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PLOT ON MUFTI'S LIFE CHARGED; ARAB GANGLADER SLAIN

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- An Arab gangleader was killed by police near Acre and a suspected plot against the life of Grand Mufti Haj Amin el Husseini failed while Arab bands increased their activity over the weekend.

In Haifa, an Arab was instantly killed and his wife died in a hospital after they had been attacked in their home by unidentified persons who threw their bodies near the Jewish-owned Egged bus station. Several Hauranis were later arrested.

Ismail Abdulchak, notorious Lebanese gangleader who operated on the Syrian-Palestine borders since the beginning of the Palestine disturbances of 1936, was killed in an engagement with Palestinian and Lebanese police near Acre.

A police communique said a party of Jews reported that 15 shots were fired at them late Saturday evening from both sides of the road near St. Stephen's Gate. A few minutes later the Mufti passed with his bodyguard. Noticing two armed men standing by an automobile and fearing an attempt on his life, Husseini removed his turban while the bodyguard searched the car, but found no arms. Meanwhile, a large Arab crowd assembled and threatened to kill the Jews, but the Mufti shielded them.

The Jewish travelers said they had seen a man fire into the air after which fifteen shots were immediately fired at them. The Mufti's statement to the police mentioned no shots but stressed that he saw two Jews standing by a parked car, one with a revolver. He later directed that the car be allowed to proceed without molestation, the Mufti stated.

The incident was described by Egyptian newspapers as a Jewish attempt on the Moslem leader's life, it was reported here.

Attacks on police and Arab villages by bandits in various parts of Palestine were reported.

Representatives of Jewish colonies in Samaria visited Assistant District Commissioner Morris Bailey today demanding an increased number of supernumerary policemen for security. Mr. Bailey said the Government had decided to increase the number but district commissioners were trying to maintain the status quo.

ABDULLAH REPORTED NEGOTIATING FOR JEWISH ENTRY INTO TRANSJORDAN

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- London reports reaching here today said that Emir Abdullah, Arab ruler of Transjordan, was negotiating with prominent statesmen to allow Jewish immigration into Transjordan.

Entry of Jews into the British-mandated territory, where they are now barred, would be contingent on their possessing no political rights and never exceeding a one-third proportion in the population, the reports stated.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT ABSENT AS MANDATES COMMISSION MEETS

GENEVA, May 31. (JTA) -- The Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations opened its thirty-first session today with its president, Marquis Theodoli of Italy, absent. Vice-President Pierre Orts of Belgium presided.

A section of the Italian press has been carrying on a campaign against the British administration in mandated Palestine and the movement to establish a Jewish homeland there, but the present session of the commission will not consider Palestine problems. The rapporteur stated that the Palestine question will be considered by an extraordinary session of the commission at the end of July.

The commission elected Mr. Orts president for the current year by a vote of 6 to 1. William Rappart was elected vice-president by 4 to 3 votes.

UNCERTAINTY SEEN CAUSING COMMERCIAL STAGNATION IN PALESTINE

LONDON, May 31. (JTA) -- Uncertainty on Great Britain's Palestine policy, redefinition of which is awaiting the Royal Commission's report, has resulted in a state of commercial stagnation in the Holy Land, it was declared at a general meeting of the Anglo-Palestine Bank, by Louis Istorik, director.

"So long as no definite, satisfactory policy has been evolved," he stated, "Palestine is bound to remain in a state of uncertainty which weighs heavily on the minds of investors and the business community."

...and uncertainty and consequent stagnation now dominate the picture and there is little hope of revival until a satisfactory political settlement has been achieved.

"The directors are convinced the problem with which the Mandatory Government is contending is less formidable than represented. If there only existed the firm resolution to carry out loyally, without wavering, the obligations of the Mandate, most of the difficulties would melt away. Then it would be seen that the country is able to absorb a large immigrant population which is the main factor in development and prosperity.

"I am happy to tell the bank that it has in no way suffered from the year's events."

TWO JEWS KILLED IN POLISH VILLAGE; SECOND BRZESC VICTIM DIES

WARSAW, May 31. (JTA) -- Two Jews were murdered in the East Galician village of Hojow yesterday while the death of a watchmaker brought to two the death toll in the May 18 riots in Brzesc (Brest-Litovsk). Josef Bester and his wife, Zisel, both 73 years old, were slain and their house set afire. The murderers escaped.

The watchmaker, Baruch Silberberg, 47 years old, died in the Jewish Hospital here of head injuries received when his shop was stoned on May 18. Two operations were unavailing. Before his death he asked to be buried in his native city of Brzesc. He left a wife and two small children.

The authorities refused to permit the transfer of Silberberg's body to Brzesc. It was decided to bury him instead in the Warsaw Jewish cemetery, and the Jewish community assigned a grave of honor.

Meanwhile, a Jewish woman, Gitel Gruenberg, who was seriously injured in the rioting, was brought to a Warsaw hospital for an operation.

The Socialist organ, Robotnik, continuing a fund-raising campaign for the riot victims in Brzesc, announced a half-zloty (ten-cent) contribution from the well-known writer-peasant Josef Lukomel "because I cannot afford more."

A court sentenced twelve Jewish youths to jail terms of eight to forty days each for disorderly conduct during last week's two-hour protest strike against the Brzesc disorders.

A Cracow district court acquitted 24 Christian youths accused of participating in anti-Jewish excesses during which a number of Jews were beaten up.

The Warsaw newspaper Dziennik Narodowy urged Polish traders to hasten to Brzesc and set up business before the Jews, many of whose wares were destroyed during the riots, would have time to obtain new goods.

... Jewish merchants were beaten after they had
...
Jutra Pracy, organ of ex-Premier Slawek, founder of
the Government Party, demanded the ousting of the Jews from banking,
trade and industry.

The Jewish Community of Czechanowicz appealed to Jewish traders not
to appear at market day today "owing to the present tension in our
district" of Zloczow in East Galicia.

Authorities Accused of 'Indifference' In Brzesc Riots

Senator Jacob Trockenheim demanded that Premier Skladkowski take
disciplinary action against Governor de Tramecourt and other off-
icials of Polesia Province for failure to suppress the Brzesc ex-
cesses.

In an interpellation in the Senate, Senator Trockenheim charged the
Polish authorities with maintaining "an indifferent attitude that
served to encourage the peasant mob as well as the so-called intelli-
gentsia in the belief that Jewish life and property were no longer
under protection of law."

The authorities, he declared, were frequently warned by Jewish lead-
ers of excesses but preventive measures were not taken.

"When representatives of the perplexed Jewish community," the Senat-
or said, "visited the District Chief immediately the disturbances
began, to ask for protection, they were informed the Jews must have
given provocation. When the Jewish representatives handed him a
list of names of police officials who had stood by during the morn-
ing scenes of robbery and violence, he did not even trouble to make
note of the names.

"The Jewish representatives then went to Governor de Tramecourt, who
did not receive them until six in the evening. Then the Governor
began a discussion of the question of kosher meat. Following the
interview with the Governor, robbery and violence grew worse, be-
cause of the continued indifference of the authorities.

"At one a.m., sixteen hours after the beginning of the excesses,
police patrols deigned to say to the pogromists: 'Please do not
stand about in groups.' At that time there was nothing left to
pillage."

Besides disciplinary action against officials of the province and
city, Senator Trockenheim asked immediate Government relief for the
victims of the pogrom.

POLISH PHYSICIANS' PARLEY REJECTS "ARYAN PARAGRAPH"

LWOW, May 31. (JTA) -- A conference of Polish physicians has adopted,
with only three dissenting votes, a resolution opposing introduction

of the "Aryan paragraph" barring Jews although the Warsaw Physicians' Union had adopted such a resolution and sent a delegation here to defend it.

The meeting also decided to call a general conference of Polish physicians to protest against the anti-Semitic action taken by the Warsaw union.

Ban on Jewish Nurses at Congress Overruled

WARSAW, May 31. (JTA) -- The Union of Jewish Nurses of Warsaw has obtained authority from international nurses' headquarters to attend a congress in London July 1 despite a ban on "non-Aryan" delegates imposed by the Executive of the Polish Union of Nurses.

The Executive objected to the departure of a Jewish delegation after it had introduced the "Aryan paragraph," but the Jewish union approached the International Bureau of Nurses' Association in London and received a reply that its demand for representation was justified.

GERMAN PROTESTANTS HIT NAZI DEIFICATION OF RACE

BERLIN, May 31. (JTA) -- The National Confessional Synod, in special instructions to Protestant pastors for combating Nazi propaganda and interference in church life, has criticized National Socialist deification of race.

"The one-sided deification of racial and biological values and concrete accomplishment has created a hard-heartedness regarding the 'inferior and useless' which is a contradiction of brotherly love," the instructions said.

NAZIS HIT AUSTRIA FOR PERMITTING JEWISH CONGRESS SESSIONS

VIENNA, May 31. (JTA) -- The official Politische Korrespondenz today charged the German Government with a "gross breach" of last July's Austro-German accord for permitting the Nazi organ, Der Angriff, to attack Austria in connection with the holding of the World Jewish Congress Administrative Committee session in Vienna.

The attack on Germany was the first to appear in the official Austrian newspaper since the agreement was reached last July. Der Angriff, organ of German Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels, had criticized the Austrian Government for allowing the congress to conduct anti-German boycott propaganda, as the Angriff termed it, in Vienna.

The Politische Korrespondenz said: "If Der Angriff reports the German population of Vienna assaulted with rubber truncheons and sabers while the Jews are permitted to carry on with wonted arrogance, then such official German reporting constitutes a gross breach of the July agreement."

RUMANIA CLOSES B'NAI B'RITH QUARTERS

CZERNOWITZ, May 31. (JTA) -- The authorities have closed the B'nai B'rith lodge here on orders of the Interior Ministry, it was disclosed today, and also raided the fraternal order's headquarters in Strada, Janku and Plondor, sealing the buildings.

B'nai B'rith administered a number of philanthropic and welfare institutions here, including the Jewish Tuberculosis Union and the Jewish Society for the Protection of Children.

MASS DEPORTATIONS OF JEWS FROM PORTUGAL DENIED

LISBON, May 31. (JTA) -- The newspaper Diaro de Noticias denied today reports in Paris that Portugal was deporting Jewish refugees as such.

"No mass deportation of Jews has been made here," the paper said. "Aliens deported recently were considered undesirable by all countries. By a strange coincidence the majority of those deported are Jews. Foreign Jews in Portugal are subject to the general legislation regulating the entry and residence of foreigners. No Jews need, therefore, to fear that their situation will become serious in this country.

"Nor is it necessary for Portugal to adhere to the Refugees' Convention proposed by the League of Nations giving refugees almost the same privileges enjoyed by natives."

REFORM RABBIS' CONVENTION APPROVES TREND TO RITUAL

COLUMBUS, May 31. (JTA) -- Backing the presidential message of Dr. Felix A. Levy calling for a return of Reform rabbis to traditional practice, the 48th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis yesterday, without dissent, approved the trend to ceremonial and ritual practice in religion.

The convention, at its closing session, also protested "against the unfair limitation of Jewish immigration into Palestine and against any curb on the full development of Jewish life in Palestine." The protest was sent to President Roosevelt and to the State Department for transmission to the British Government.

Another resolution adopted unanimously condemned Fascist forces in Spain, expressed sympathy with the Loyalists and condemned nations which have sent armed forces into Spain.

Rabbi Max C. Currick, of Erie, Pa., was elected president of the C.C.A.R., and the following other officers were named: Rabbi Emil W. Loipziger, New Orleans, vice-president; Rabbi Harry S. Margolis, St. Paul, treasurer; Rabbi Isaac E. Marcuson, Macon, Ga.; recording secretary, and Rabbi Samuel M. Gup, Columbus, corresponding secretary. Rabbi Levy, the retiring president, was elected member of the executive board.