

# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

## Latest Cable Dispatches

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### LATEST PALESTINE DEVELOPMENTS

Widespread violence broke out anew in Palestine. Arabs ambushed a Jewish bus and four private cars traveling from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, wounding two Jews, one of them seriously, and three British soldiers. The soldiers were seriously injured when they rushed to the scene of the ambush thirteen miles outside of Jerusalem. The pitched battle that ensued between the troops and the Arabs was still being waged at 7:45 P.M. Palestine time. In the private cars were prominent Jewish leaders.

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Fears that the Moslem Sabbath today would see new bloodshed were expressed when it was learned that some Arabs had warned Jewish friends to stay off the streets.

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That the Palestine Government was also expecting violent outbreaks was seen from a War Office announcement in London that a battalion of British troops has been rushed to Palestine from Cairo.

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On orders from the chief rabbinate, prayers were said in all Palestine synagogues today that the disorders might be terminated. A fast was observed by orthodox Jews throughout the country on suggestion of the Agudath Israel.

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In London Sir Herbert Samuel, addressing a conference of the League of Nations Union, declared that despite the disturbances in Palestine, withdrawal of the Balfour Declaration was impossible. Also in London, Vladimir Jabotinsky at a press conference bitterly arraigned the Palestine Government for failure to take proper measures to quell the disorders.

## 2 JEWS, 3 SOLDIERS WOUNDED IN PITCHED BATTLE WITH ARAB GANG

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- Two Jews and three British soldiers were wounded today during a pitched battle that took place thirteen miles from Jerusalem when an Arab gang ambushed a Jewish bus and four cars in which a group of noted Jewish leaders were riding.

The soldiers and one of the Jews, Isaiah Fishman, were seriously injured.

Among the passengers in the private cars were Eliezer Kaplan, treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, A. Katznelson of the Jewish National Council, and Eliahu Dobkin and A. Barlass of the Palestine executive of the Agency.

When the Arabs opened fire into the crowded Jewish bus and its convoy, en route from Tel Aviv to this city, the cars sped ahead and notified the British troops.

Lorries carrying soldiers immediately rushed to the scene and engaged the Arab gangsters in battle which was still being waged at 7:45 Palestine time.

### 6 Arab Bomb Throwers Arrested

The British soldiers wounded were shot during the battle. They were not in the bus at the time it was ambushed. The Jewish wounded, including Luba Pesis, who was slightly injured, were taken to the Hadassah Hospital here.

Six Arabs who threw bombs from a speeding automobile into another crowded Jewish bus leaving Tel Aviv were arrested. No casualties were reported.

Arms were distributed to Tel Aviv firemen who, starting today, are replacing traffic police. Simultaneously Jewish policemen were withdrawn from the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border districts and replaced by British policemen.

Despite the curfew imposed on all railways throughout the country and the presence of special guards along all railroad tracks, Arabs bombed a railroad bridge at Tulkarem.

### Jews Warned of New Violence Today

It was reliably learned today that the Arabs are preparing serious demonstrations for tomorrow, the Moslem Sabbath. Some Arabs, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed, have quietly notified their Jewish friends not to appear on the streets because bloodshed is possible.

One Arab was gravely wounded by a British policeman when he fired as he was being searched for arms.

Bombs were thrown by Arabs at the home of the district officer in Beisan and the home of a British sergeant at Beit-Vegan.

Five hundred trees were uprooted at Gan Shlomeo, near Hedera.

Three shots were fired at the Jewish police captain, A. Silver, in Jerusalem. The shots missed their aim.

#### Prayers to End Disorders Said in All Synagogues

Intercessory prayers and recital of psalms were held throughout Palestine today by order of the chief rabbinate.

Jews in Safed, fearing attacks by aroused Arabs, sent a call for help to Jerusalem. Safed was the scene of serious anti-Jewish disorders during the Arab outbreak in 1929.

A transport of the Palestine Potash Co. was attacked and shot at on the road between Jerusalem and Jericho. No casualties were reported.

Orange trees numbering 830 were uprooted during the night in the vicinity of the American colony of Raanana and near the Jewish settlement of Herzliha.

Several fires were extinguished, including one set near the Palestine Electric Station on the Yarkon River.

Pinchas Ruttenberg, founder of the Palestine Electric Corp., visited High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope for two hours to discuss the question of security.

The Arab Supreme Council, which is directing the anti-Jewish strike, sent a delegation to Emir Abdullah, Arab ruler of Transjordan, to insist on his intervention in behalf of the Palestine Arabs. The Emir had previously advised the leaders to end the strike.

The Christian Arab daily, Falastin, was closed for four days by the authorities.

#### MORE TROOPS RUSHED FROM CAIRO TO PALESTINE

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) -- The First Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders was rushed to Palestine from Cairo today in an effort to stem disorders that have taken the lives of 26 Jews, 16 Arabs and one Christian since April 19.

The new infantry, with other recent reinforcements, brought the military forces in Palestine to 3,500 -- almost double the normal garrison -- including armored cars, tank corps and air forces.

The normal Palestine garrison is 1,970 men of all ranks, including 1,766 infantry troops.

Police numbering 3,000 are also on hand to cope with the disorders. They include 1,800 Arabs, 800 Britons and 400 Jews.

Recent reinforcements include the first battalion of the Royal Scots Fusileers and one company of the Royal Tank Corps.

The normal Palestine garrison includes the first battalion of the Loyal Regiment; the second battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; one company of the Royal Army Service Corps; one detachment of the Royal Army Medical Corps; two detachments of armored cars and one squadron of the Royal Air Force.

The normal Egyptian garrison comprises 9,956 men of all ranks, but this number has been greatly increased as a result of the African situation.

BALFOUR DECLARATION CAN NOT BE WITHDRAWN, SIR HERBERT SAMUEL SAYS

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) -- regardless of the disturbances in Palestine it is impossible to believe that the Balfour Declaration can be withdrawn, Sir Herbert Samuel, noted British Jewish statesman and the first High Commissioner for Palestine, declared today.

Sir Herbert spoke at the refugee conference of the League of Nations Union which is meeting at the London School of Economics.

"At the moment Palestine is seriously disturbed," Sir Herbert said, "but no one can imagine that the Balfour Declaration favoring establishment of a Jewish national home there and promising facilities for its establishment can be withdrawn. That declaration has been endorsed by all the chief nations of the world and by the League of Nations.

"On the faith of it, 300,000 Jews went to Palestine and have thrown in their fortunes with the country. On the faith of it, some ten million pounds of capital has been invested there and it is certain that, whatever means may be necessary to restore tranquility, stoppage of immigration into Palestine and repeal of that part of the mandate cannot be among them."

Referring to alleged Arab grievances, Sir Herbert denied that the Arabs had been injured culturally or economically by Jewish immigration, declaring that economically the Arabs' condition is far better than ever.

Discussing migration plans of the Council for German Jewry, Sir Herbert said it was necessary to set aside much larger sums for the development of Palestine.



"A considerable part of the three million pounds which is to be raised must be devoted to that purpose," he declared.

The refugee problem is too large and intricate to be handled privately, the conference was told by Lord Rutherford, who presided.

"It seems to me," he declared, "the League of Nations ought to represent the collective conscience of mankind and the collective conscience of mankind demands that the League should not only show sympathy but take active steps to assist them to find new homes. I think we delude ourselves if we suppose that this is a temporary problem. It is to be hoped that an organization with ample powers and funds will be set up by the League to help and to advise on this urgent problem."

#### JABOTINSKY ASSAILS PALESTINE'S HANDLING OF DISTURBANCES

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government was sharply criticized today by Vladimir Jabotinsky, president of the New Zionist Organization and a leader of the Jewish Legion which helped conquer Palestine for the British, for failure to take measures to prevent the current disturbances.

Speaking at a conference of newspapermen, Mr. Jabotinsky charged the Government with dilatory tactics after the disturbances had started.

Condemning the authorities for their failure to make possible Jewish self-defense, Mr. Jabotinsky said:

"The proper and indispensable course was the establishment of legalized Jewish self defense, fully trained and equipped. Existence of such a body would put the Palestine Government in a position of being able to carry out the policy of the Balfour Declaration and the mandate without fear of Arab intimidation and without fear that Arab opposition might involve the imperial Government in heavy military expenditure."

Mr. Jabotinsky attacked the proposal to send a Royal Commission to investigate the disorders as a concession to Arab violence and intimidation and an effort to satisfy the Arabs. He warned that Jews must view the scheme with the gravest apprehension.

#### WILL PROTECT PALESTINE TO FULL, BALDWIN TELLS COMMONS

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) -- Cheers greeted the declaration by Prime Minister Baldwin in the House of Commons today that the "Government responsible for the administration and protection of Palestine intends to discharge its responsibilities to the full."

Mr. Baldwin's statement was made in answer to a demand by J.A. Leckie, National Laborite, that Great Britain "make it clear in unmistakable terms" that she will not brook Italian interference in Egypt and Palestine and will consider any attempts in that direction as unfriendly acts.

### PALESTINE ISOLATED WHEN ARABS CUT PHONES, TELEGRAPH WIRES

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- Palestine emerged today from a night of complete isolation from the rest of the world after Arab terrorists had cut inland and foreign telephone and telegraph wires.

Telephone service to Cairo was restored this morning and some of the inland lines, but many parts of the country were still cut off from Jerusalem.

The Cairo, Beirut and London communications were among those cut. Britons, who replaced Arabs in the Post Office last night, gave notice that incoming and outgoing cables would be delayed indefinitely.

### MUFTI PROTESTS AGAINST TEL AVIV HARBOR

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- Jerusalem's Grand Mufti, Haj Amin el Husseini, called on High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope today to protest against the new harbor at Tel Aviv which the all-Jewish city has inaugurated to rival Jaffa's harbor, tied up by the Arab general strike for the past five weeks. The Mufti is a member of the Arab Supreme Council which is pressing the strike against Jewish immigration and sale of land to Jews.

### AMBASSADOR ROSSO DENIES ITALIAN COMPLICITY IN PALESTINE DISORDERS

WASHINGTON, May 21. (JTA) -- Italian Ambassador Augusto Rosso denied today reports that his Government was responsible for the Arab general strike and disorders in Palestine and charged the reports "originate from anti-Italian propaganda."

Replying to an inquiry from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, he said in a letter:

"I wish to state that the Italian Government categorically and strongly denies having anything to do with the Arab strikes and troubles in Palestine. It is obviously clear that the rumors which have been spread to this effect originate from anti-Italian propaganda."

British newspapers have charged that Italian agents are fomenting the Holy Land disorders to embarrass Great Britain in the Italo-Ethiopian situation.

### FIRM TO DEVELOP HARBOR FORMED IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, May 21. (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv Harbor Development Co. was formed this afternoon to develop the new harbor at this all-Jewish city. The company has a capitalization of 150,000 pounds sterling of which one third will be raised in Palestine by the offering of 5,000 shares of stock at £5 (about \$25) per share.

### JERUSALEM COUNCIL ORDERED TO BOYCOTT STRIKING FIRMS

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government today ordered the Jerusalem municipal council to break contracts with firms observing the Arab general strike against Jewish immigration and sale of land to Jews, now in its fifth week.