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CONFERENCE OF BRITISH DIPLOMATS IN LONDON WILL AVOID DIRECT TALKS ON PALESTINE

LONDON, Sept. 5. (JTA) -- Well-informed circles today warned the Zionists not to attach undue importance to the discussions on the Middle East to which British diplomats in the Arab countries have been summoned by Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin.

It was emphasized that Lord Gort, High Commissioner for Palestine who is now in England, will not participate in the discussions. It was also pointed out that although the Palestine question "is likely to crop up," it will not form a separate item, but will be dealt with only in connection with the reaction of the Arab states to Arab-Jewish relations.

The discussions, it was stated here today, will not be in the nature of a conference to determine policies, but will be of an informative nature, designed to acquaint Foreign Secretary Bevin with the opinions of the British envoys on the spot concerning various subjects affecting British interests in the Middle East.

The informative character of the talks, which are expected to last for a comparatively long time, will prevent members of the government from ascertaining the opinions on the Arab-Jewish question held by interested bodies, such as the Jewish Agency, which is watching developments very carefully.

It is known here that the envoys summoned to London differ widely in their opinions on the Palestine issue. Lord Killearn, British Minister in Cairo, who is one of the participants, is reported to be very unfriendly to Zionist aspirations.

The British press believes that the talks will not have great bearing on Palestine. The Manchester Guardian today points out that though Palestine is "certainly a burning question, it has less to do with the neighboring Arab states than with the attitude of Britain which will be decided within a reasonable time."

Partition of Palestine Predicted; Arab-Jewish-British Round Table Expected

The official French news agency today reports that Zionist circles expect Britain to announce a decision on Palestine "before the end of the year." It predicts that the partitioning of Palestine "will probably be the solution." The report adds that before announcing its plan, the British Government contemplates placing it before a round-table conference of Jewish, Arab and British representatives to take place in London.

The same source reports from Beirut that the President of Lebanon has requested the diplomatic representatives of the Arab countries in Beirut to consult their respective governments on "the measures which they intend to adopt with regard to the Palestine question." He assured the Arab diplomatic representatives in his country that "Lebanon considers Palestine a matter of national concern," and revealed that a bill will shortly be introduced prohibiting the influx of Zionist capital into Lebanon.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT IN POLAND ISSUED BY LEADERS

LONDON, Sept. 5. (JTA) -- A six-point declaration addressed to the Jews of Palestine and to Zionists throughout the world was issued here today by the Zionist delegates from Poland prior to returning to Warsaw, after attending the World Zionist Conference here. Speaking in behalf of all Zionist groups in Poland, the proclamation said:

1. Zionists in Poland would like to see Palestine established as a Jewish State on foundations of democracy and social progress.
2. Zionist groups in Poland give priority to general national Jewish interests within the Jewish people and the Jews in Palestine.
3. The Zionist movement in Poland advocates mutual tolerance and respect among the various groups in the World Zionist Organization, as well as among the various Jewish parties in Palestine, in order to further unity for the constructive up-building of Palestine.
4. Basic unity is also advocated for the Jews in Poland in order to achieve the maximum Zionist aspirations.
5. The foundations of the Hachsharah movement in Poland are: Hachalutz activities, study of Hebrew culture, training for self-defense in Palestine, respect for Jewish religious feelings in Palestine.
6. The Zionist movement in Poland recognizes the necessity of the Histadruth as the sole Zionist labor organization in Palestine. Religious members may join the Hapoel Hamizrachi, the orthodox laborites affiliated with the Histadruth.

The declaration concludes with a statement that unity in Zionism is the need of the hour. It expresses the hope that the principles guiding the Zionist movement in liberated Poland will also be applied by leaders of the Zionist movement in other countries.

JEWISH GIRLS IN UNRRA CAMP THREATENED WITH DEATH BY POLES IF THEY RETURN TO POLAND

GENEVA, Sept. 5. (JTA) -- Polish-Jewish girls in an UNRRA camp near Dusseldorf, Germany, were warned by non-Jewish Poles that they would be killed if they returned to their home towns, a pathetic letter from six of the girls reveals.

In the letter, which was received this week by a Swiss Jewish welfare organizations, the girls say that "our liberation is marking the beginning of a new oppression. We have nothing left but our eyes to cry. All hope is gone."

After describing the sufferings they had been forced to undergo while in the hands of the Nazis, which included witnessing the execution of their parents in the notorious Oswiecim camp, the girls said that when the Allies liberated the Ravensbruck camp they thought their sufferings were over.

"We hoped we had reached the end of our long road," the letter continues, "and that from now on we could live as human beings. We were sent to an UNRRA camp at Melden, near Dusseldorf, along with other Poles. Here life became unbearable. The Poles insulted and pestered us with anti-Semitic remarks and threats to our lives. We do not want to return to Poland because they are killing off the remaining Jews there. The Poles in our camp promised to slay us should we dare to return to our native town."

9/6/45

REFUGEES IN BRITAIN CONCERNED OVER INCREASING AGITATION FOR THEIR FORCED REPATRIATION

LONDON, Sept. 5. (JTA) — Considerable concern has been aroused in refugee circles here by a report in the Times which says that the British public favors the repatriation of refugees because of the acute housing shortage here.

The Times points out that many parliamentary candidates questioned before the elections favored repatriation of the refugees. It also quotes a Home Office statement declaring that the refugees are here on a temporary basis, and that the conditions imposed when the refugees were allowed to come here will be waived only in exceptional cases.

20,000 IN LUBLIN ATTEND MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR 2,000,000 KILLED AT MAIDANEK

MOSCOW, Sept. 5. (JTA) — Twenty-thousand persons gathered in Lublin yesterday at ceremonies commemorating the 2,000,000 persons, most of them Jews, who were murdered by the Nazis in the Maidanek camp, the Warsaw radio said today. The broadcast disclosed that the furnaces and gas chambers have been converted into a museum in which the relics of the victims are on view.

The Central Trade Unions Commission of Poland has adopted a resolution condemning the recent anti-Jewish riots in Cracow and demanding a purge of undesirable elements, according to a report from Warsaw received here.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN NAMES BENJAMIN V. COHEN TO BE COUNSELLOR OF STATE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5. (JTA) — Benjamin V. Cohen has been nominated Counsellor of the State Department by President Truman, and his name was sent today to the Senate for confirmation.

Mr. Cohen was previously associated with Mr. Byrnes in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, and has a long record of service in the government under the late President Roosevelt. When Byrnes became Secretary of State he appointed Cohen a special assistant. Cohen accompanied him to the Potsdam Conference, and is expected to join him in London at the forthcoming meeting of foreign ministers.

JEWS OF SOUTH AMERICA ANXIOUS TO AID BRETHREN IN EUROPE; MANY CONTRIBUTE TO JDC

NEW YORK, Sept. 5. (JTA) — Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, New York rabbi and community leader who has just returned to the United States from a two-month speaking tour for the Joint Distribution Committee in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, said today that "the 600,000 Jews in Latin America are anxious to join with American Jewry in extending every possible aid to the impoverished Jews in Europe."

Speaking at a press conference held at the committee's offices, Rabbi Lookstein emphasized that "many of the Jews who were aided 25 years ago by the J.D.C. in Eastern Europe and who are now permanent residents in South America, are contributing their time, energy and money towards the local campaigns benefiting the J.D.C."

Commenting on Jewish life in South America, Rabbi Lookstein said that although there appears to be a lack of religious and educational leadership in the community, the Jews in Latin America are extremely interested in the fate of their brethren in Europe and feel a strong attachment to the Jewish community of the United States through their participation in the work of the JDC. He pointed out that there is need for a "Jewish good neighbor policy" in South America, aimed particularly at fostering a stronger religious atmosphere among the young people.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE ESTABLISHES HEADQUARTERS IN EUROPE TO AID JEWS THERE

NEW YORK, Sept. 5. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee today announced the departure for Europe of Max Gottschalk, director of its Foreign Affairs Department, who will establish permanent headquarters of the Committee on the European continent.

In making this announcement, Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the Committee, revealed that Mr. Gottschalk will be aided by a group of experts in various fields who will leave for Europe shortly. "The American Jewish Committee desires to place its facilities at the disposal of the Jewish communities of Europe and to help them in the solution of such problems as the restoration of their rights, the restitution of property and indemnification among others," Dr. Slawson stated.

After consulting with Jewish leaders in London on current Jewish affairs, Mr. Gottschalk will proceed to the continent to visit France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and other western European countries. He will confer with the leaders of Jewish communities in these countries and cooperate with them, on behalf of the Committee, in their efforts to expedite the rehabilitation and resettlement process. He also plans to visit Germany and to work with the occupation authorities in alleviating the tragic situation of approximately 100,000 displaced Jews there, the announcement said.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM SAYS TRUMAN'S STATEMENT ON PALESTINE IS "MOST DAMAGING" TO ZIONISM

NEW YORK, Sept. 5. (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism today issued a statement declaring that President Truman's recent statement on Palestine is "the most realistic statement to have issued from the White House and the most damaging to Zion's real objectives."

Declaring that "Zionists and non-Zionists would do well to ponder the significance of President Truman's statement," the Council says that this statement "led to innumerable interpretations from many sources, Jewish and non-Jewish."

"It is a matter of considerable regret," the Council states, "that these interpretations should in so many instances distort the meaning of the President's utterance beyond recognition. The headlines that have appeared in the Jewish and Yiddish press as to an 'endorsement' by the United States of a Jewish state have, as appears from the text, no basis in fact. The Jewish Agency spoke politically not interpretively, when it expressed its gratification at this statement as a proposal 'to re-establish a national state.'"

The Council makes the following points which, it says, substantiate its assertion that the President's statement has been misinterpreted:

1. The statement indicated the President had "discussed" the subject, but did not indicate that he had voiced his approval; 2 - His statement about America wanting to let as many Jews as possible into Palestine is only a reiteration of the U.S. Government's support for a more liberal immigration policy for Palestine; 3 - His further remarks about "maintaining the civil peace" indicate that his position on the Zionist aims is similar to the British White Paper since he implies that further immigration must depend on agreement of the Arabs from whom the threat to "civil peace" would come; and 4 - The President's reference to working out the matter "with the British and Arabs for a Jewish state" may mean that agreement on a Jewish state is dependent upon the Palestine Arabs and the neighboring Arab states.

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