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JTA

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106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.MEMBERS OF ANGLO-AMERICAN INQUIRY COMMISSION ANNOUNCED; ASKED TO FINISH JOB IN 120 DAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The membership of the twelve-man Anglo-American Inquiry Commission on Palestine, the formation of which was announced by President Truman and British Foreign Minister Bevin on Nov. 13, was made public today, simultaneously in Washington and London.

The commission was asked to complete its work within 120 days, if possible. President Truman's press secretary, Charles G. Ross, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the 120 days would begin when the commission actually started its work, which, he said, would depend on the body itself.

The two chairmen, who will rotate the position, are, for the United States, Joseph C. Hutcheson, judge of the Fifth Circuit Court at Houston, Texas, and, for England, Sir John Singleton, judge of the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice in London.

The other American members are:

James G. McDonald, former League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees. Frank Aydelotte, director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University, former president of Swarthmore College and American secretary of the Rhodes Trustees. Frank M. Burton, editor of the Boston Herald-Globe. Max Gardner, former Governor of North Carolina, now practising law in Washington. William Phillips, former Under-Secretary of State, former ambassador to Italy and former personal representative of the President in India.

The British members are:

Wilfred P. Crick, economic adviser to the Midland Bank, who was formerly with the Ministry of Food. Richard H. S. Crossman, Labor Member of Parliament, a former Fellow of New College of Oxford University, assistant editor of the "New Statesman and Nation," and deputy director of psychological warfare. Sir Frederick Legett, until recently deputy secretary of the Ministry of Labor and National Services. Major Reginald F. Manningham-Buller, Conservative Member of Parliament. Lord Morrison (Baron Robert Gwyllt), former Labor Member of Parliament.

The announcement said that "the procedure of the commission will be determined by the commission itself, and it will be open to it, if it thinks fit, to deal simultaneously, through the medium of sub-committees, with its various terms of reference." The terms of reference, as announced on Nov. 13, are:

1 - To examine political, economic and social conditions in Palestine as they bear upon the problem of Jewish immigration and settlement therein and the well-being of the peoples now living therein.

2 - To examine the position of the Jews in those countries in Europe where they have been the victims of Nazi and Fascist persecution, and the practical measures

12/11/45

or contemplated to be taken in those countries to enable them to live free from persecution and oppression, and to make estimates of those who wish or will be induced by their conditions to migrate to Palestine or other countries outside Europe.

3 - To hear the views of competent witnesses and to consult representative Jews and Jews on the problems of Palestine as such problems are affected by conditions subject to examination under paragraphs 1 and 2 above and by other relevant facts and circumstances, and to make recommendations to His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States for an interim handling of these problems as well as for their permanent solution.

4 - To make such other recommendations to His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States as may be necessary to meet the immediate needs arising from conditions subject to examination under paragraph 2 above, by remedial action in the European countries in question or by the provision of facilities for emigration and settlement in countries outside Europe. (See U.S. Zionists' statement on page 5)

CRITICISMS IN LANDSBERG CAMP FOR DISPLACED JEWS CRITICIZED BY ALLIED CORRESPONDENTS

LANDSBERG, Germany, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Conditions in the Landsberg camp for displaced Jews were condemned today in a statement issued by a group of American and Allied correspondents who arrived here during the week-end from Nuremberg. Included in the group of seven was a correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

All the correspondents came to the conclusion that the problem of the displaced Jews will not be solved unless the directives of Gen. Eisenhower concerning displaced persons are carried out. The Army has the authority, they found, but it does not have the humanitarian approach, and there is, moreover, definite evidence of anti-Semitism among some of the officers and men.

On the other hand, UNRRA which is administering the camp, where there are 4,500 refugees jammed into a space designed for only 4,200, has the humanitarian approach, but lacks authority in certain fields now dominated by the Army.

Certain solutions proposed by UNRRA are often lost in a mass of red tape, the correspondents were told, and the growing complications in connection with displaced persons are creating annoyance among officers, which in turn leads to anti-Jewish feelings.

The text of the signed declaration issued by the correspondents reads as follows:

"The undersigned have inspected the Jewish displaced persons camp at Landsberg, Bavaria. We support the statement of Dr. Leo Srole, principal welfare officer of the UNRRA team at Landsberg, condemning conditions there. The camp is horribly overcrowded. We saw as many as 25 people living in a 15' by 24' room. At least two persons, and sometimes three, sleep in one bunk only three feet wide. Some live in cold, damp basements filled with the smoke of green burning wood since coal is unavailable. The draughty, ramshackle wooden barracks, we feel, are unfit for human habitation. The windows are broken although there is bitter cold. Blankets and clothing are insufficient. The food is unpalatable and inadequate. Only cold water is available for washing. The washrooms are sheeted with ice. The pipes are rusted and broken so that only one toilet exists for every 100 persons.

"We are of the opinion that if disease breaks out under these conditions, these pitiful remnants of the Nazi concentration camps will be decimated. We feel that immediate and drastic action is imperative if these people, after long years of tragedy, are not to continue living in indescribable misery and under the constant threat of disease and death."

12/11/45

RUSSIAN JEWS REACHING U.S. ZONE IN GERMANY WILL BE CARED FOR, STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The State Department today told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Jewish refugees from Poland, once in the American zone in Germany, will be cared for and will not be expelled.

A spokesman for the State Department declared that while the refugees arriving from Poland are obviously creating an additional burden for the U.S. occupying forces, they were therefore not being invited, the official policy is nevertheless to keep them where they have arrived, and not return them against their will to the places from which they had fled.

Anti-Jewish Terror Reigns in Warsaw, Lodz, Lublin; Jews Continue to Flee

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The London press today continues to feature news from Berlin of the increasing influx of Jews fleeing from Poland because of anti-Semitic terror.

The Daily Mail reports that underground groups opposing the present Polish Government in Warsaw have taken a vow not to leave a single Jew alive in Poland. The "Krajowa," one of these organizations, announced that it will not disband until Poland is completely "judenrein".

Jews who reached Berlin from various cities in Poland during the week-end reported that systematic pogroms are being carried out all over Poland, including Warsaw, Lodz and Lublin, where most of the surviving Polish Jews are concentrated. Masked gangs, using machine guns, are attacking Jewish homes, the refugees said.

The News-Chronicle reports from Berlin that an UNRRA transit center for Jewish refugees, which has room for 300 people, now has 1,200 Jews from Poland crowded into it. They sleep four in one bed and receive meager rations, but are not complaining since they are happy to get out of Poland.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS ASK 1,600 PALESTINE CERTIFICATES; 1,000 FOR CHALUTZIM

TEL AVIV, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Addressing a public gathering here today, Dr. Chaim Weizmann disclosed that while in Palestine, he received a cable from the Palestine office of the Jewish Agency in New York requesting 1,600 Palestine immigration certificates, including 1,000 for Chalutzim.

Dr. Weizmann refuted the allegations that American Jews are not interested in settling in Palestine. He said that the Jews in the United States were shocked by Foreign Secretary Bevin's statement on Palestine. "The bulk of American public opinion is for a Jewish State and I am sure that President Truman will be with us when the decision comes," he stated.

At a luncheon given by the Journalist Association to members of the Jewish Agency executive, Dr. Nahum Goldmann said that "an anti-Zionist solution of the Palestine problem is unimaginable," because the Jews are now a strong factor in the Middle East. A temporary solution which disregards the Zionist demands may be imposed, but only for a short time, if the Jews of Palestine remain determined as they are now, and if they succeed in rallying the bulk of world Jewry around the Yishuv in its struggle, he stated. Other speakers included Prof. Brodetsky, Louis Lipsky and Berl Locker.

HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATES PALESTINE ISSUE; OPENING OF TRANSJORDAN TO JEWS IS URGED

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- A full-dress debate on the Palestine issue took place in the House of Lords today following the announcement of the composition of the Anglo-American inquiry commission by Foreign Secretary Bevin, in Commons.

Lord Antringham, who - as Sir Edward Grigg - was British Minister of State in the Middle East, opened the debate with an attack on the Jews of Palestine, charging them with "unscrupulous abuse" of the British police and military services in Palestine. He said that the charges against the British being voiced by the Jewish underground radio "Voice of Israel" are "a disgrace to Israel."

Viscount Samuel, who was the first Palestine High Commissioner and under whose administration Transjordan was separated from Palestine, told the House of Lords that Transjordan should be opened to Jewish immigration. He denounced the White Paper and the hunt for refugees. The White Paper, he said, was a contradiction of the Balfour Declaration and was condemned in advance by the Peel Commission.

At the same time, Lord Samuel emphasized that he considers it a "false step" on the part of the Zionists to ask for a Jewish State. The Balfour Declaration, he argued, did not promise a Jewish State, but an opportunity to create conditions under which in the course of time it might be possible to establish a Jewish State. He denied that Palestine could not absorb more immigrants, declaring that its population could be doubled or trebled. He emphasized that 100,000 Jews went to their death in gas chambers in Europe, who could have been saved if admitted to Palestine.

Welcomes American Partnership in Solution of Palestine Problem

The partnership of the United States in settling the Palestine problem is inevitable, Viscount Samuel said. He opposed independence for Palestine and suggested instead a temporary trusteeship, with Moslem, Jewish and Christian communities taking charge of their own educational and religious affairs.

The Archbishop of York, who is a member of the House of Lords, warned against the "un-Christian, irrational anti-Semitism which is noticeable even in England," and appealed to Jewish leaders to curb anti-British attacks by speakers and writers, which might lead to a dangerous reaction in this country. Britain, he added, sympathizes with the Jews, and wishes them to get a home where they can develop their culture and live free of persecution.

Lord Cranborne, former Colonial Minister, appealed to the Zionist leaders to stop violence in Palestine. He said that he found no trace of anti-Jewish bias among officials of the Colonial Office during his administration, and expressed the belief that the anti-British feelings are not representative of the vast majority of Jews.

Lord Strabolgi appealed to the British Government to take steps to halt the violent anti-Semitism in Poland which is now forcing Jews to flee to Germany. He said that the Palestine problem would be solved only when Palestine is given a dominion status. He suggested that Britain and the United States invite Russia to participate in the Anglo-American inquiry commission on Palestine.

Lord Chancellor, replying for the Government, said that it would not be deterred by threats and violence from carrying out its duty of maintaining law and order in Palestine.

ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL SAYS THERE IS NO NEED FOR ANGLO-AMERICAN INQUIRY COMMISSION

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Following the announcement today by the United States and British governments of the composition of the joint Anglo-American inquiry commission on Palestine, the American Zionist Emergency Council held a special meeting, at the conclusion of which it issued a statement reiterating its objections to the proposed investigation.

"Having learned of the composition of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, we see no reason to alter the position which we took on principle weeks before, as conveyed in our telegraph message to President Truman on Nov. 15th," it said. "Without reflecting upon the character and the intentions of any of those who have been appointed to serve on the Committee, we express once more our unalterable opposition to the entire procedure."

Charging that "by his statements Mr. Bevin prejudged the inquiry and anticipated its conclusions so far as the British Government is concerned," the Council declared that we view with the greatest distrust this entire procedure which was originated by the Colonial and Foreign Offices of the British Government. It added that "for its size, Palestine is the most investigated country on earth," and that the results of the innumerable inquiries into the Palestine problem and the problem of Jewish migration are on record and well known.

"The procedure on which the British and American Governments are now embarked, none, at best, a further unconscionable delay in dealing with a problem involving many thousands of lives in the only constructive way possible, by the immediate admission of the uprooted European Jews into Palestine," the council continued. "Actually, we have every reason to believe that the negative purpose of the British Government is more far-reaching: to evade its responsibilities under the Mandate and divest itself of all its international obligations toward the Jewish people under cover of recommendations emanating from a joint Anglo-American Committee, which has virtually been directed in advance by the British Foreign Secretary. It is clearly an attempt to enmesh the United States in the toils of British policy and to make this country a partner of British betrayal."

"The ultimate decision of the whole Zionist movement regarding the position it will take in relation to the proposed inquiry rests with the executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, now meeting in Jerusalem. We, speaking on behalf of the Zionists of America, cannot refrain from voicing our sense of shock and resentment that our Government should lend itself to this device of the British Government, by participating in a Committee whose findings have been so largely prejudged by the spokesman of that government--a procedure repugnant to every American notion of fair play and in defiance of all Anglo-Saxon traditions of judicial inquiry," its statement concluded.

KU KLUX KLAN REVIVED IN SOUTH; LEADER SAYS ORGANIZATION WILL FIGHT "KIKES"

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- A report to the World-Telegram today from Atlanta, Georgia, says that the Ku Klux Klan has resumed functioning there, with all its trappings - burning crosses, hoods and other KKK rituals - and quotes Grand Dragon Samuel Green as stating that "we are not fighting Jews because of their religion. We are fighting the kikes, and there are as many kikes among the Protestants as among the Jews."

Active in the Klan revival is J.B. Stoner of Chattanooga who last year sent a petition to Congress reading: "I request, urge and petition you to pass a resolution recognizing the fact that the Jews are children of the devil and that, consequently, they constitute a grave danger to the United States of America."

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