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# JTA

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### ZIONISTS FUZZLED BY CHURCHILL'S STATEMENT ON SOLUTION OF PALESTINE PROBLEM

LONDON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The suggestion that Libya became "a second Palestine" for Jews was made today in the House of Commons by Sir Lambert Ward, Conservative, in the course of the debate on Churchill's report on the Yalta Conference. "This would provide a satisfactory solution for the Jewish problem which is now agitating many people in this country," Sir Lambert said.

Zionist leaders here today refrained from commenting on Churchill's announcement yesterday that no solution was reached on the Arab-Jewish problem in Palestine and that this problem will be solved "when the war is over." It was noted that the Prime Minister made this statement after referring to his talks with Ibn Saud, the ruler of Saudi Arabia, and it was not clear whether he meant that he did not reach a solution on Palestine problems in his discussions with Ibn Saud, or whether such a solution was not reached generally.

The full text of Churchill's statement on Palestine which he sandwiched in between his references to his meeting with King Ibn Saud and his discussions with the Emperor of Ethiopia, read as follows: "Although we did not reach a solution of the problems of the Arab world and of the Jewish people in Palestine, I have hopes that when the war is over good arrangements can be made for securing the peace and progress of the Arab world and generally of the Middle East and that Great Britain and the United States, which is taking an increasing interest in those regions, will be able to play a valuable part in proving the well known maxim of the old trader: 'All legitimate interests are in harmony.'"

Addressing the Dominion League tonight, Lord Strabolgi complained that "there is too much secrecy and unnecessary mystery" with regard to Churchill's and Roosevelt's talks with the Arab rulers. At the same time, he welcomed the fact that no attempt was made to rush solution of the Palestine question. "The idea that Palestine with its 600,000 Jewish settlers should be handed over to an Arab Federation, or split up, was highly objectionable," he said.

### Jewish Agency Has No Information on Churchill's Talks with Arab Kings

JERUSALEM, Feb. 28 (JTA) -- Sir Edward Grigg, British Minister for the Middle East, met here today with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, after conferring with a number of Arab leaders.

The Jewish Agency has no information as to whether the Palestine questions was discussed during the talks which Roosevelt and Churchill had in Egypt with the Arab kings, it was stated today by Moshe Shertok, head of the Agency's political department. The conference which Dr. Weizmann had a few days ago with Lord Gort, Palestine High Commissioner, had no connection with Roosevelt's and Churchill's talks in Egypt, Shertok emphasized.

3/1/45

SWIFT POST-WAR REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES FROM ENGLAND DEMANDED IN HOUSE OF LORDS

LONDON, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- A re-examination by the British government of the question of internment 40,000 German nationals in this country was demanded today in the House of Lords by Lord Ailwyn who argued that these nationals constitute a "potential danger." He also asked repatriation of these refugees at the earliest possible moment after the cessation of hostilities.

Replying, Lord Templewood said that Lord Ailwyn generalized too much. He pointed out that many Jewish refugees have given services of greatest value to Britain.

Figures made public here today on the number of Jewish refugees in England reveal that 10,000 left the country before the outbreak of the war. Of the remaining 80,000 about 12,700 have left since the war. It is estimated by Jewish groups here that another 14,000 will emigrate overseas after the war. About 7,000 Jewish refugees are serving in the British armed forces.

The industries developed by Jewish refugees during the war absorb more local workers than the total number of Jewish refugees in the whole of England. Although Jewish leaders have no definite information as to the status which the government may give the refugees after the war, they hope that no drastic steps will be taken and that a large number of refugees will be allowed to remain in the country. They also believe that refugees serving in the armed forces and those engaged in important war work will be naturalized.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE DECLINES PROPOSAL OF JEWISH COMMITTEE FOR JOINT POST-WAR POLICY

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference today informed the American Jewish Committee that it cannot accept its invitation to an informal conference to consider the formulation of a unified Jewish post-war program.

"We have no doubt that your proposal is dictated by a desire to unite American Jewry on a program for action to meet the post-war needs of the Jewish people," the reply of the American Jewish Conference states. "But we should like to point out to you that the conference was established as the representative body of American Jews for that very purpose, and we believe that such an objective can best be served through the instrumentality of the American Jewish conference."

"We would, therefore, welcome any proposals which you care to submit to the various committees of the conference, which are dealing with all the problems to which you refer in your letter. It is our conviction, moreover, that there is a greater need today than ever before for a unified agency representing all American Jews and we look forward to the time when you may find it possible to resume your place in the Jewish conference. The creation of a new committee or agency to serve the same purposes for which the American Jewish conference was established will only lead to confusion and tend to prejudice the attainment of our objectives."

ALLIED MILITARY AUTHORITIES ADMIT J.D.C. REPRESENTATIVES TO GREECE AND YUGOSLAVIA

ROME, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Allied military authorities here today granted permission to the representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee, Reuben Resnik, to enter Greece and conduct extensive relief work there for destitute Greek Jewry. Permission has also been granted to the Joint Distribution Committee to send a representative to Yugoslavia.

# UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL SAYS JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE HAS REJECTED ARBITRATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 (JTA)—The United Palestine Appeal today made public the text of its reply to Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, who had urged the leaders of the UoP.A. and of the J.D.C. to arbitrate their differences in order to reconstitute the dissolved United Jewish Appeal. The reply, signed by Rudolf G. Sonneborn, chairman of the UoP.A. National Council, reviews the negotiations which the agencies carried on prior to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal, and charges the J.D.C. with "rejecting anything resembling arbitration." The full text reads as follows:

"Your telegram urging arbitration of differences between the JDC and the UPA 'by mutually acceptable procedure' which arrived on February 23rd, some two weeks after public announcement of our inability to persuade the JDC to accept any reasonable compromise, merits a full and considered reply. It is a source of regret to us that our suggestions for the continuation of the UJA on an equitable basis did not materialize because of the attitude from the very beginning of the JDC against the submission of the differences between the two organizations to impartial outside persons.

"The belated "acceptance" by the JDC of your proposal has attached to it a condition which is tantamount to another rejection of arbitration by the JDC. The condition stated in the JDC'S reply to your telegram limits the question to be arbitrated merely to the degree to which the UPA and the interests of Palestine shall be subordinated in joint fund-raising appeals. The record of the negotiations indicates that it was the continually intransigent attitude of the JDC with regard to the differences between the two agencies which made an agreement impossible.

"(1) The UPA proposed arbitration as early as December 29, 1944 when Dr. James G. Heller wrote as follows to Mr. Paul Baerwald, Chairman of the JDC: 'It is my proposal to the Joint Distribution Committee that the UPA and the JDC accept the services of the three outside persons, who, because of their objectivity and their acquaintance with the facts of both organizations, are in the best position to serve as friendly mediators. I have in mind the three representatives of Welfare Fund communities who are serving on the Allotment Committee of the 1944 United Jewish Appeal.'

"This proposal was rejected by the JDC. On January 8th, 1945, the JDC replied as follows: 'We cannot delegate to others the responsibility that we owe to the work entrusted to us. No one who has not had to do with the day to day emergencies that have confronted the JDC can possibly be put in a position to evaluate our needs and our obligations. In the negotiation of the Agreement we must assume full responsibility.'

"(2) On January 11th, Dr. Heller wrote to you, as President of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, asking for "any panel of mediators mutually agreeable to the JDC and the UPA." About the same time you wrote independently suggesting such mediation to the JDC and the UPA. In its reply to you the JDC said that "mediation must not become arbitration in any aspect but should at all stages remain friendly intervention. If final agreement does not result, mediation should not even take into any judgment or decision." Once again the JDC protested its demand for priority position by rejecting anything resembling arbitration.

"(3) When your committee of mediators met with the JDC and UPA on January 25, 1945, the JDC rejected every suggestion for compromises. On that occasion the JDC turned down a UPA proposal, which found favor in the eyes of your committee, to

give each organization the right to draw equally against the first few million dollars and that all funds including these drawings be subject to final distribution by an Allocation Committee consisting of representatives of the two agencies concerned and of the Jewish communities at large.

"The insistence by the JDC that Palestine, in 1945, remain in a subordinate position, reflected an unyielding refusal to understand the importance of Palestine even in terms of pure saving of life, to say nothing of the dynamics of rehabilitation in Palestine which has given security to over 300,000 refugees - virtually as many as the rest of the world combined.

"In order that justice be done in meeting the needs of the JDC and the UPA, the UPA believes that it is eminently desirable that American Jewry, through its various communities, examine the requirements of Jewish life and act on them through the distribution of funds in accordance with procedures determined locally. After ten weeks of negotiation the UPA reluctantly came to a decision with respect to its campaign for 1945 as a result of the unwillingness of the JDC to modify its position. While we appreciate the spirit which moved you, even long after the breakdown of negotiations, to send your telegram, the answer of the JDC of February 26th is a rejection of arbitration and in view of this we do not believe that any fruitful purpose can be served by continuing a process that can only result in confusing the American Jewish public."

#### COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL OF NEW YORK REACHES AGREEMENT ON ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Agreement on the allocation of funds to be raised by the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York in a single unified campaign on behalf of four major national Jewish organizations - the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal, National Refugee Service, and National Jewish Welfare Board - was announced last night by Samuel Schneierman, chairman of the allocations committee for the 1945 campaign in Greater New York.

After days of intensive study of the needs of the agencies by the members of the allocation committee, it was unanimously agreed that funds raised by the 1945 campaign would be allocated on the following basis: After making provision for the National Refugee Service, which cares for refugees in the United States and for the National Jewish Welfare Board, which is the authorized agency serving the Jewish men and women fighting in the American armed forces, the committee allocated 57 percent of the remainder to the Joint Distribution Committee and 43 percent to the United Palestine Appeal.

Provision was made covering the traditional collections by the Jewish National Fund, a constituent agency of the United Palestine Appeal. Provision was also made permitting the acceptance of funds for specific projects from landsmanschaften organizations by the Joint Distribution Committee. The agreement was hailed by Jewish community leaders in New York City as a great step forward in maintaining the unity of Jewish community effort here.

#### J.D.C. Chairman Helps Open Clothing Drive at White House Meeting

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (JTA) -- Paul Baerwald, chairman of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, was present yesterday at a meeting in the White House of the National Committee of the United National Clothing Collection, which will conduct the drive to collect 150,000,000 pounds of clothing, shoes and bedding for the destitute of Europe. The J.D.C. will be claimant for clothing in behalf of Jews abroad whose needs are not met by UNRRA. Under the auspices of the J.D.C., 22 national Jewish organizations are participating in the drive.