

# JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

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

VOL. XI. NO. 62 (26th year)

Wednesday, March 15, 1944

## BRITISH CENSOR PASSES ONLY ARAB VERSION OF ROOSEVELT'S STATEMENT ON PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA) -- Six days after President Roosevelt authorized Zionist leaders in the United States to quote him as stating that the U. S. Government has never approved the White Paper, the Hebrew press here was finally permitted today to reprint his statement from the Cairo Arab daily newspaper Al Misri.

The Al Misri version of President Roosevelt's statement is featured in all the Hebrew newspapers - which were not permitted by the British censor to carry the exact text of the President's statement as cabled to them verbatim by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency from Washington. The views of President Roosevelt are welcomed by the Jewish papers. The daily newspaper Haaretz expresses the hope that the President's views represent the sentiments of all Allied governments.

## U. S. DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE GOES TO TURKEY ON REFUGEE RESCUE MISSION

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA) -- Patrick Malin, American vice-director of the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees, arrived here today en route to Turkey to study possibilities of rescuing Jews from the Balkan countries. During his stay here, Mr. Malin will confer with officials of the Palestine Government and with members of the Jewish Agency on various aspects of the refugee problem.

It was learned today that the War Refugee Board in Washington has, in addition to appointing Ira Hirschmann as its representative in Turkey, appointed Hooker Doolittle as its representative in Egypt. Mr. Doolittle is attached to the American Legation in Cairo.

Well-informed circles here warned against the belief that any considerable number of Jews will be enabled to escape from Nazi-held territories. Agencies dealing with rescue activities are inclined to believe that Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria are prepared to permit the emigration of Jews from their countries. The German authorities, however, have succeeded in wrecking virtually every agreement reached so far with these countries on the emigration of Jews.

The rapidly altering military situation, especially the fact that the Russian Army is approaching the borders of Rumania and Hungary, will no doubt weaken Germany's ability to block the departure of Jews from the satellite countries, it was predicted. Moreover, there is ground to believe that the satellite governments are more and more inclined to disregard German desires.

The question of providing temporary refuge for the rescued Jews is the subject on which the Jewish Agency has concentrated its attention. All the Jewish refugees could be accommodated in Palestine. The Palestine Government, however, is opposed to the admission of Jewish refugees, except for the 30,000 who can still enter the country under the terms of the White Paper, despite the fact that in the course of the war some 100,000 Polish refugees and a number of Greek refugees have been admitted to Palestine for temporary residence.

PALESTINE RESOLUTION ISSUE RAISED BEFORE HOUSE; FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CRITICIZED

WASHINGTON, March 14. (JTA) -- The question of action by Congress on the Palestine resolution, which has been shelved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee and by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, came up for discussion today in the House, when Rep. Samuel Dickstein of New York announced that he intends to file a petition to bring the resolution before the House, unless the Foreign Affairs Committee acts on the measure by the end of next week. The signatures of 218 Congressmen are required to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill.

Discussion on the Palestine resolution started when Rep. Martin J. Kennedy, of New York, raised the question of whether it would be parliamentary procedure to file a discharge petition. Explaining that such a procedure was permissible, Rep. Dickstein said:

"All members of the House were hoping and waiting for an opportunity to support the resolution which would persuade the British Government - just the guardian for Palestine - to open its doors to the many thousands who could easily get there. But we hear today around the capitol and other places that the Wagner and Wright Resolutions have been tabled in committee."

Congressmen Suggest Omission of "Commonwealth" from Resolution

A suggestion that the word "Commonwealth" be omitted from the Palestine resolution was voiced during today's discussion by Rep. Hamilton Fish, and supported by Rep. Emanuel Celler.

"Are the congressmen just going to make speeches and let it go at that, or are we going to strive to get action from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, even if it is necessary to amend the original proposal?" Rep. Fish asked. "I have an idea that if this thing were put in proper form, that is, in a form which we could come out and repudiate the White Paper and uphold the Balfour Resolution upon which Congress has voted unanimously, we could get action. What I am interested in is action to permit those hounded and persecuted Jews to find a haven, a refuge, a homeland in Palestine."

Rep. Emanuel Celler, in supporting the suggestion to amend the resolution by striking out all references to the establishment of a commonwealth, said: "If we can get that resolution past the House Foreign Affairs Committee without the use of the word 'Commonwealth,' I certainly would be for that proposal. If we get that resolution through and thereby needle and spur England into withdrawing the White Paper and allowing the entrance of Jews into Palestine, even for temporary purposes, we will be going a great long way."

Rep. Ed Rowe, of Ohio, opposed such an amendment saying that it was impossible to "modify" the correction of a wrong. He said that the complaints from Arab governments seemed to be the complaints of "some international politicians, particularly those interested in Empire rights."

In answer to questions from Rep. Walter F. Brehm, of Ohio, and James F. O'Connor, of Montana, Celler charged that England was afraid of the competition that would be offered by a Palestine industrialized by the Jews.

JEWISH DETECTIVE ASSASSINATED NEAR TEL AVIV BY UNKNOWN TERRORIST

JERUSALEM, March 14. (JTA) -- A Jewish plainclothesman, Zeev Jacob Flesh, was shot to death today in front of his home in the settlement of Ramath Gan near Tel Aviv. An unknown assassin fired five bullets into Flesh's body. The policeman, who was 25, was brought to Palestine from Germany ten years ago by the Youth Aliyah.

ANTI-SEMITIC SPIRIT PRESENT IN SCHOOLS RUN BY POLISH GOVT., JEWISH DEPUTY CHARGES

LONDON, March 14. (JTA) -- The reactionary, anti-Semitic spirit which dominated Polish schools before the war is present in the exiled institutions where about 25,000 children are being educated at the expense of the Polish Government-in-Exile, Emanuel Szerer, Jewish Socialist deputy, charged today during a debate on the budget of the Ministry of Education.

Szerer demanded that the government take steps to prevent Polish universities from ever again becoming an instrument of reaction and anti-Semitism. He termed unsatisfactory Educational Minister Kaezynski's formula for national and cultural education for Jews in post-war Poland and demanded the establishment, after the war, of government-financed schools where Yiddish would be the language of instruction.

To insure equal educational opportunities for Jewish students, Szerer urged that a subcommittee on Jewish schools be appointed by the government to assist in advising it on drafting plans for all educational activities.

LONDON TIMES INDULGES IN PRO-ARAB PROPAGANDA; WARNS OF THREAT TO ARAB-BRITISH RELATIONS

LONDON, March 14. (JTA) -- Continuing its pro-Arab policy, the London Times today carries an article from its Cairo correspondent warning the British Government "not to allow a situation to develop in Palestine which could effectively ruin Arab-British relations" The correspondent, obviously under Arab influence, emphasizes that Arab opinion is alarmed at the revival of Zionist activity in America, "particularly as it seems that powerful American Jewry has official support."

The article claims that should matters reach a crisis in Palestine, the Arab countries would be "solidly - and if necessary actively - behind the Arabs." The correspondent asserts that "Arab countries are looking to Britain for support."

Reporting on an interview with Egyptian Premier Nahas Pasha, who told him that the projected pan-Arab Congress will not be held until Palestine Arabs are able to send a delegation, the correspondent quotes the Egyptian Prime Minister as stating that he could not accept responsibility of facing the Congress with the possibility of failure, which certainly would occur unless Palestine Arabs were represented.

Nahas Pasha also stated that the release of Jamal Hussein and Amin Tamini, Arab extremist leaders exiled by Britain in 1937 for provoking anti-British and anti-Jewish riots, was indispensable if "a truly representative delegation from Palestine was to be secured," the article adds. He suggested that the exiled Arabs be permitted to proceed to Egypt if Britain did not wish to allow them to re-enter Palestine.

PALESTINE ESTABLISHES INSTITUTE TO SOLVE HOUSING SHORTAGE; WILL ADVISE ON U.S. METHODS

TEL AVIV, March 14. (JTA) -- A special institute to study the question of the acute housing shortage in Palestine and neighboring countries has been formed here with the cooperation of the Jewish Engineers Association, the Palestine Government, the Hebrew University and the Haifa Technical Institute. The new agency will advise prospective builders on the newest American methods of manufacturing pre-fabricated houses.

Business and labor leaders are studying the possibility of making Palestine a center of new building methods in the Middle East and a source of pre-fabricated houses for the entire area. Palestine possesses eighty-five percent of the necessary building materials, lacking only iron and timber. Large-scale construction activities here, leading economic circles point out, would not only help to solve the housing crisis, but would also provide employment for thousands of workers in the post-war transition period.

WAR REFUGEE BOARD DENIES REPORTS THAT ITS WORK IS IMPEDED BY LACK OF FUNDS

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- John W. Pehle, acting executive director of the War Refugee Board, last night discounted reports that the work of his agency in rescuing people from occupied Europe was being impeded for lack of funds. He emphasized that despite existing obstacles, "every day, every hour, human lives are being saved."

"Reports have circulated that the War Refugee Board is being impeded in its activities for the lack of funds. I want to tell you unequivocally that no project of the War Refugee Board has failed to go forward for lack of funds. The magnitude of no project under consideration by the War Refugee Board has been limited by lack of funds."

Mr. Pehle's message was read at the "Show of Shows," a benefit review in Madison Square Garden arranged by the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People. The audience was also addressed by Dean Alfange and Peter Bergson, leaders of the Committee, who called for free Jewish immigration to Palestine.

YOUNG JEWISH CAPTAIN GETS ELEVEN DECORATIONS; JEWISH GUNNER GIVEN TWELVE AWARDS

NEW YORK, March 14. (JTA) -- The National Jewish Welfare Board today reported that Capt. Robert Bonus, a 22-year-old bomber pilot, is the recipient of eleven decorations for bravery, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and nine Oak Leaf Clusters. Capt. Bonus, who is from San Francisco, has completed fifty missions over North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

S/Sgt. Eugene Light, 23, of New York City, waist gunner aboard a Flying Fortress participating in the assault on Hitler-held Europe, has been awarded an even dozen decorations. Sergeant Light, who has completed fifty bombing missions and is now back in this country, holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and ten Oak Leaf Clusters, the Jewish Welfare Board also reports.

MISS SZOLD GETS HONORARY DEGREE FROM BOSTON UNIVERSITY IN TWO-WAY BROADCAST CEREMONY

BOSTON, March 14. (JTA) -- Miss Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah and head of the Youth Aliyah (which arranges immigration of children from Europe to Palestine) was the recipient here last night of a unique honor, when Boston University, as part of its Founder's Day Institute on Post-War Problems, conferred the degree of Doctor of Humanities on her, via a two-way broadcast between this city and Jerusalem, where she now resides.

This is the first time that Boston University, which has never conferred a degree in absentia, agreed to radio broadcast attendance instead of the actual presence of the person being honored. Mrs. Louis Levin, seventy-year old sister of Miss Szold, came from Baltimore to receive the degree in her sister's name.

Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, president of Boston University, who conferred the degree in his part of the broadcast beamed toward Jerusalem said Miss Szold was to be honored as "a mother in Israel who through organizing and directing the Youth Aliyah had become a joyful mother of ten thousand motherless children." In his citation Dr. Marsh emphasized that Miss Szold was "distinguished for social settlement work in America and in Palestine" and that she was "a scholar, classicist, journalist and accomplisher of unparalleled reclamation work in Palestine."