

# JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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## NEW BOMBINGS IN PALESTINE; TAX OFFICE IN JERUSALEM, TEL AVIV BANK BLASTED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The current outbreak of terror, which began two weeks ago with the bombing of three Palestine government immigration offices, continued today with time-bombs exploding in a government office here and in a bank in Tel Aviv.

Early this morning a blast destroyed a section of the local offices of the income tax department. The full extent of the damage has not yet been ascertained. Last night two time-bombs exploded on the premises of the Ashrai Bank in Tel Aviv, which is located in a building housing the offices of the government tax department and the Jewish Agency.

The bombs planted in the bank were discovered when police found warnings posted outside its doors advising passers-by to stay clear of the building because it had been strewn with mines. The police immediately threw a cordon around the bank and began searching for the explosives, but two bombs went off before being discovered.

## INTERNAL CRISIS IN JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE "SATISFACTORILY LIQUIDATED"

LONDON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- A report from Jerusalem yesterday that Dr. Chaim Weizmann is determined not to compromise with David Ben-Gurion, was denied today by members of the Palestine delegation which is participating in the negotiations on Palestine being conducted here by Dr. Weizmann with British officials.

Individual members of the delegation all declared that the internal crisis in the ranks of the executive of the Jewish Agency was "satisfactorily liquidated" this week. They added that cables to this effect have been sent to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem and to leaders of various Jewish political parties in Palestine.

Dr. Emil Schmorak, a member of the delegation, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that David Ben-Gurion's return to the post of chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, from which he resigned several months ago, was expected in view of the fact that the cables sent Jerusalem specified that personal matters had been arranged in a manner which would satisfy Ben-Gurion.

## VICHY APPOINTS NEW COMMISSIONER OF JEWISH AFFAIRS TO SUCCEED PELLEPOIX

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The Nazi-controlled Vichy radio said today in a domestic broadcast, reported by United States government monitors, that Charles Du Paty De Clam had been appointed Commissioner-General for Jewish affairs in the Vichy Cabinet, replacing Darquier De Pellepoix whose resignation had been accepted.

A Nazi Transocean Agency broadcast described De Clam as having been Chef De Cabinet in the short-lived collaborationist government of Syria following the surrender of France.

It was reported recently that Pellepoix had been arrested, and subsequently released pending investigation, on charges of misappropriating funds derived from the sale of confiscated Jewish property.

UNRRA DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH PRIVATE RELIEF AGENCIES FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Herbert H. Lehman, director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, yesterday announced that discussions have taken place with voluntary relief agencies concerning the cooperative role such agencies may assume in future operations of UNRRA.

"The discussions have taken place in accordance with the UNRRA agreement and resolutions adopted by the UNRRA council at Atlantic City," the announcement said. "It is probable the many different agencies concerned with emergency needs will furnish relief workers to work together as mixed inter-organizational teams under UNRRA direction. Thus, where voluntary societies wish to participate in relief activities a partnership of effort will be created as a supplement to UNRRA's central program. As the voluntary agencies wish to provide both professional and general relief workers, the method is expected to bring to the many difficult problems of relief a wide range of skills and services knit together in a common effort.

"A similar program is being developed in London where at the present time UNRRA's regional office for European operations is assembling teams for relief service from the Council of British Societies for relief abroad. Training courses for personnel assembled in the United States will be instituted. Miss Mary Craig McGeachy, director of the Division of Welfare, will coordinate these activities in cooperation with the Division of Personnel and Training," the announcement concluded.

CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE REPORTS VATICAN PROTESTS AGAINST MISTREATMENT OF ITALY JEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The National Catholic Welfare Conference reported today that the Osservatore Romano, official organ of the Vatican, has recently carried several front page editorials protesting against the persecution of Jews in Nazi-occupied Italy.

One editorial vehemently assailed a German decree ordering the arrest of all Jews and confiscation of their property "to offset the damages resulting from enemy air incursions." The Vatican newspaper pointed out that the Nazi "explanation" for the arrest of the Jews is specious and that the decree violates all concepts of humanity and the legal rights of the Jews.

Another editorial denied that the Mussolini puppet National Republican Fascist Government had any legal right to disfranchise Italian Jews and place them in the category of "enemy aliens." It also pointed out that Jews are being treated even worse than "enemy aliens" because "no enemy alien is threatened with the complete confiscation of his property, this confiscation is pronounced only in the case of Jews; and it is complete confiscation in spite of the fact that the government decree regards the Jews only temporarily -- for the duration -- as enemies."

NO PUBLIC FESTIVITIES IN JERUSALEM THIS PURIM, JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL DECIDES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The Vaad Leumi, the Jewish National Council of Palestine, today decided that no public festivities are to be held in Palestine this Purim as an expression of sympathy with the Jews in occupied Europe.

A joint Jewish-English-Arab appeal was issued today to the population of Palestine asking aid for 6,000 Greek refugees who recently arrived in this country. A special relief committee composed of Jews, Arabs and Britons has been established under the auspices of the Greek Consul General in Jerusalem.

PROGRAM FOR DISABLED AND DEMOBILIZED VETERANS DISCUSSED AT JEWISH WELFARE BOARD PARLEY

CHICAGO, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- A program of assistance for disabled Jewish war veterans and their reintegration into the life of the community was outlined here today at the meeting of leaders in Jewish center and Army and Navy activities called by the National Jewish Welfare Board, by Mr. Emil N. Baar, chairman of the Army and Navy session of the conference.

For disabled veterans, the JWB, which is an accredited agent of the Veteran's Administration, presents claims and arranges to provide for their special requirements while they are confined in veteran hospitals, Mr. Baar said. Those demobilized soldiers who are ready to be reabsorbed into communal life are assisted by local welfare and youth organizations which receive advice and guidance from the JWB. Reporting on JWB activities for men now in the armed services, Mr. Walter Rothschild disclosed that 100,000 volunteer workers are participating in the activities of 609 Army and Navy committees throughout the country. Rabbi Philip Bernstein reported that 217 Jewish chaplains are now serving with the Army and Navy, of whom 75 are overseas.

Stressing the unity between different religious faiths which has been achieved as a result of the USO and other war-time welfare programs, Frank L. Weil, president of the JWB, addressing a dinner session last night, expressed the hope that this "spirit of unity and understanding can be carried over into our peace-time world to help meet and solve the common problems of rehabilitation."

CONGRESSMAN WILL FIGHT ELIMINATION OF "COMMONWEALTH" FROM PALESTINE RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Rep. James A. Wright of Pennsylvania, co-sponsor of the Palestine Resolution and member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, today announced that he would fight against any attempt to have the resolution amended. He indicated that he thought efforts would be made to eliminate the words "Jewish Commonwealth" in the text of the resolution.

"After studying the question and listening to the testimony," he said, "I am more than ever convinced that the Jews are entitled to Palestine as a matter of right. The Arabs have no claim to Palestine or even to a preservation of their majority status there."

"I agree with Rep. Rogers," he continued, "that the use of the word 'Commonwealth' is a clarification of the declaration. I am personally convinced of the necessity for an ultimate commonwealth to give direction to the work in Palestine and I shall fight to have the resolution go through without weakening."

Wright expressed the belief that establishment of a peaceful post-war world was a pressing problem and that there was no better way of beginning than by solving the Palestine question: "World justice is inconceivable without provision for justice for the Jews," he said. "Why should any oppressed people believe in our desire for world justice unless we now state that we intend to correct the injustice of the White Paper? England has been the leader. She has been forced into hard decisions with steps which involved her very existence. As our fortunes improve, I am sure that the Anglo-Saxon tradition of fair dealing will now persuade her that her course lies along the path shown to her by Balfour, Lloyd George, Churchill and Smuts."

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PREMIERS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN SYMPATHY WITH JEWISH NATIONAL HOME

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia and Prime Minister Peter Fraser of New Zealand are in complete sympathy with the problems confronting the Jewish people and the Jewish National Home in this war, it was reported here today by Dr. Michael Traub, representative of the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish Agency, who arrived in this country last week after completing a campaign for the Keren Hayesod in the two dominions.

During his stay in Australia and New Zealand, Dr. Traub was received by the Prime Ministers and also saw leading representatives of the non-Jewish community. While there he organized "Pro-Palestine Committees" of prominent non-Jews. Included in the committees are leaders in the cultural, political and religious life of the countries. Among those serving on the New Zealand committee are three members of the Cabinet with Major C. F. Skinner, Minister for Rehabilitation, as vice-President. The Australian committee includes the Primate of the Church of England, Archbishop Le Fanu of Perth; the Catholic Archbishop of Australia, Dr. D. Mannix; Premier Dunstan of Victoria and lord mayors of a number of leading cities.

"Of far-reaching importance is the fact that the Prime Minister of New Zealand stated publicly at a meeting held on the occasion of the first New Zealand Zionist Conference, that he hopes and believes that the representatives of New Zealand who will take part in the councils of United Nations, will stand foursquare for justice for the ancient home and the new hope of the Jewish people," Dr. Traub said.

JEWISH COUNCIL FOR RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF PLANS EXPANDED ACTIVITIES IN 1944

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Plans of the Jewish Council for Russian War Relief for expanded activities during 1944 were outlined here today at the third annual meeting of the Council. The 100 delegates from various Eastern and Mid-Western states heard addresses by Senator James E. Murray of Montana, Mayor La Guardia, James N. Rosenberg of the Joint Distribution Committee and Soviet Consul-General Eugene D. Kisslev.

DR. SOLTES APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF YESHIVA COLLEGE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Mordecai Soltes, leading educator and a member of the executive staff of the National Jewish Welfare Board, since 1925, has been engaged as executive director of Yeshiva College. Dr. Soltes, who for the past twenty years has been active in educational and welfare organizations will supervise and direct all activities leading towards the further expansion of Yeshiva College.

CANADIAN ARMY PLANS PASSOVER LEAVES FOR JEWISH SERVICEMEN

OTTAWA, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Defense headquarters announced today that arrangements are being completed to give Jewish members of the Army an opportunity to observe the Passover services. Men of the Jewish faith will be given leaves whenever possible, as well as sufficient time to reach the nearest place of worship.