

Tuesday, August 21, 1945

JTA*Daily News Bulletin*

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

IRAQ PREMIER ASSAILS TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON PALESTINE; ARAB LEADER THREATENS "HOLY WAR"

CAIRO, Aug. 20. (JTA) — In a statement described as "a reply to President Truman's views on the Palestine issue," Premier Hamdi Pachaji of Iraq today declared that "Palestine is an Arab country and will remain Arab despite all the efforts of the Zionists."

"The Palestine question must be settled in the Near East, and neither the United States, nor any other country has the right to intervene in this question," the Iraq Premier asserted, adding that the pan-Arab League will meet soon to discuss the Palestine problem.

Simultaneously, former Egyptian Premier Nahas Pasha released a statement declaring that "Palestine is an Arab nation and its problem concerns all Arabs. In view of the new attitude of the Zionists," he continued, "the Arab League council must meet and take decisive measures guaranteeing the integrity of Arab rights in Palestine in conformity with the protocol adopted by the meeting of Arab nations in Alexandria in October, 1944. We hope the United Nations will understand the capital importance of the Palestine question for the Arabs and that they will seek a solution which will safeguard Arab rights," Nahas Pasha concluded.

These two statements follow on the heels of a "warning" voiced here yesterday by Azzam Bey, secretary general of the Arab League, that a "holy war" between the Moslem and Christian worlds may break out if Palestine is re-opened to large-scale Jewish immigration. "The Arabs," Azzam Bey said, "have the complete right to object to President Truman's statement. They will never give up their opposition to Jewish immigration to Palestine." He claimed that President Roosevelt allegedly promised King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabi that he "would not support the Jews in Palestine," and took issue with President Truman's disclosure that Stalin was not consulted in Potsdam on the Palestine question. "That Russia was not consulted is not understandable here," he declared.

Truman's Statement Delivered to Arab League by U.S. Diplomat

Pointing out that "the Arabs constitute a majority in Palestine, the general secretary of the pan-Arab League called attention to the fact that the United States had promised that it would consult the member nations of the Arab League before attempting any settlement of the Palestine question. He revealed that the U.S. Minister in Cairo, Pinkney Tuck, had delivered to him the official text of the statement which President Truman made with regard to Palestine at his press conference in Washington last week.

A report from Damascus published in the Egyptian press today says that the entire Arab press in Syria carries belligerent articles in connection with President Truman's statement. The newspaper Alefba is quoted as threatening unrest throughout the Near and Middle East, emphasizing that the relations between the Arab states and the countries supporting Zionism will become tense if the governments of the latter countries continue to support the demand for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine.

AMERICAN MILITARY AID WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN ORDER IN PALESTINE, JEWS STRESS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 20, (JTA) -- American military forces will not be required to keep peace in Palestine if a Jewish State is established here, the entire Hebrew press says today, lauding President Truman's statement with regard to Palestine, but expressing puzzlement as to why he believes that it may be necessary for the United States to send a half-million soldiers to keep order in Palestine.

The general sentiment of the Palestine Hebrew press and of the Jews in the country is best summarized in an editorial in today's *Devar*, leading daily. "Few hope that the Arabs will agree to Jewish immigration into Palestine before the Allies make their decision, and few fear that active Arab resistance will take place after the Allies make their decision. The decision of the Allied Governments is the precondition for Arab consent."

The paper points out that the impression prevailing abroad that there may be disorders in Palestine requiring the intervention of American and British military units is the result of "Oriental propagandists," but has no foundation in fact. "Boycotting Arab countries," the editorial says, "have no right to interfere in Palestine affairs, and who is so foolish as to believe that the Arab countries will oppose by force any decision taken by the Big Powers?"

Dr. Weizmann Reported To Have Stated He Has No Faith in Jewish State

Rabbi Judah-Leib Fishman, leader of the Mizrahi, told a press conference here today that a statement at the World Zionist Conference by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, in which he declared that he has no faith in a Jewish State, led to the resignation of the Mizrahi from the World Zionist executive. (The resignation was withdrawn at the concluding session of the conference.)

Rabbi Fishman revealed that in London he signed an agreement with leaders of the Zionist-Revisionist organization the terms of which provide that the Revisionists will accept the Zionist Shekel in order to re-join the World Zionist movement and that they will also support the Mizrahi political demands. In return, the Mizrahi will support the Revisionist political policy and will attempt to secure a place for the Revisionists in the executive of the Jewish Agency and in the Zionist Actions Committee.

SERIOUS ANTI-JEWISH DISTURBANCES IN CRACOW; LOCAL COUNCIL BLAMES REACTIONARY FORCES

LONDON, Aug. 20, (JTA) -- The Warsaw radio today confirmed private reports reaching here from Poland during the last two days that anti-Jewish disturbances have taken place in Cracow resulting in a number of Jews being killed and many wounded. Anti-Semitic mobs composed of persons opposed to the present regime in Poland used hand grenades in attacks on Jewish homes, the reports said.

Most of the victims were Jews repatriated from camps in Germany to their homes in Cracow. Several hundred of them have been given temporary shelter on the premises of a local synagogue, which was one of the buildings attacked by the rioters.

In an attempt to prevent further pogroms, the Cracow regional council held a special session today at which a resolution was adopted condemning the anti-Semitic outrages, the Warsaw broadcast said. The resolution reads:

"The Council, on behalf of the whole community of the Cracow region, condemns the source of the provoked disturbances and promises unceasing enlightenment on racial antagonism. The Council hopes that such anti-Jewish incidents will never recur in Cracow province."

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS POLICY OUTLINED BY DR. WISE AT PARLEY OF EUROPEAN DELEGATES

LONDON, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- "The world was shocked to speechlessness by the obliteration of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by atomic bombs, but no such shock was noticed when innocent Jews - ten-fold the number of the victims in the two Japanese cities combined - were exterminated in Europe," Dr. Stephen S. Wise declared today addressing the opening session of the European conference of the World Jewish Congress. More than 90 delegates representing Jewish communities in 13 countries are attending.

The conference, which will last through Wednesday, was opened by Lady Reading who emphasized that the Jews in the free countries "worked day and night to help their brethren." If their efforts were not fruitful, it was because they could do little against the tide of the Jewish tragedy, she said.

Dr. Wise, presiding, pointed out that the World Jewish Congress places itself unreservedly under the Zionist banner. At the same time, the Congress will work for the rebuilding of the life and dignity of the Jews in devastated countries, he said. He paid tribute to the late President Roosevelt emphasizing his friendship for the Jews.

Fred C. Hoehler, director of UNRRA's department for displaced persons, told the conference that beginning in October UNRRA will take over full responsibility from the military authorities for organizing relief in Germany for displaced persons. He stated that UNRRA is grievously disturbed over its inability to move rapidly up to now, but expressed hope of improvement under the leadership of Herbert H. Lehman. UNRRA, he said, welcomes the fact that the State Department permitted the American Jewish Conference, the World Jewish Congress and the Vaad Haatzalah to send ten representatives to Europe to act as liaison officers in camps where Jewish stateless refugees are in need of UNRRA aid.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann told the conference that the destruction of a large majority of European Jews represents a revolutionary change in the internal structure and the external position of the Jewish people. "We are now living in a transitory moment," he said. "The time has not yet come to draw conclusions. If the demand for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine is successful, it will be a historic event which will affect the whole structure and set-up of the Jewish people."

The World Jewish Congress does not represent a specific ideology, he emphasized, declaring that all parties can work within its framework. "It is the right and the duty of our people to defend our common interests through common action and to speak on matters common to all Jews as a united body on the basis of the activities of the Congress," he concluded.

SOVIET JEWISH REFUGEES GIVEN AFFECTIONATE SEND-OFF IN SWITZERLAND ON LEAVING FOR RUSSIA

GENEVA, Aug. 20. (JTA) -- Jewish girls from Soviet Russia who, as war refugees, received training in ORT schools in Switzerland were given an impressive farewell today on the eve of their departure for their homes in the USSR. Each of the girls received from the ORT a set of tools to take along to Russia as a souvenir of their months of training here.

The Soviet military mission which is now visiting Switzerland visited the ORT schools in Lucerne where the Jewish girls received their training. The leader of the mission thanked the ORT, emphasizing that the training the girls received in the ORT schools "is most precious for their future life."

TRUMAN WILL GET REPORT ON PROBLEMS OF DISPLACED JEWS NOW IN CAMPS IN EUROPE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. (JTA) — Earl G. Harrison, United States representative on the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, has returned from a mission to Europe to investigate the needs of displaced persons, and will make a report to President Truman this week, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today.

Government officials who have seen the report, which deals with the conditions of stateless and non-repatriable refugees in Germany and Austria, found it of such high interest that they urged Mr. Harrison to present it in person to the President. A summary of the report which is a partial one, since several members of the mission, including Dr. Joseph Schwartz of the JDC, are continuing the investigation in Europe, is being prepared for possible release after Mr. Harrison's conference with the President.

Formerly Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, Mr. Harrison has given up private law practice to become Dean of the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

200 JEWISH ORPHANS LEAVE GREECE FOR PALESTINE J.D.C. REPORTS; SUPPLIES FLOWN TO POLAND

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (JTA) — Two hundred Greek Jewish orphans left Greece for Palestine this week, it was reported today by Dr. Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, which paid the full costs of transportation. The group consists of 77 children under 13 years of age, 97 under and 26 over 17. In addition, the boat transported 39 "stateless" Jews to Palestine.

Dr. Hyman also reported that 110 pounds of sulfathiazol were sent to the Jews of Poland by the JDC representative in Stockholm immediately after the resumption of commercial air service between Sweden and Poland. Other supplies will be sent from Stockholm by coal ships which have begun regular sailings to Poland. Dr. Hyman disclosed that the JDC has so far sent three hospital units of 100 beds each to the Central Committee of Polish Jews and has shipped or ordered shipped 650 tons of foodstuffs and clothing.

10,000 JEWS IN EUROPE REUNITED WITH RELATIVES IN U.S. THROUGH HIAS REPRESENTATIVES

NEW YORK, Aug. 20. (JTA) — Nearly 10,000 displaced Jews in Europe were placed in direct communication with relatives in the United States in the first six months of this year through the services of the HIAS, according to a semi-annual report by Abraham Herman, HIAS president, released today. During that period, the report reveals, 26,520 persons here applied to HIAS for assistance in locating over 80,000 relatives in Europe.

The report, which was prepared by Isaac L. Aschsky, executive director of the organization, also discloses that HIAS helped Jews here to send food and money to needy relatives abroad through offices in Switzerland, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Rumania and other European countries. It also assisted over 2,500 persons seeking to become American citizens.

ARGENTINE ZIONISTS LAUNCH 800,000 PESO DRIVE FOR IMMIGRATION OF JEWISH CHILDREN

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 20. (JTA) — A drive to raise 800,000 pesos to finance the transfer of Jewish children to Palestine was launched here today by the Women's International Zionist Organization.