

# J T A D A I L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

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

VOL. XI. NO. 61 (26th year)

Tuesday, March 14, 1944

## ROOSEVELT'S VIEWS ON PALESTINE BANNED BY BRITISH CENSORS IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- British censorship in Palestine has held up publication in the local press of last week's statement by President Roosevelt to Zionist leaders, authorizing them to quote him as declaring that the United States Government has never given its approval to the White Paper and that "full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home." At the same time, the censors have permitted the Arab press to publish protests against the President's statement.

Jews in Palestine are considerably cheered by the news of Roosevelt's statement which has been spread here by word of mouth. This news has offset the gloom among Jews which resulted from the shelving of the Palestine resolution by the foreign committees of the House and the Senate in Washington.

Nevertheless, the average newspaper reader here is hardly in a position to formulate in his mind any idea of what is going on in London and Washington with regard to Palestine because of the censorship. Several Hebrew newspapers during the week-end published attacks against the censorship and demanded greater freedom with regard to news not of a military nature. They revealed that the censor went so far as to delete passages from a speech by Churchill in which the British Prime Minister praised the contribution of Palestine Jews to the war effort.

## Arab Kings and Princes Discuss U. S. Attitude to Palestine

The Arab News Agency today reported that "highly important contacts are now taking place between Arab kings, princes and heads of states in connection with the Palestine question and the recent developments in the United States." The report adds that this exchange of views is proceeding with the object of securing joint Arab action.

It was learned here today that Nahas Pasha, Prime Minister of Egypt, expressed doubt as to whether President Roosevelt really authorized Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to state in his name that the American Government has not approved the White Paper and will see to it that justice is done to those Jews who seek a Jewish National Home. The Egyptian Prime Minister, it was disclosed, instructed his minister in Washington to make the necessary inquiries with regard to the authenticity of this statement.

(A public reply to the Egyptian Prime Minister was given by Rabbi Wise last night at a dinner tendered to him at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York by the Jewish Institute of Religion on the occasion of his 70th birthday this week. Rabbi Wise said: "I should like to convey to Nahas Pasha, Prime Minister of Egypt, whom I view with most vehement, but far from unique, detestation that I venture to say nothing by way of answer, except that all of my statement was on the authority of the President of the United States; and was fully written out in advance - even including punctuation - and not by Malcolm MacDonald, author of the White Paper of 1939. I also find savage

glee in observing that Nahas Pasha has at long last emerged from the torpor of his neutrality with regard to the Axis-United Nations conflict, to comment on the conference with the President.)

### Arab Union Sends Protests to Roosevelt; Warns of "Tragedies"

A threatening protest was sent today to President Roosevelt by Fuad Abaza Pasha, president of the Arab Union in Cairo. Denouncing the statement which the President authorized Rabbi Wise and Rabbi Silver to issue, the message said: "Such repeated statements might give rise to tragedies by no means advantageous to the Allied nations."

Although Arab politicians and the Arab press are seeking to prevent any modification of the White Paper policy, especially with regard to Jewish immigration, the Arab masses in Palestine display no interest whatsoever in the problem. Nevertheless, political tension is steadily mounting here as March 31 approaches, the date when Jewish immigration becomes - under the terms of the White Paper - conditional on Arab consent, with the exception of 30,000 Jewish refugees who will be permitted to enter the country after that date.

### STRICTER MEASURES TO CHECK TERROR IN PALESTINE; BUSES HALTED; PEDESTRIANS SEARCHED

JERUSALEM, March 13. (JTA) -- Stricter measures to check terrorism in Palestine were taken during the week-end when the police began searching persons on the streets of Jerusalem during the day. Buses are being stopped and passengers ordered to dismount and submit to searches before being permitted to proceed to their destination.

Hitherto, the police conducted their searches in the evening only. Pedestrians in Jerusalem streets at night run the risk of being halted by roving police patrols. Almost everyone carrying a package is thoroughly searched. No exception is made even for responsible members of the Jewish community. In view of the attacks against the police by members of terrorist groups no patrol is inclined to hesitate if their command is not promptly obeyed by the pedestrian. This resulted in the killing by the police recently of a Jewish barber, Zvi Amramoff.

The case of Amramoff is discussed today in the press by S. Horowitz, noted Palestine lawyer, who demands that it be transferred to the criminal court "which is the only authority to decide whether the homicide was justified." The coroner has exonerated the police on grounds that the victim was given three warnings but failed to obey the command. Horowitz claims that the coroner exceeded his authority in absolving the police.

"If the proposition of the law implied in the coroner's ruling is true, it is positively not safe for any citizen, however lawabiding, to go at any time after dark into a public street carrying in hand any brief-case or other case which to the overheated imagination of some possibly nervous policeman might, in the hands of some terrorist or gangster, serve as a receptacle for bombs or grenades," Mr. Horowitz writes. "If such a citizen should be challenged and should fail to stop, whether for deafness or because he did not realize that the challenge was directed to him, then apparently the policeman would be justified to shoot and kill."

The issue raised by Mr. Horowitz is not merely theoretical but concerns practically every Jew in Jerusalem. Your correspondent has personally seen citizens stopped and searched on the main streets of the city. He has also heard Jewish leaders here recounting their own experiences criticizing the police for their severity.

RUMANIA ARRESTS JEWS MOVING FROM BESSARABIA TO BUCHAREST AS "ILLEGAL RESIDENTS"

ZURICH, March 13. (JTA) -- Jews who are moving from Bessarabia to Bucharest, as the Russian Army gets closer to the Bessarabian frontier, are being arrested in the Rumanian capital as "illegal residents" the Hungarian press reaching here today reports.

The report says that twenty-five such Jews have been sentenced in Bucharest to long-term imprisonment and heavy fines. Action against other Jews who moved to Bucharest "illegally" is pending, the report adds.

The German Transocean News Agency today reports that all Jews in Bucharest between the ages of 54 and 55 have been ordered to register for forced labor within twenty-four hours. Those violating the order will be placed on trial before a military court.

JEWISH AGENCY SAYS ARRANGEMENTS TO SAVE JEWS FROM BALKAN LANDS MUST BE KEPT SECRET

LONDON, March 13. (JTA) -- Members of the Jewish Agency who are interested in saving as many Jews from Nazi countries as possible, today expressed anxiety over the fact that Ira Hirschmann, representative of the United States War Refugee Board in Turkey, has disclosed certain details to the press of the rescue arrangements that are about to be completed, under which Jews will be transported from Bulgaria and Rumania to Palestine.

"Mr. Hirschmann, being new on the job, is unaware that he is handling a most delicate matter," a prominent spokesman for the Jewish Agency said. "Any publicity beyond reporting the groups that have actually been saved is bound to jeopardize the entire action."

ATTENTION FOCUSED ON NEGEB AS ANGLO-AMERICAN DISCUSSIONS ON PALESTINE ARE EXPECTED

LONDON, March 13. (JTA) -- The question of the Negeb, the desert section of Southern Palestine, is again attracting attention in England in connection with Anglo-American discussions regarding Palestine which are expected to take place here soon.

The Manchester Guardian, leading Liberal newspaper, carries an article quoting experts as estimating that water could be secured for 100,000 settlers in the Negeb by preservation of rain water alone, while the possibilities of tapping underground water have not yet been fully explored.

"This experiment," the paper writes, "could be made only by people commanding resources and modern science and engineering, and who are prepared to sink great capital and spare no sacrifice. Only the Jews have these qualifications." The article concludes by expressing the hope that the British Government will not repeat the error made by the Peel Commission and will not separate the Negeb from any projected Jewish state.

Lord Winster, writing in the current issue of Time and Tide, declares that "Jews are a brave people who want to have Palestine not for wealth but for refuge from merciless persecution. To say that the Arab renaissance depends on their controlling Palestine is just as if France would say today that she can never revive unless she has the Channel Islands," he adds.

3/13/44

BRAZIL AGREES TO ADMIT 500 JEWISH REFUGEE CHILDREN FROM FRANCE

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- The government of Brazil has agreed to admit 500 Jewish children from France, the Hias-Ica Emigration Association office here was informed today by its branch office in Rio de Janeiro.

The children will be admitted to Brazil as soon as they are permitted to leave France and reach either Spain or Portugal. Neutral governments on the European continent will be advised of the decision of the Brazilian authorities, so that they will be willing to give temporary asylum to the children before they can be transported to Brazil.

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE TO RAISE \$250,000 FOR JEWS IN OCCUPIED POLAND

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- The Jewish Labor Committee today announced a decision of its national executive committee to launch a campaign for \$250,000 for the Jews in occupied Poland.

At a meeting of the committee held during the week-end at the McAlpin Hotel it was decided, in addition to proclaiming a special drive for the Jews of Poland, to organize a "Ghetto Exhibition" in New York at which documents and pictures showing Nazi mistreatment of Jews are to be displayed. The committee also decided to approach other central Jewish organizations in America for the purpose of proclaiming April 19 - the first day of the revolt in the Warsaw ghetto - as a national Jewish Memorial Day.

ALL MINORITY GROUPS MUST UNITE TO FIGHT DISCRIMINATION, SAYS RACIAL EXPERT

NEW YORK, March 13. (JTA) -- United action by all discriminated against minority groups is necessary if discrimination as a whole is to be combatted successfully, Herbert J. Seligman, well known authority on racial problems states in the current issue of "Crisis," official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, published today.

"Any man discriminated against or disadvantaged because of his color or his creed is the natural ally of every other man so discriminated against," Mr. Seligman writes. "All such men are an acid test of democracy. As long as the discrimination prevails, democracy does not." He cites the formation of Christian-Jewish groups and Negro-White groups as an encouraging sign that minority groups are becoming aware of the need for unity.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC JEWS PRESENT PAINTING TO GOVERNMENT TO MARK CENTENARY OF INDEPENDENCE

CIUDAD TRUJILLO, Dominican Republic, March 13. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of the Dominican Republic marked the centenary of the country's independence by presenting a painting to the government. The painting was accepted by Attorney-General Pablo M. Paulino, on behalf of President Trujillo, at ceremonies attended by high government officials and diplomatic representatives. Dr. Walter Robitschek, president of the Jewish community, made the presentation.