

Wednesday, May 23, 1946

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

FIRST POST-WAR WORLD ZIONIST CONFERENCE WILL BE CONVOKED IN LONDON

JERUSALEM, May 22. (JTA) -- The first world Zionist conference since the outbreak of the war will be held in London in July, it was decided here today at a meeting of the executive of the World Zionist Organization.

All members of the Zionist Actions Committee residing in Europe, Palestine, the United States and other countries will be asked to attend this conference, the decisions of which will serve as guidance for Zionist political activities until the reconvening of the World Zionist Congress. Representatives of the Jewish National Council of Palestine, as well as of various Zionist groups, will also be invited to attend the conference.

At a session of the Small Zionist Actions Committee held here yesterday, the political policy of the Jewish Agency executive was severely criticised. Some members of the committee demanded that the political offices of the Jewish Agency in London and in Washington be enlarged and strengthened. The debate lasted until after midnight.

POLES IN POLAND ASK FOR AID FROM UNITED STATES AND PALESTINE; MANY HOPE TO EMIGRATE

MOSCOW, May 22. (JTA) -- Expressing thanks to Jewish relief organizations in the United States and in Palestine for the aid given up to now to Jews in Poland, Dr. S. S. Sfar, representative of the Association of Polish Jews in the USSR, today told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that increased aid from American Jewry is needed in view of the fact that many Polish Jews are returning from the USSR to their homes in the liberated Polish towns.

"Up to today," Dr. Sfar stated, "we have received four transports of clothing and medicaments from the Joint Distribution Committee and other relief groups. Everything we received was immediately transported to the central Jewish committee in Berlin for distribution among the needy Jews throughout the country."

Dr. Sfar regretted the fact that the Jews of Poland are not as yet in a position to send a delegation to the United States to report about their situation. He estimated that there are, at present, 50,000 Jews in Poland. "Their needs are becoming more and more acute, because their number is constantly growing as a result of the repatriation of many Polish Jews from various sections of the Soviet Union," he said.

The majority of the repatriated Polish Jews, Dr. Sfar stated, have no relatives left alive in Poland. They believe that the Polish Government in Warsaw will provide them with passports to enable their emigration to the United States, Palestine and other countries where they have friends willing to aid them.

ROMANIAN OFFICERS CONVICTED OF MURDERING JEWISH DEPORTEES SENTENCED TO DEATH

BUCHAREST, May 22. (JTA) -- A Peoples Court today sentenced to death several high-ranking officers of the pro-Nazi Antonescu regime who had been found guilty of causing the death of thousands of Jews deported to Transnistria.

GESTAPO DOCUMENT ORDERING POGROM IN REVERGE FOR VOM RATH ASSASSINATION IS DISCOVERED

PARIS, May 22. (JTA) — The alleged "spontaneous" anti-Jewish outburst which occurred throughout Germany in November, 1938, following the assassination in Paris of Ernst vom Rath, a German embassy official, by a Jewish refugee youth, Herschel Grynszpan, was carefully planned and executed by the Gestapo, the French radio said today, quoting a recently discovered Gestapo document.

The Gestapo order, which was numbered 234, was signed by an official named Keller, the broadcast said. It read as follows: "Anti-Jewish demonstrations are to be staged immediately throughout Germany, resulting in the arrest of 20,000 to 30,000 Jews, mainly people of means. Further instructions will be given in the course of the night."

A supplementary document, signed by Reinhard Heydrich, covering the events of the night of Nov. 8-9, contained the following instructions: "The demonstrations tonight must be organized in such a way that neither German lives or property are endangered. Synagogues must be fired, but precautions should be taken to avoid damage to adjoining buildings. Jewish shops must be gutted, but as soon as the chief of police gives the signal for action to cease, shops must be boarded up to conceal the damage."

Today's broadcast stressed that the pogrom was carried out exactly in accordance with the Gestapo instructions, while Goebbels harranged for days concerning the "spontaneous outburst of the peoples' fury imposing its will upon the government."

NEW ZIONIST ORGANIZATION AND AGUDAS ISRAEL SUBMIT MEMORANDA TO SAN FRANCISCO PARLEY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 22. (JTA) — The New Zionist Organization of America today submitted a memorandum to the Trusteeship Committee of the UNCIO supporting the proposals of the Jewish Agency, and asking that nothing which would impair Jewish rights in Palestine and Jewish immigration to Palestine be recommended by the committee.

The Agudas Israel of America yesterday filed a memorandum with the UNCIO secretariate asking that the organization be given recognition in matters concerning the future of Palestine and emphasizing that the Agudah is for wide-spread Jewish immigration to Palestine "within the economic absorptive capacity of the country." The memorandum also stated that the Agudas Israel is "striving for a just solution of the Arab-Jewish problem, without any need to renounce the rights granted to the Jewish people by the Palestine mandate."

Other demands in the Agudah memorandum include international legislation against anti-Semitism, international legislation to protect the freedom of religious education and religious observance, and the establishment of a "Jewish trusteeship" to act as legal heir of Jews who were exterminated by the Germans together with their entire families.

ARAB LEAGUE ATTRACTING ATTENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO, MOSLEM CORRESPONDENTS REPORT

CAIRO, May 22. (JTA) — The Egyptian press carries cables from Arab correspondents in San Francisco asserting that delegates at the UNCIO have indicated great interest in the League of Arab Nations. "The French here are vigilant, the Russians follow questions regarding the Arab League with attention, while the Latin American delegates want to know whether we shall form a bloc similar to the Pan-American bloc," one of the correspondents, Fikry Abaza Bey, writes, summarizing the attitude in San Francisco toward the Arab League.

NEW TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN PALESTINE BELIEVED ATTEMPT TO REVITALIZE IRGUN

JERUSALEM, May 22. (JTA) -- There are many diverse political and psychological factors behind the renewed campaign of terror in Palestine, which was signalled by exploding bombs in Tel Aviv and Jaffa last week, according to well informed observers here.

It was obvious, they say, that the Irgun Zvai Leumi, shattered and disorganized as it has been for the last ten months, must undertake some action. Firstly, in order to show its own membership that it still exists, and, secondly, to remind the Jewish community and the world that it is still determined to shape the destiny of Palestine Jewry.

Before last week's violence, the Irgun had made several unsuccessful attempts to attract the attention of the Jewish community, and, in fact, the entire world: they tried to blow up the pipeline in northern Palestine, but were foiled by the police, they seized a truck carrying explosives and four terrorists. They then attempted to bomb police barracks in Sarona and to destroy the railway bridge near Haselein, but all efforts were unsuccessful.

All that the Irgun can show for its work is a few damaged telegraph poles, which is a very small reward for months of intensive preparations, especially since the group is reported to be running short of funds and members. It is thought that the organization does not have more than 60 members at present, organized into groups of five. This form of organization, however, makes it difficult to apprehend the terrorists, since they can maneuver easily.

It is believed that what funds the Irgun has come from the sale of goods they obtain in raids on government warehouses and private enterprises and individuals. It is doubted that the terrorists get any funds from foreign powers, which had been rumored. It is also rumored that some money is obtained by them from voluntary contributions within Palestine and from abroad and through extortion.

Although the sums at their disposal - however obtained - are not large, they are sufficient to keep a spark of unrest alive. It enables them to obtain some arms and manufacture others. Their favorite weapon is a home-made trench mortar, which the police have jokingly dubbed the "V-3." It has various ranges and can be buried in the ground, with the end of the muzzle flush with the earth, making it difficult to detect.

The renewed terrorist activities have brought forth almost unanimous condemnation from the Jewish community. Editorials in the Hebrew dailies this week castigated the Irgun as an enemy of the Yishuv and as evil-doers who menace the welfare of the country. Strong measures to curb their operations are demanded.

ONE SENTENCED TO DEATH IN WARSAW FOR PERSECUTING JEWISH WORKERS DURING OCCUPATION

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- The Lublin radio reported today that Leon Zerowski, who was in charge of a Warsaw factory during the German occupation, has been sentenced to death by a special court in the capital for persecuting and mistreating Jewish employees.

PALESTINE JEWS, HELD AS WAR PRISONERS IN GERMANY, REACH ENGLAND; 400 LEAVE FOR HOME

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 Palestine Jews who were held as prisoners in Germany have reached England. The first group of 400 left today for Palestine.

5/23/45

CONFERENCE OF BRITISH WAR VETERANS REJECTS PROPOSAL TO CURB RIGHTS OF REFUGEES

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- The British Legion, composed of veterans of World War I, today rejected a demand that it urge the government to refuse retail trade licenses to German refugees in England.

The demand was voiced at the legion's annual conference by a delegate who objected to the government's alleged plan to allow one-third of the refugees to remain permanently. He said that since 8,000 of the refugees had served in the Pioneer Corps, and been subject to "British discipline," they should be returned to Germany to assist the inter-Allied commission.

Another delegate described the resolution as one of the most dangerous to appear on a conference agenda in many years. Pointing out that the refugees had come to Britain to escape Nazi oppression, he said that their remaining in the country would not menace the jobs of returning servicemen.

WORLD-WIDE GUARANTEE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DEMANDED OF UNITED NATIONS BY JEWISH BODY

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- The World Union for Progressive Judaism has submitted to all United Nations governments a petition urging a peace settlement which will guarantee religious freedom in all countries in accordance with the Atlantic Charter, it was announced today.

The petition suggests that all the nations subscribe to a covenant pledging religious freedom for all of their citizens and support of an international institution to guarantee such rights. It also asks restoration of Jewish religious institutions destroyed by the Nazis.

Discussing the problem of the Jewish refugees, the petition points out that they are in a unique position because of the horror inflicted upon European Jewry, and that they be allowed to remain in the countries where they sought haven, and, if this is not possible, international assistance in resettlement. It asks, finally, that Palestine be opened to the largest possible number of Jews.

AGUDAS ISRAEL CONFERENCE IN LONDON ASKS FOR FULL RESTORATION OF JEWISH LIFE IN EUROPE

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- Full restoration of Jewish life in Europe in countries where Jews still remain was demanded today in a resolution adopted at the closing session of an Agudas Israel conference held here.

The resolution urged that in countries where there are not enough Jews surviving to rebuild the pre-war Jewish community, the government should make available land which would ordinarily be used for restoration for use in developing a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

The conference also demanded abrogation of the Palestine White Paper, declaring that nothing can separate the Jews from Palestine. It was decided to establish a special Agudah Palestine Commission which will have its headquarters in London, and set up training facilities in Britain for young people desiring to emigrate to Palestine.