

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### JEWS ALONG ENTIRE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER SLATED FOR EXPULSION BY NAZIS

VIENNA, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- IT WAS RELIABLY LEARNED TODAY THAT EXPULSION OF JEWS RESIDING WITHIN 50 KILOMETRES OF AUSTRIA'S EASTERN FRONTIER WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE A STRETCH 50 KILOMETRES WIDE ALONG THE ENTIRE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER, INVOLVING THOUSANDS OF JEWISH FAMILIES OF UPPER AND LOWER AUSTRIA, BAVARIA, SAXONY AND SILESIA.

TO DATE EXPULSIONS OF JEWS, TOTALLING SEVERAL HUNDRED, HAVE BEEN CONFINED TO THE BURGENLAND PROVINCE, WHICH LIES EAST OF VIENNA AND BORDERS BOTH CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HUNGARY. (A PRAGUE DISPATCH YESTERDAY REPORTED THE EXPULSIONS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT ON DIRECT ORDERS FROM BERLIN "FOR STRATEGIC REASONS.")

ALL JEWS NOW HELD AT THE DACHAU, GERMANY, CONCENTRATION CAMP WILL GO TO PALESTINE AFTER THEIR RELEASE, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY. CERTIFICATES FOR ENTRY TO PALESTINE HAVE ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED FOR THREE JEWISH LEADERS INTERNED AT DACHAU. RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATES IS ANTICIPATED SHORTLY.

IT WAS DECREED TODAY THAT NAZI COMMISSARS FOR AUSTRIAN ENTERPRISES, INCLUDING FOREIGN-OWNED SHOPS WITH BRANCHES IN AUSTRIAN PROVINCES, WILL BE APPOINTED UNTIL OCTOBER 1. THE DECREE EMPHASIZES THAT WHERE COMMISSARS ARE IN CHARGE, PRACTICALLY ALL OWNERS' RIGHTS ARE SUSPENDED. SALARY OF THE COMMISSARS, IT IS STATED, IS TO BE PAID BY THE BUSINESS IN PROPORTION TO ITS FULL ECONOMIC CAPACITY WHETHER OR NOT THE CAPACITY IS FULLY USED. COMMISARS ARE ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN HUNDREDS OF AUSTRIAN ENTERPRISES, MOSTLY JEWISH-OWNED.

TO ASSURE THE "PURITY OF GERMAN BLOOD," THE ILLEGITIMACY LAWS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO FACILITATE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHILD'S PARENTAGE. THE HUSBAND IS NOW ABLE TO ATTACK THE LEGITIMACY OF A CHILD AT ANY TIME WITHIN A YEAR AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF ILLEGITIMACY, INSTEAD OF A YEAR AFTER BIRTH.

THE NEW LAW EMPHASIZES THAT STRONG EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ESTABLISH A CHILD'S RACE. IN ALL CASES OF ILLEGITIMACY THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, INSTEAD OF THE HUSBAND ONLY, IS GIVEN THE RIGHT TO INSTIGATE PROCEEDINGS WHERE IT IS HELD IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST. FURTHERMORE, MEDICAL INQUIRY AND BLOOD TESTS WILL BE PERMITTED AS ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

### DACHAU PRISONERS TO GO TO PALESTINE ON RELEASE

VIENNA, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- JEWISH LEADERS HELD AT THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP IN DACHAU, GERMANY, ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE 15 MARKS WEEKLY AND TO EXCHANGE LETTERS WITH THEIR FAMILIES ONCE A WEEK, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

DR. DESIDER FRIEDMANN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY, AND JAKOB EHRLICH, FORMER VIENNA COUNCILLOR, ARE QUARTERED TOGETHER. ROBERT STRICKER, ZIONIST LEADER AND PUBLISHER, IS QUARTERED WITH THE SCHIFFMAN BROTHERS, WHOSE DEPARTMENT STORE WAS DESPOILED IN THE GENERAL LOOTING OF JEWISH SHOPS AFTER ANSCHLUSS.

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LEAGUE ACTION ON EMIGRATION FROM AUSTRIA URGED

GENEVA, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- A SECOND PETITION ON AUSTRIA WAS ADDRESSED TODAY TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS COUNCIL BY THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, ASKING THAT URGENT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE QUESTION OF EMIGRATION OF AUSTRIAN JEWS.

THE PETITION CITES THE "REVOLTING EXPROPRIATIONS AND BANISHMENT" OF JEWS IN THE BURGENLAND PROVINCE AND CALLS ATTENTION TO THE DESPERATE SITUATION OF AUSTRIAN JEWS WHO ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY YET FIND OTHER COUNTRIES HERMETICALLY CLOSED AGAINST THEM.

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EGYPT STOPS VISAS IN VIENNA

CAIRO, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AT VIENNA HAS BEEN GIVEN UNCONDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO ISSUE VISAS HENCEFORTH, IT WAS ANNOUNCED HERE TODAY.

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SWITZERLAND, ECUADOR ACCEPT U.S. REFUGEE PLAN

WASHINGTON, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- THE STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SWITZERLAND AND ECUADOR HAVE ACCEPTED SECRETARY CORDELL HULL'S PROPOSAL ON INTERNATIONAL AID TO REFUGEES, MAKING A TOTAL OF 28 NATIONS WHICH HAVE REPLIED FAVORABLY, ITALY ALONE REJECTING THE PLAN.

IN ACCEPTING, SWITZERLAND STATED THAT IT PREFERRED THAT THE CONFERENCE BE HELD ELSEWHERE THAN IN THAT COUNTRY, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED AS THE SCENE OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON REFUGEES. BERNE SUGGESTED A COUNTRY MORE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE PROBLEM.

REPLIES ARE STILL AWAITED FROM FOUR BRITISH DOMINIONS, INVITED SEPARATELY.

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CANADA ANSWERING SOON

OTTAWA (JTA) -- ON THE EVE OF THE EASTER RECESS OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT, PREMIER MACKENZIE KING ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE ASKING ASSISTANCE FOR GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN REFUGEES. HE PROMISED AN ANSWER AS SOON AS THE CANADIAN CABINET CONSIDERED THE QUESTION.

HUNGARY CHARGES JEWS HAD "STRANGLEHOLD" ON NATION'S ECONOMIC LIFE

BUDAPEST, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT, EXPLAINING ITS BILL TO RESTRICT JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DECLARED TODAY THAT THE JEWS HAD OBTAINED "A STRANGLEHOLD OVER THE ENTIRE HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC LIFE."

IN A STATEMENT ON ITS LAW "FOR MORE EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BALANCE" OF THE COUNTRY, THE GOVERNMENT EMPHASIZED THAT SINCE 1848, THE JEWISH POPULATION HAD INCREASE FIVEFOLD.

"THIS RAPIDLY GROWING SECTION OF THE POPULATION HAS, DURING THE LAST NINETY YEARS, GRADUALLY OBTAINED A STRANGLEHOLD OVER THE ENTIRE HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC LIFE AND OCCUPIED THE MOST IMPORTANT POSTS," THE STATEMENT ASSERTED.

THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE CHRISTIAN POPULATION OF HUNGARY SUFFERED A GREAT DECLINE, THE GOVERNMENT MAINTAINED, WHILE THE LIVING STANDARD OF THE JEWS NOT ONLY SUFFERED NO DECLINE, BUT EVEN IMPROVED. THE CHRISTIAN SECTION OF THE POPULATION HAS BEEN PUSHED BACK IN THE ECONOMIC, SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL SPHERES SINCE THE TRIANON TREATY, THE STATEMENT CONTINUES, WHICH IMPOSED "THE URGENT DUTY" ON THE GOVERNMENT OF SOLVING THIS PROBLEM IN A RADICAL MANNER TO RESTORE "THE DISTURBED EQUILIBRIUM."

"THE SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM IS PARTICULARLY URGENT IN VIEW OF THE NECESSITY OF PROVIDING JOBS FOR CHRISTIAN YOUTH AND ASSURING THE SONS OF HUNGARIAN PEASANTRY A CHANCE FOR BETTERMENT OF THE SOCIAL STANDING," THE GOVERNMENT STATED.

THE AUTHORITIES ALSO PUBLISHED A DETAILED STATISTICAL TABLE ILLUSTRATING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN POPULATIONS IN HUNGARY AND THE TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE JEWISH POPULATION.

MEANWHILE, A BY-LAW PROVIDING FOR PROPORTIONATE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH CONTRACTORS WAS APPROVED BY THE BUDAPEST MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE. THE RESOLUTION, INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLOR PETROVACZ, WAS STRONGLY OPPOSED BY SOCIALIST KARL PEYER.

COUNCILLOR PEYER DENOUNCED PROPOSED ANTI-JEWISH LAWS AS A DISGRACE, WARNING THAT THE PROPOSED MEASURES WOULD PARALYZE ECONOMIC LIFE AND INCREASE UNEMPLOYMENT. "IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ALLAY UNCHAINED PASSIONS," HE DECLARED. "AFTER THE JEWS, THE CLERGY WILL BE ATTACKED."

THE BY-LAW WAS ADOPTED TOGETHER WITH AN AMENDMENT OFFERED BY VICE-MAYOR KARL LAMOTTE PROVIDING THAT IT WOULD BE ENFORCED ONLY WHEN REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT ORDER.

#### LACK OF FEES FOR CITIZENSHIP DATA DEPRIVING THOUSANDS OF RUMANIAN NATIONALITY

BUCHAREST, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- TENS OF THOUSANDS OF JEWS WILL LOSE RUMANIAN NATIONALITY BECAUSE THEY ARE UNABLE TO PAY THE CONSIDERABLE FEES FOR THE NUMEROUS DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO PROVE THEY ARE ENTITLED TO CITIZENSHIP, A JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY SURVEY REVEALED TODAY.

REVISION OF CITIZENSHIPS HELD BY JEWS, UNDER A DECREE PROMULGATED BY KING CAROL LATE LAST YEAR, IS NOW IN FULL PROGRESS. PERSONS FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE FORMALITIES OF THE REVISION COMPRISE THE BULK OF THOSE BEING DEPRIVED OF THEIR NATIONALITY, THE SURVEY SHOWS.

THEIR FATE IS A PROBLEM WHICH WILL RAISE A SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL ISSUE. ANTICIPATING THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS INTEREST, FOREIGN MINISTER PETRESCU-COMEN ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT HERE:

"RUMANIA WILL AVOID ALL INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL MATTERS OF OTHER STATES AND AT THE SAME TIME IS RESOLVED NOT TO TOLERATE ANY INTERFERENCE, IRRESPECTIVE OF ITS NATURE, IN ITS OWN INTERNAL MATTERS."

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER REFERRED TO THE JEWISH QUESTION, WHICH THE RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS A PURELY INTERNAL AFFAIR, DESPITE EXISTING TREATIES UNDER WHICH RUMANIA GUARANTEED THE RIGHTS OF MINORITIES.

MEANWHILE, ALTHOUGH ABOLITION OF POLITICAL PARTIES HAS RESULTED IN SLACKENING OF ANTI-SEMITIC TENSION, THE PROCESS OF "ROMANIZING" INDUSTRY, TRADE AND THE PROFESSIONS IS BEING CONTINUED BY THE CHRISTEA GOVERNMENT.

THIS IS NO LONGER BEING ACCOMPLISHED BY THE RASH, SPECTACULAR METHODS OF THE GOGA CABINET, BUT METHODICALLY, QUIETLY AND THOROUGHLY. GOGA MEASURES SUCH AS ELIMINATION OF JEWISH CIVIL SERVANTS, PANEL DOCTORS AND CONTRACTORS, ARE BEING RETAINED. THE ANTI-JEWISH PRESS IS PERMITTED TO CONTINUE ITS CAMPAIGN OF HATRED DESPITE THE STRICT CENSORSHIP AND REGULATIONS FORBIDDING POLITICAL PROPAGANDA. NEVERTHELESS, THE COUNTRY IS QUIETER THAN IT HAS BEEN FOR MANY MONTHS, WITH FEW CASES OF ANTI-JEWISH EXCESSES, THE RESULT OF DRASTIC MEASURES BY THE INTERIOR MINISTRY AND THE MILITARY PREFECTS.

#### DENY POPE INVITED HITLER TO CALL AT VATICAN

BERLIN, APRIL 14. (HAVAS) -- BOTH GERMAN SOURCES AND THE OFFICE OF THE NUNCIO TODAY FORMALLY AND OFFICIALLY DENIED REPORTS THAT THROUGH MGR. ORSENIGO, POPE PIUS XI HAD INVITED CHANCELLOR ADOLF HITLER TO CALL AT THE VATICAN WHEN HE VISITS ROME NEXT MONTH. IT WAS CONSIDERED INCREASINGLY IMPROBABLE THAT THE POPE AND THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR WOULD MEET DURING THAT VISIT.

#### JEWS GUARDED AS MOSLEM FESTIVAL OF NEBI MUSA OPENS; DISORDERS CONTINUE

JERUSALEM, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- JEWISH QUARTERS WERE PUT UNDER REDOUBLED GUARD TODAY AS MOSLEMS BEGAN CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF NEBI MUSA (THE PROPHET MOSES), HONORING THE GREAT JEWISH LAW-GIVER, WHO IS ALSO SACRED TO MOHAMMEDANS. THE BRITISH WARSHIP ARETHUSA DROPPED ANCHOR IN HAIFA HARBOR, SUPPOSEDLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CELEBRATION.

A BAND OF ARAB MERCENARIES RAIDED THE VILLAGE OF SEJED IN THE JUDEAN HILLS, KILLING A NOTABLE AND LOOTING HOUSES. THE BANDITS SPOKE A DIALECT UNINTELLIGABLE TO THE ARAB VILLAGERS. THE TOWN OF MIGDAL, NEAR TIBERIAS, WAS SUBJECTED TO HEAVY FIRE DURING THE NIGHT. A JEWISH SETTLER, ABRAHAM ASHEROVITZ, WAS SLIGHTLY WOUNDED. A RAILWAY BRIDGE IN THE TULKAREM DISTRICT WAS SET ON FIRE BY ARAB TERRORISTS.

#### NEW JEWISH COLONY IN NORTHERN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- A NEW JEWISH COLONY, SHAVEI ZION, WAS ESTABLISHED ON JEWISH NATIONAL FUND LAND TODAY NEAR THE PALESTINE-SYRIAN BORDER. THE SETTLERS ARE 50 GERMAN JEWS, FORMERLY PEASANTS IN THE VILLAGE OF KRESSIN, SOUTHERN GERMANY.

#### PALESTINE BARS ENTRY TO 4 DANZIG GIRLS

JERUSALEM, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- FOUR DANZIG GIRLS, AGED 18 TO 20, WERE NOT PERMITTED TO LAND FROM THE POLISH LINER POLONIA ON TUESDAY, IT WAS REVEALED TODAY, BECAUSE THEIR PAPERS WERE HELD TO BE UNSATISFACTORY. THE GIRLS ARE MEMBERS OF A PROMINENT MERCHANT FAMILY WHICH WAS IMPOVERISHED BY THE NAZI BOYCOTT AGAINST JEWS IN DANZIG.

#### ILLEGAL ARREST HELD CAUSE OF TEACHER'S SUICIDE IN HAIFA

HAIFA, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- ZVI SHAPIRO, ATTORNEY, TODAY PROTESTED TO WILLIAM D. BATTERSHILL, CHIEF GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, THAT THE ILLEGAL ARREST OF ABRAHAM SZERESZEWski, POLISH JEWISH TEACHER, HAD CAUSED HIM TO COMMIT SUICIDE IN HIS CELL IN THE HAIFA JAIL.

SZERESZEWSKI, FIRST IDENTIFIED AS AUGUST DREYER, WAS FOUND HANGING FROM A BELT YESTERDAY AFTER HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED ON HIS ARRIVAL ON THE POLONIA FROM DANZIG. HE WAS DETAINED ON SUSPICION OF PASSPORT FRAUD. HE TRAVELLED FROM WARSAW VIA DANZIG ON A GERMAN PASSPORT AND WAS ARRESTED ON SHIPBOARD. HIS SISTER, RIVKA, DIRECTOR OF THE MIZRACHI GIRLS' SCHOOL, WENT TO HAIFA TUESDAY BUT WAS NOT ALLOWED INTO HIS CELL. SZERESZEWSKI, 49 YEARS OLD, LEFT A WIFE AND INFANT CHILD IN WARSAW.

#### EDWIN SAMUEL EN ROUTE FOR U.S.

HAIFA, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- EDWIN SAMUEL, ASSISTANT IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER AND SON OF VISCOUNT SAMUEL, FORMER PALESTINE HIGH COMMISSIONER, IS EN ROUTE FOR NEW YORK ON THE INVITATION OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY. HE IS ON LEAVE FROM HIS POSITION.

#### PASSOVER SPURS APPEALS FOR JEWS ABROAD

NEW YORK, APRIL 14. (JTA) -- THE APPROACH OF PASSOVER HAS SPURRED APPEALS FOR ASSISTANCE TO JEWS OVERSEAS.

HADASSAH ANNOUNCED TODAY IT HAD SENT \$56,000 TO PALESTINE IN TIME FOR PASSOVER, INCLUDING \$35,000 FOR YOUTH ALIYAH, \$23,000 FOR HADASSAH HEALTH WORK AND \$8,000 FOR LAND PURCHASE THROUGH THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, MAKING A TOTAL OF \$650,000 REMITTED TO PALESTINE SINCE OCT. 1.

THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL TODAY SENT \$50,000 TO PALESTINE THROUGH THE PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND AND J.N.F., IN ADDITION TO ITS REGULAR REMITTANCES FOR PALESTINE SETTLEMENT, AS THE U.P.A.'S PASSOVER GREETING TO PALESTINE'S JEWISH COMMUNITY. HIAS HAS SENT \$5,000 TO PARIS AS THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF ITS \$250,000 TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR REFUGEES.

IN A NATION-WIDE BROADCAST FOR THE U.P.A. THIS EVENING OVER A COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM NETWORK, DR. STEPHEN S. WISE SAID THAT THE SPIRIT OF PASSOVER THIS YEAR WAS ENSHRINED IN THE REFUGEE-AID PROPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. ARTHUR M. LAMPORT, TREASURER OF THE U.P.A.'S GREATER NEW YORK CAMPAIGN, WAS ANOTHER SPEAKER.

#### ARAB WORKERS ON JEWISH ORANGE GROVE SANG MUFTI'S HATE SONG

REHOVOTH, PALESTINE (JTA) -- A GROUP OF ARAB WORKMEN, FORMERLY EMPLOYED IN AN ORANGE GROVE HERE, OWNED BY A JEW, WERE LOOKING FOR NEW JOBS TODAY.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THE GROVE, WHO KNOWS ARABIC, WAS PASSING NEAR THE WORKERS, AND OVERHEARD THEM SINGING A DITTY WHICH, ROUGHLY TRANSLATED, RAN AS FOLLOWS: "THE MUFTI IS OUR LEADER. HE'LL DRENCH PALESTINE WITH JEWISH BLOOD AND GIVE IT TO THE ARABS."

#### RAILWAY SABOTAGE MENACES BRITISH DEFENSES IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- THE VULNERABILITY OF AN IMPORTANT POINT IN GREAT BRITAIN'S IMPERIAL DEFENSES IN THE NEAR EAST IS BEING DEMONSTRATED WITH THE SEMI-CRIPPLING OF PALESTINE'S GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND OPERATED RAILWAY BY ARAB TERRORISTS. FOR THE SECOND TIME IN A HALF YEAR THE RAILWAYS HAVE SUSPENDED NIGHT TRAFFIC FOLLOWING THE COUP OF A TERRORIST BAND OPERATING ON THE LYDDA-HAIFA LINE, WHICH CAUSED TWO SERIOUS WRECKS WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

THE PALESTINE RAILWAYS ORIGINATED AS A MILITARY LINE CONSTRUCTED TO SERVE GENERAL ALLEBYN'S ARMY DURING THE WORLD WAR, AND IN CASE OF ANOTHER WAR IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD IT WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION LINK FOR BRITISH TROOPS DEFENDING THE SUEZ CANAL, THE MESOPOTAMIAN OIL FIELDS AND OTHER VITAL STRATEGIC POINTS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND ARABIAN PENINSULA REGIONS.

THE FUTURE OF THE RAILWAYS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE A GOOD DEAL OF WEIGHT IN DETERMINING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S ULTIMATE DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF PALESTINE. ALTHOUGH THIS POINT HAS BEEN LARGELY OVERLOOKED IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION, IT IS A SAFE GUESS THAT IT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION WHICH WILL SOON COME TO PALESTINE TO STUDY THE QUESTION OF BOUNDARIES FOR THE PROPOSED PARTITION OF THE COUNTRY.

A BRITISH ARMY OFFICER HERE RECENTLY REMARKED: "THE JEWS AND ARABS CAN HAVE THE COUNTRY AND DO WHAT THEY PLEASE WITH IT SO LONG AS WE KEEP HOLD OF HAIFA, THE PIPELINE, THE AIR FIELDS AND THE RAILWAY." YET TODAY A FEW SQUADS OF GUERRILLA FIGHTERS AND ARMED PEASANTS ARE CONTESTING THE CONTROL OF THIS RAILWAY WITH THE BRITISH ARMY, AND HAVE SUCCEEDED IN SERIOUSLY REDUCING ITS EFFICIENCY.

DESPITE EXTRAORDINARY PRECAUTIONS AND A CAREFUL MILITARY GUARD, HARDLY A DAY PASSES WITHOUT POWERFUL MINES BEING LAID OR WALLS UPROOTED IN ONE OR MORE PLACES. MILITARY WATCH TOWERS HAVE BEEN ERECTED ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY, AND SOLDIERS ABOARD TROLLEYS AND HANDCARS PATROL THE LINES DAY AND NIGHT, AND TRAVEL AHEAD OF TRAINS AS CONVOYS. ONE SOLDIER HAS BEEN KILLED AND SEVERAL WOUNDED WHILE ON THIS PATROL DUTY RECENTLY, DUE TO THE DYNAMITING OR DERAILMENT OF THE PATROL CARS.

THE HALTING OF NIGHT TRAFFIC, WHICH CONSISTED EXCLUSIVELY OF FREIGHT TRAINS, WOULD HAVE BEEN DISASTROUS TO PALESTINE IF IT HAD OCCURRED A FEW WEEKS EARLIER, SINCE IT WOULD HAVE THROWN CITRUS SHIPMENTS INTO CHAOS. AS IT IS, THE CITRUS SEASON IS DRAWING TO EARLY CLOSE, SO THAT THE EFFECTS OF THE RAILWAY SHUTDOWN ARE NOT EXTREMELY SEVERE. FREIGHT CARS ARE BEING MOVED BY DAY, ATTACHED TO PASSENGER TRAINS. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE TERRORIST ONSLAUGHT AGAINST THE RAILWAYS WAS PURPOSELY DELAYED UNTIL THE END OF THE CITRUS SEASON, SINCE ARABS ARE AS MUCH INTERESTED IN THAT CROP AS THE JEWS.

FOR THE COUNTRY'S BUSINESS, THE HAMPERING OF RAILWAY TRAFFIC IS NOT AT PRESENT A MATTER OF FIRST IMPORTANCE, SINCE THE CITRUS CROP IS OUT OF THE WAY. PALESTINE'S AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORT FACILITIES ARE MUCH BETTER DEVELOPED, FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE RAILWAYS. IT TAKES THREE HOURS TO TRAVEL TO JERUSALEM TO TEL AVIV BY TRAIN IN ANTIQUATED, NOT TOO COMFORTABLE WOODEN COACHES, AND THERE ARE ONLY THREE TRAINS A DAY IN EACH DIRECTION. BY BUS THE TRIP TAKES AN HOUR AND THREE QUARTERS, AND BY THE SMALL CARS WHICH COMPETE WITH BUSES AND TRAMS, AN HOUR AND A QUARTER. BUSES AND CARS LEAVE EVERY FEW MINUTES. TRUCKING BY ROAD IS LIKEWISE FASTER AND MORE CONVENIENT THAN SHIPMENT BY RAIL.

IT IS NOT SURPRISING, THEREFORE, THAT THE RAILWAY IS A TREMENDOUS MONEY LOSER. THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO OPERATE THE LINES PRIMARILY BECAUSE THEY MUST BE KEPT IN CONDITION FOR MILITARY USE IN CASE OF WAR.

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BECAUSE OF THE PASSOVER HOLIDAYS, THE JTA NEWS WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW.

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