

U.S. JEWS BARRED FROM IMMIGRATING TO PALESTINE; ROOSEVELT GETS PLEA FOR FREE ENTRY

WASHINGTON, March 30. (JTA) -- Inquiries made by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today in authoritative quarters here elicited the reply that American Jews are barred from immigrating to Palestine as of tomorrow when the British White Paper ban on all new Jewish immigration to Palestine becomes effective.

No distinction will be drawn between American Jews and Jews of other countries with regard to the ban on Jewish entry to Palestine, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told. The State Department could give no information on this subject while the British Embassy refused to make any official statement.

A petition signed by 1,500 American university professors urging President Roosevelt to act in behalf of free entry of Jews into Palestine was submitted to the White House today. The signatories included 71 college presidents and faculty members of 180 schools of higher learning in 41 states.

Declaring that "on the basis of legal right no less than of moral obligation, the Government of the United States is entitled and is called upon to intercede on behalf of the Jewish people," the petition calls on President Roosevelt "to use the influence and power of your high office to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

President Roosevelt's distinction between the military and civil aspects of the Palestine situation at his press conference Tuesday "gives reason to expect that when the military situation crystallizes the problem will be resolved in keeping with the traditional policy of the U. S. Government and the people as expressed in the Palestine resolutions introduced in Congress," Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, said today, at a press luncheon held at the Hotel Statler here. "If the military advises deferment, we accede but at the first available moment when the military situation becomes improved we expect the resolutions to be considered on their merits," he said.

JEWS IN PALESTINE DEPRESSED AS BAN ON JEWISH IMMIGRATION GOES INTO EFFECT TODAY

JERUSALEM, March 30. (JTA) -- Palestine's Jewish population was plunged into gloom today on the eve of the closing of the gates of the country to further Jewish immigration, under the provisions of the British White Paper which become effective tomorrow.

The feeling here of "Remember March 31" is in many respects similar to the "Remember Pearl Harbor" feeling in the United States. Jews in all walks of life and in all parts of Palestine consider the curb on Jewish immigration at the most tragic time in Jewish history, to be not only a violation of the Palestine Mandate and a breach of Britain's promise to establish a Jewish National Home in Palestine, but an obstacle to the rescue of Jews from Europe who could find refuge here.

(A cable by Victor M. Bienstock, special correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency who is now stationed in Jerusalem, containing comment from the Hebrew press in Palestine on the situation there in connection with the ban on immigration, was

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refused clearance by the Palestine censor, according to a cable, passed by censorship, which was received in the New York office of the JTA today.)

Any hope of last-minute intervention by the United States to halt enforcement of the White Paper immigration ban faded yesterday after it became known that President Roosevelt supports the attitude of the War Department and has refused to intervene with the British Government to have the ban on Jewish immigration rescinded. The action of the British Government is considered by experts here to be illegal since the White Paper was rejected by the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations and has never been approved by the League which is the nominal holder of the Palestine Mandate entrusted to Britain.

Arab Consent to Further Jewish Immigration Required

The Jewish population here is especially bitter over the fact that any further Jewish immigration to Palestine -- except for the 20,000 Jewish refugees who can still come in under the unfilled quota -- is contingent on approval by the Arabs. Jewish leaders consider it a breach of faith in view of the fact that the Arabs have taken a "neutral" position in the present war, while the Jews of Palestine have given 40,000 volunteers to the British armed forces, many of whom distinguished themselves in the African campaign.

The White Paper, in addition to stopping further Jewish immigration, also makes the Jewish position in Palestine precarious by prohibiting and restricting sale of land to Jews in Palestine and by providing for the establishment of Palestine as an independent state in 1949, in which the Jews are to be a one-third minority.

(In London, members of the House of Commons today urged the admission of Jewish refugees to Palestine regardless of the quota set by the White Paper. Foreign Secretary Eden was asked to re-admit to Palestine the 1,400 Jewish refugees who were deported as "illegal immigrants" to the Island of Mauritius. He replied that he was "not aware of" this deportation.)

Jewish Extremist Groups Issue Leaflets on Terror in Palestine

The two terrorist groups in Palestine, the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the group known as the "Stern Gang," today issued leaflets making clear their attitude towards the outbreaks which occurred last week in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jaffa, causing the death of several British policemen.

The Irgun, which is an illegal military organization of extremist Jewish youths, said in its leaflet that though embarked "on a frontal attack," its members did not intend to shoot or kill. Regret is expressed at the death of the Assistant Superintendent of the Palestine Police who was killed during the explosion in the Jerusalem police headquarters.

A different attitude is manifested in the leaflet issued by the "Stern Gang." Its leaflet reads: "Our blood is cheap. So is the blood of British policemen who kill us without law or trial. We shall not yield or retreat. We shall continue our acts until the Jewish nation is freed."

J.N.F. Cables \$750,000 to Palestine with Message Attacking White Paper

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- The sum of \$750,000 was cabled today by the Jewish National Fund of America to J.N.F. headquarters in Jerusalem together with a message stating that "the Jewish people will never accept the restrictions of the White Paper," Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the American J.N.F., announced.

EDEN SAYS U.S., BRITAIN PLANNING FURTHER ACTION TO SAVE JEWS IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

LONDON, March 30. (JTA) -- Further joint action by the United States and Great Britain looking towards the rescue of Jews and other persecuted people from Nazi-occupied countries is under discussion, it was revealed today in the House of Commons by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Asked for a statement defining the British Government's attitude on the question of assisting the imperiled Jews of Hungary and the other satellite states, Mr. Eden declared that "His Majesty's Government, in common with the other Allies, as the hour of Germany's defeat grows nearer, repeats its detestation of the German crimes and its determination that those guilty will be brought to justice. The satellites, who are expelling their citizens to destinations named by Berlin must know that such action is tantamount to assisting in this inhuman persecution."

In a combined warning and appeal to the people of the German puppet governments, the Foreign Secretary said that their assistance in persecuting Jews and other oppressed people "will not be forgotten when the inevitable defeat of Europe's arch-enemy comes," but that "His Majesty's Government wishes to make clear that those who have followed the right path will also not be forgotten in the final reckoning. There is still an opportunity," he continued, "for the merciful to multiply their acts of humanity, and for the guilty to make amends by releasing their victims and making restitution to them."

Eden said further that the government would cooperate with all private and official bodies to rescue and maintain as far as possible all persons menaced by Nazi terror. He agreed to take the necessary steps to see that his statement would be brought to "the attention of those concerned."

JUDGE PROSKAUER THANKS ROOSEVELT FOR HIS APPEAL FOR RESCUE OF JEWS FROM HUNGARY

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee today made public the text of a letter addressed by its president, Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, to President Roosevelt, thanking the President for his recent statement in which he urged people in German-occupied countries to help rescue the Jews from Hungary and the Balkan countries and appealed to governments in Europe and Asia to open their doors to Jews escaping from Nazi hands.

"In extending to you the heartfelt expression of gratitude for the eloquent and forceful statement issued by you last Friday in connection with the Nazi invasion of Hungary and the Balkans, I am sure that I am expressing the sentiment not only of my fellow officers and the membership of the American Jewish Committee, but of all right-thinking Americans," Proskauer wrote. "In promptly reaffirming the determination of the United Nations to punish perpetrators of crimes against civilians in general and against Jews in particular, you have taken a step which was characterized in a telegram sent by us on the previous day to Secretary Hull as "the most immediately available method of preventing or lessening typical Nazi mass murder."

"We note thankfully your appeal to each and every person in Nazi-dominated Europe to take affirmative steps to rescue Jews, to 'hide these pursued victims, help them to get over their borders, and do what he can to save them from the Nazi hangman! We welcome with especial gratitude the reaffirmation of the determination of our government to 'persevere in its efforts to rescue the victims of brutality of the Nazis and the Japs,' and to 'use all means at its command to aid the escape of all intended victims of the Nazi and Jap executioner -- regardless of race, or religion, or color.' We are firmly convinced that your timely, stern, and vigorous warning will have at least a deterrent effect upon the brutal and barbarous enemies of mankind and that your noble appeal on behalf of the threatened victims will give them new courage to struggle for survival against the glorious day of liberation."

SECOND SESSION OF UNRRA COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN CANADA IN JUNE

WASHINGTON, March 30. (JTA) -- Sir Arthur Salter, Acting Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, today announced that the second session of the UNRRA Council will be convened in Canada sometime in June.

"A decision has been reached by the Central Committee to convene the second session of the Council in June," the announcement said. "We have been informed that the Canadian Government would welcome plans to have the Council meeting in Canada and arrangements are now being completed to determine a suitable opening day and place for the meeting. The exact time and place for the meeting will be announced shortly."

President Roosevelt signed today the bill authorizing United States participation in the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. While the legislation authorized the appropriation of more than \$1,350,000,000 for this country's share of relief and rehabilitation costs, it did not appropriate the funds. Congress must act separately on such an appropriation, and many think that it will appropriate only a third of the total at the start.

JEWISH CONGRESS HAILS GROWING COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN JEWS

NEW YORK, March 30. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress today announced that it has cabled to the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Moscow greeting the third annual meeting of the Committee, which will open in the Russian capital on April 2, and hailing the growing cooperation between the Jews of the United States and those of the USSR.

"The World Jewish Congress," the message said, "asks you to convey warm fraternal greetings to the representatives of the Jewish people, meeting on April 2nd, as well as to the Third Plenary Meeting of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee. We recognize these meetings as powerful factors for the intensification of the victorious struggle against the Hitlerite foe. We rejoice in the growing cooperation between us and are sincerely convinced that our increasingly closer cooperation will contribute powerfully in finally righting the wrongs endured by the Jewish people for centuries. We salute through you the heroic peoples of the USSR and the Red Army on their historic victories over the Hitlerite barbarians which uplift the hearts of free people throughout the world."

At the same time, the Congress announced that it has compiled a list of the names and addresses of more than 30,000 Jews who are now refugees in Russia, Persia, Palestine, southern Italy, central and south Africa and in internment camps. This list is available to persons seeking to locate relatives. The Congress announcement adds that if the persons sought are not listed, it will attempt, through cooperation of the Jewish Agency, the Moscow Jewish Community Council, and other groups, to locate them.

BRITISH HINDERING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF PALESTINE, CALIFORNIA MEETING TOLD

LOS ANGELES, March 30. (JTA) -- The British administration in Palestine is actively hindering the industrialization of the country by Jews for fear that Palestine industries will compete with those of Great Britain, it was charged here by Prof. Adelbert Farkas, who was formerly on the staff of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Addressing an institute arranged by the Southern California branch of the Hebrew University, Friends, he reviewed the chemical and industrial research undertaken by the university, which, he said, had greatly aided the agricultural and industrial exploitation of Palestine. A general review of the achievements of the university since its founding was given by Dr. Maurice Karpf, executive director of the Jewish Welfare Organization of Los Angeles.