

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

VOL. XI, NO. 51 (26th year)

Thursday, March 2, 1944

SYRIA AND LEBANON JOIN PROTEST TO U. S. AGAINST CONGRESS RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA) -- Following the example of Egypt and Iraq, the governments of Syria and Lebanon today protested to the United States against the Palestine Resolution now before Congress in Washington. A report from Beirut emphasized that the action was taken with the consent of the parliaments of these two countries which border on Palestine.

At the same time it was officially reported today from Cairo that the Egyptian Government has decided to appeal to Britain to release from internment the Palestine Arab leaders who were deported from the country for their anti-British activities and for provoking anti-Jewish riots. The Egyptian Government emphasized that the release of these Arabs is a prerequisite to formation by Arab groups in Palestine of a united representation to represent them at the pan-Arab talks in Cairo.

Manifesto Condemning Terror in Palestine Issued in Jerusalem

A manifesto protesting against the terrorist outbreaks now current in Palestine was issued today under the signatures of all Hebrew newspapers, except the Hamashkif, daily organ of the Zionist-Revisionist Party.

The manifesto condemns terrorism generally, and expresses anxiety over the acts of destruction committed by "groups of irresponsible men." It declares that these actions are contrary to the will of the Jews in Palestine and warns the terrorists that "the Yishuv will find means of combatting outrages and sabotage." It also pledges full support by the Jewish press in Palestine of the work of "preventing activities which are jeopardizing the Jewish national interests."

Members of Secret Jewish Military Group Arrested in Palestine

LONDON, March 1. (JTA) -- The Under-Secretary of State for Dominions, P. V. Bryce-Evans, speaking in the House of Commons today, reported that several Jews who were arrested in Jaffa at the scene of the bomb explosion there admitted that they were members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, a secret military group formed by Jewish extremists.

The Under-Secretary emphasized that "the recent recrudescence of terrorism in Palestine has taken the form of attacks mainly against personnel of the Palestine police and of outrages against government property." He said that active steps have been taken by the Palestine authorities to round up the elements responsible for the terror.

GERMAN REPORT CLAIMS 240,000 JEWS ARE HELD IN THERESIENSTADT FORTRESS

STOCKHOLM, March 1. (JTA) -- Quoting a German news report, the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet today states that 240,000 Jews of all nationalities are now confined in the fortress city of Theresienstadt, in the Czech Protectorate, after having been deported there from various occupied territories.

The figure given in the Swedish newspaper is considered greatly exaggerated since recent reports from Germany definitely stated that there were only 45,000 Jews interned in Theresienstadt.

MASS MEETING IN LONDON URGES BRITAIN TO ESTABLISH WAR REFUGEE BOARD

LONDON, March 1. (JTA) -- The establishment of a British War Refugee Board similar to the Board established by President Roosevelt to speed rescue and relief of Jews and other Nazi victims in Europe was urged here tonight at a mass-meeting at Central Hall arranged by the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror under the slogan "They Shall Not Perish." The Archbishop of York, Chief Rabbi Hertz and members of Parliament were among the principal speakers.

In the House of Commons today an appeal was directed to the British Government by a number of members, asking the admittance of more Jews from Europe. No direct reply to the appeal was given, but Under-Secretary Osbert Peake, speaking for the Home Office, said: "The difficulty of food and accommodations in Britain is not the most formidable obstacle which confronts the Anglo-American governments in carrying out their joint policy of affording victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war."

Richard K. Law, under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, supplementing the statement of Mr. Peake, reported that the British Government has given 50,000 pounds to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees as the first installment of the half million pounds pledged by Britain for refugee work. A similar sum, "about two million dollars, has been pledged by the government of the United States for the work of the Intergovernmental Committee, he stated.

Mr. Law pointed out that under the new expanded mandate given the Intergovernmental Committee it will have to deal with twenty million uprooted Europeans. "The most important change in the mandate is that refugees from all over Europe now come within the scope of the Intergovernmental Committee which is empowered to spend money for the maintenance, transfer and preservation of the refugees," the Under-Secretary declared. He assured the House of Commons that "the Committee is making every effort to forward its rescue work, consistent with the prosecution of the war."

Britain Rejects Proposal for Establishment of War Refugee Board

LONDON, March 1. (JTA) -- The British Government today rejected a proposal to establish a War Refugee Board in England similar to that established in the United States.

Its decision was announced in the House of Commons by Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Richard K. Law who represented the British Government at the Bermuda Conference. "For constitutional reasons I cannot see how we could imitate the structure of the American War Refugee Board," he said. "Also for practical reasons we would not gain any advantage by imitating." He added that a Cabinet committee concerned with the refugee problem is already in existence in England.

MARTINE JEWISH YOUTH SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR POSSESSING REVOLVER

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA) -- A British military court today sentenced Ouzi Glass, 19, to seven years' imprisonment "with special treatment" for possession of a revolver and three rounds of ammunition.

Young Glass, who is a resident of the village of Yauqr, told the court that his sole reason for possessing the revolver was that he needed it in connection with an invention on which he was working, to convert a revolver into a hand machine-gun.

POLISH SOLDIER GOES ON TRIAL IN PALESTINE FOR MURDERING JEWISH TAXI DRIVER

JERUSALEM, March 1. (JTA) -- The trial of a Polish soldier, Jan Haydamowicz, charged with the deliberate murder of a Jewish taxi-driver in a Polish military camp last December opened today in the Criminal Assize Court here.

The murdered man, Salomon Shuster, together with another driver Dov Blumenstein, was arrested at the camp on the evening of December 19, searched and then confined in a building which was being used as a bath house. The two men heard a Polish officer instructing the guard who had been posted outside the building, that they were to be shot if they attempted to escape.

A short time after midnight, however, the guard told the prisoners that they were free to leave. Despite Blumenstein's warning, Shuster stepped out of the door and was riddled with shots from a Tommy-gun held by Haydamowicz. Thirteen bullets entered his body, which was left lying where it fell until Palestine police came to investigate the shooting the next afternoon.

What the two taxi drivers were doing at the camp, and the reason for their being detained by the Polish authorities has not been brought out. Crown counsel took up all of today's session outlining the prosecution's case against Haydamowicz.

COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO COMBAT RACIAL PROPAGANDA DURING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- A special committee consisting of Joseph Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, former Governor Alfred E. Smith and WALL RAYS, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, has been formed for the purpose of combatting any racial propaganda that may arise in the coming Presidential elections, it was revealed here by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Speaking at a luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Commodore, Dr. Clinchy reported that incomplete returns on the results of a three-week fund-raising drive to further the work of the Conference show that \$100,000 has been collected. Dr. Clinchy said that Dr. George Zeck, president of the American Council on Education, is formulating plans to counteract existing racial and religious antagonism in the field of education.

JEWS IN PALESTINE CONTRIBUTE MORE FOR RESCUE THAN ANY JEWISH GROUP IN THE WORLD

NEW YORK, March 1. (JTA) -- "The Jewish population of Palestine is contributing more per capita toward the rescue of Jews from Europe than any other group of Jews throughout the world," Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, who visited Palestine during his recent tour of Allied fighting fronts, stated today addressing the mid-winter national conference of Hahinukh.

"When we consider that the ordinary Jewish worker in Palestine earns an astonishingly small salary in comparison with standards in this country and that he willingly and even urgently pleads that thousands upon thousands of additional refugees be sent to him so that they may be maintained and rehabilitated no matter what the sacrifice, we realize that Palestine's reiterated plea for increased immigration is a reasoned and inspiring sign of the solidarity of our people," Rabbi Brickner stated.

It was announced at the conference that Hahinukh has set aside the sum of \$10,000 to increase the number of hospital beds, public health nursing, and home care in Palestine, and that a survey is now under way to determine what type of sanatoria will be needed to deal more fundamentally with tuberculosis, which is one of the most infectious diseases now afflicting bedridden and homeless Jews on the European continent.

FEDERATION OF JEWISH CHARITIES ON NEW YORK BARBARIC SPECIAL FUND FOR POST-WAR WORK

NEW YORK, March 1, (JTA) -- Pointing out that it is not too early for Jewish welfare agencies to do post-war planning, "since for the discharged soldier and his family the post-war has already begun," George Z. Medalie, president of the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies of New York, declared last night in his annual report that the annual campaign which the Federation just concluded was "far and away the most successful in our history."

"The community's all-out generosity enables us to do more than meet in full this year's Federation war-time budget," Mr. Medalie said, addressing the 27th annual meeting of the Federation. "We have achieved the larger objective of safeguarding our planning with special funds laid aside for the future. It is reassuring that at a time when the community was giving the fullest and most enthusiastic support to war bond drives and various war relief efforts, that home-front causes were achieving unprecedented public generosity both in New York and throughout the country."

"A number of our agencies," Mr. Medalie continued, "have already been called upon to meet the discharged soldier's problem, whether relating to employment, psychological difficulties or health." These, as well as other of our agencies, are studying the problem and drawing blueprints for their services in the post-war period, so that they will be ready when returned soldiers by the thousands are in our midst, and when the civilian population, too, will need help in bridging the period of post-war readjustment, recuperation and reconstruction.

Pointing to the fact that New York's history in the past 25 years has been one of shifting populations, constantly changing needs and new welfare requirements, Mr. Medalie noted that this problem, common to all the city's philanthropic organizations, was a central one in the Federation's plans toward shaping local welfare services to meet community needs, both today and in the post-war period. "Our New York people are constantly on the march," he said, "and it is our problem to march with them."

Newly-elected trustees-at-large to the Board of the Federation are Benjamin Harris and Slegfried S. Hartman, for three-year terms, and Rabbi Louis L. Newman, for a two-year term. Trustees-at-large re-elected for a three-year term are: Benjamin Abram, Judge Jacob J. Goldstein, L. Edwin Goldwasser, Stanley M. Lerner, Mrs. David M. Levy, Mrs. Richard P. Ribburg, Judge Jacob E. Livingston, Carl M. Loeb, Jr., Walter Rothschild and Edward J. Schwartz.

NEW YORK MAYOR ORDERS ALL CITY EMPLOYEES TO AVOID ASSOCIATION WITH ANTI-SEMITES

NEW YORK, March 1, (JTA) -- Mayor F. E. LaGuardia made public yesterday an executive order to all city departments under his jurisdiction which suggested adoption of departmental rules prohibiting association with known criminals and purveyors of anti-religious or anti-racial propaganda. The Mayor's order, reads as follows:

"Police Commissioner Valentine has written into the rules and regulations of the Police Department the policy of my administration so well that it occurred to me that it should be brought to the attention of all departments where rules and regulations exist. I would suggest that like rules be promulgated so as to fit the requirements and needs and character of his department. Where rules and regulations do not exist, some should serve as a guide for conduct and behavior of your personnel."