S. BUYING GUNS FROM GERMAN SLAVE LABOR PLANT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- A West German arms firm which has persistently refused to consider even token compensation to concentration camp inmates exploited as slave laborers during World War II is being favorably considered by the U. S. Defense Department for a contract to manufacture guns for the United States, causing protests by international president William A. Wexler, of B'nai B'rith, it was revealed here this weekend.

The circumstances, which could lead to a \$75,000,000 contract for Rheinmetall Company, of Dusseldorf, were disclosed in protests by Dr. Wexler to Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

Dr. Wexler said his organization "deeply deplores the possibility that Theinmetall, second largest arms manufacturer for the Nazi Reich, would be rewarded with a favorable contract, notwithstanding stubborn refusals "to recognize moral obligations to some 1,000 survivors of slave labor who were brutally exploited." A similar protest has been made by Mayor John V. Ryan, Jr., of Springfield, Mass., in a communication to President Johnson.

Many of the survivors of the group exploited by Rheinmetall are now U. S. citizens. Efforts by Jewish organizations to negotiate agreement with Rheinmetall proved futile, although the Nuremberg Tribunal had ruled that Nazi exploiters of slave labor like Rheinmetall perpetrated a crime against humanity, and were legally responsible.

A German high court decision was subsequently made against Rheinmetall. The plaintiffs were two Jewish women now living in New York. But these claims were deferred until a final peace treaty. Such a treaty is unlikely at present because of Soviet policies. Agreement to compensate victims was made by Krupp, I.G. Farben and other German companies, but the alleged ex-Nazi Party members who direct Rheinmetall have adamantly refused to even consider the matter. They are Otto Paul Caesar and Ernst Blume.

Dr. Wexler protested that such dealings with an alleged Nazi firm undermines American declarations on behalf of human rights. The matter has also been discussed with West German Ambassador Heinrich Knappstein. The Mayor of Springfield is interested in the issue because an old arsenal in his city has been closed down. He told the President that the Springfield facility could produce the same weapons for which a contract is being awarded to a firm managed by two "pioneer Nazis."

GOLDMANN CONVOKES ASSEMBLY OF WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS IN BELGIUM

GENEVA, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The fifth plenary assembly of the World Jewish Congress will be held in Brussels from July 31 to August 9, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president, said today in a letter of invitation to more than 65 affiliated Jewish communities and organizations throughout the world.

Dr. Goldmann defined the purpose of the conclave as "to strengthen and revitalize the spiritual and cultural life of Jewish communities, and to secure and maintain the survival of the Jewish people."

He said a special committee, named by the WJC governing council at a London meeting last December, worked on a new plan of representation for the Brussels meeting which reflects the major population changes in Jewish communities since the last WJC assembly. Delegations from Israel and France in particular will be substantially larger. United States representation also will be larger.

WEIZMANN ARCHIVES ACQUIRE COPIES OF MANY IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

REHOVOT, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Weizmann Archives here had received copies of several thousand letters and other documents which will be of "enormous value" in shedding light on British-Zionist relations and Middle East political developments after World War I, it was announced today by Mayer Weisgal, chairman of the executive council of the Weizmann Institute of Science. He said that the existence of the documents had only been recently discovered.

The documents showed for the first time that the original first draft of the famous agreement between Emir Feisal and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, signed in London in 1919, was in the handwriting of Simon Marks, a British Zionist leader and associate of Dr. Weizmann. The agreement pledged the aid of Feisal, then King of Syria, to Zionist efforts in Palestine. Mr. Weisgal said that the documents included "illuminating reports" on the meeting between Feisal and Dr. Weizmann in Wahaida in June, 1918, including a Feisal letter in Arabic. Other letters were from the archives of Sir Reginald Wingate, the British High Commissioner in Egypt during World War I, and other important British personalities.

PLAN FOR TRAINING JEWISH COMMUNITY WORKERS AT HEBREW U. ANNOUNCED

NEW YORK, Feb. 6., (JTA) -- Plans which would provide fellowships at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for in-service training of professional Jewish community workers were announced here today. The projection of a World Seminar for Jewish Service, under which American Jewish organizations and institutions can sponsor fellowships for graduate students at the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Jewry, was announced at a conference on the America-Israel University Program of the American Friends of the Hebrew University.

Prof. Moshe Davis, head of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the university, said that the fellowship recipients will study with counterparts from Israel and other sections of the Jewish world and will belong to two categories: 1) professionals of American Jewish organizations -- or those being considered for employment -- who would receive fellowships for in-service training; 2) graduate students who will be working toward a degree, Masters or Doctorate.

The development of the World Seminar for Jewish Service is being assisted by an American advisory committee composed of executives of American Jewish organizations and institutions, Prof. Davis told the conference participants. This program will be designed to emphasize "world Jewish perspectives on Jewish life and institutions," he said. He stressed that the curriculum "would have special meaning for young men and women who are devoting themselves to, or are contemplating, American Jewish communal and educational service."

Major addresses were delivered at the conference by Israel's Ambassador Avraham Harman, Professor Joshua Prawer, former dean of the Hebrew University's Faculty of Humanities and professor of Medieval History, and Nathaniel L. Goldstein, president of the American Friends of the Hebrew University. Henry Sonneborn, III, co-chairman of the America-Israel University Program, presided.

LOW INCIDENCE OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY REPORTED FOR JEWISH CHILDREN

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The nation is experiencing a rising rate of juvenile delinquency but "Jewish children enjoy a low incidence of trouble with the law," it was reported here today by James W. Symington, executive director of President Johnson's committee on juvenile delinquency and youth crime.

Mr. Symington indicated that Jewish families traditionally provided "strength and stability to the family that are beyond the power of the Government to produce artificially." He pointed out that the Government was "powerless to transplant family value systems from one community to another."

Addressing a Government leadership conference, Mr. Symington stressed that "ancestral amenities bind the allegiance" of the Jewish child. He said "the father is the law. At thirteen years of age a boy is reminded in solemn ceremony that he is a man. He does not have to snatch a purse, wield a knife or prove his virility in other objectionable ways."

But the Government "cannot offer Bar Mitzvah or Christian Confirmation," said Mr. Symington. However, he pointed out that the Government could work to strengthen the environment in which every family must live. "It can work for proper housing and sanitation, decent schooling, and fire and police protection. There is a host of services which it is the province of Government to secure, and the right of people to demand. What then happens within each family, and the home that is its castle, is a private matter," he said.

RABBIS URGE WHITE RESIDENTS TO REMAIN IN AREAS OPENED TO NEGROES

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the rabbinical organization of Reform Jewry, called on white homeowners yesterday to remain in neighborhoods that are being opened up to Negroes.

In a statement issued by the Conference's committee on justice and peace headed by Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld of Cleveland, in connection with its annual race relations Sabbath message, the organization declared:

"In areas where housing becomes available which Negroes can afford, we must persuade white residents to remain and become good neighbors to the newcomers. Efforts of black and white together must insure that when Negroes move they shall be able to leave ghettoization behind."

The statement said that much remains to be done by Congress, Justice Department and state legislative bodies to further and to guarantee "liberty and justice for all."