

JTA

VOL. XII No. 292 (27th year)

Monday, December 24, 1945

*Daily News Bulletin*PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY  
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.JEWISH GROUPS HAIL TRUMAN DIRECTIVE ON REFUGEES; OFFER AID TO SPEED EMIGRATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- American Jewish organizations today welcomed President Truman's order releasing the nearly 1,000 refugees at Fort Ontario and instructing various government departments to facilitate the immigration from Europe of displaced persons under existing quotas. The services of trained immigration specialists were offered to the government to speed release of the Oswego refugees, to aid in preparing displaced persons for emigration to the United States, and to assist them once they arrive.

The National Refugee Service issued a statement pointing out that a broad program of aid awaits the newcomers. Prof. Joseph Chamberlain, chairman of the board of the NRS, pledged that through this program every effort would be made to prevent the newcomers from becoming a public financial burden, and to bring about their geographic distribution throughout the country so that their adjustment to American life would be speeded. One of the first projects to be undertaken by NRS will be the resettlement of the refugees from Oswego. Many communities have agreed to accept quotas of these refugees, and some of them already have funds earmarked for the purpose, the NRS said.

Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, in a telegram hailing the Truman directive as "an example to other countries of the world," offered the services of the organization's social work immigration experts in this country, and the members of its units overseas. The letter, Mrs. Welt pointed out, could assist government representatives in the American zone of occupation.

In a telegram to President Truman, Joseph Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, said that "by this action our country will make a genuine contribution towards alleviating the sufferings of the survivors of Nazism and Fascism who are in need of immediate resettlement and rehabilitation." The President's order, Judge Proskauer added, will "demonstrate to other nations that the United States is ready to take the lead in the great humanitarian task of reconstituting the lives of those who suffered most."

Truman Orders UNRRA, State, Justice Depts., to Cooperate

The President's order contained specific directives to the Secretaries of War and State, the Attorney General, the Director General of UNRRA, the War Shipping Administrator, and the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service to facilitate the task of bringing the displaced persons from Europe by sending representatives of their departments to the American zone of occupation. He also suggested the formation of an inter-departmental committee, under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, to coordinate the work of the various government agencies involved.

Mr. Truman stressed that the immigrants, of whom a maximum of 3,900 will be admitted monthly, would enter under existing quota regulations. He also pointed out that the quotas which were unfilled during the war years are not cumulative, and added that

he did not plan to ask Congress to authorize their use. Most of the immigrants, he said, would come from central and eastern Europe and the Balkans. The President expressed the desire that as many of the visas as possible be issued to orphaned children.

He said he believed responsible welfare organizations "will guarantee that these children will not become public charges." Similar guarantees have been or will be made on behalf of adults, he added. "Relatives or organizations will also advance the necessary visa fees and travel fare," he stated. "Where the necessary funds for travel fare and visa fees have not been advanced by a welfare organization or relative, the individual applicant must meet these costs. In this way the transportation of these immigrants will not cost the American taxpayers a single dollar."

The President took cognizance of the many anti-immigration measures before Congress, and said that "I hope that such legislation will not be passed."

#### JWS DEPORTED TO ERITREA ONLY AFTER PITCHED BATTLE; REMAINING PRISONERS CONTINUE STRIKE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The deportation of 55 Jews from the Latrun Detention Camp to Eritrea, last Thursday, was effected only after a pitched battle in which all the Jews imprisoned in the camp participated, it was revealed here today. A huge detachment of police and soldiers, armed with a variety of weapons, finally overpowered the deportees.

A strike proclaimed by the remaining internees entered into its fourth day today. The prisoners are refusing to eat, shave or move from their bunks. Wives and families of the deported men, who gathered in the offices of several of the Jewish settlements, are remaining there, in protest against the Government's action.

The entire Hebrew press today attacks the deportations, pointing out that they were in deliberate violation of a decision by the Palestine High Court, declaring that imprisonment of Palestinian citizens outside the borders of the country is illegal. The large Labor daily Davar says that the entire Jewish community is behind the Latrun strikers, and urges the immediate repatriation of all those interned in Eritrea, who now total over 300.

#### CAPTAIN AND CREW OF SHIP CHARGED WITH CARRYING "ILLEGAL" IMMIGRANTS ACQUITTED

HAIFA, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The captain of the Greek ship Demetrios and five of his crew were acquitted yesterday in district court here on charges of "aiding and abetting persons to enter Palestine illegally." They were immediately re-arrested, however, by British police acting under recently enacted "emergency defense regulations." When their attorney protested to the court, the judge said that he could not intervene, because once he had rendered his decision, "my job is finished."

The Demetrios was intercepted by a British naval patrol on Nov. 23, after it was charged, some 200 "illegal" Jewish immigrants had disembarked from it, and disappeared into nearby Jewish settlements.

During a three-day trial the prosecution failed to prove that a number of persons arrested on board the ship were "illegal immigrants" and, as the ship was intercepted inside territorial waters, the ship's company could not be charged with aiding persons to enter Palestine.

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LEADER OF "STERN GROUP", FUGITIVE FROM BRITISH, OUTLINES VIEWS OF HIS ORGANIZATION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Friedman Yellin, leader of the Fighters for the Freedom of Israel, popularly known as "the Stern Gang", who has a price of \$2,000 on his head, today gave an interview to the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, at a secluded spot somewhere in Palestine, revealing the plans and the policy of his underground organization.

"We are at war with the British Empire now," he said. "There is no other way. The British are determined that Palestine shall never become a Jewish State. We are equally determined that it will."

All peaceful means of settling the question, he said, have been exploited in vain. "It is clear now that the aim of the Jewish people cannot be realized through conferences, commissions and the writing of memorandums. The chief issue of the creation of a Jewish State cannot be obscured by discussions about immigration."

Emphasizing that Palestine must be opened up to Jews from all over the world without restrictions or limitations of any kind, the leader of the "Stern Gang" explained that while the problem of Jews in the displaced camps of Europe is acute, the basic aim of his organization is much more far-reaching. "We don't want the world's pity and we are not conducting an elementary campaign," he declared.

Believes Jews Could Reach Agreement with Arabs, if British Withdrew

Yellin, who escaped from a British internment camp in Palestine, believes that if the British withdrew from Palestine, the Jews could reach an agreement with the Arabs "and it would not be a question of imposing our will on the Arabs in Palestine," he pointed out. "It is true that we are militarily stronger than they and this would be a factor. But the important matter is that we would be able to prove to them that a Jewish state would be advantageous, rather than detrimental, to them."

"Despite the many obstacles that the British have placed in our path, we Jews of Palestine have progressed considerably," he continued. "I do not believe the British would allow us to make any further progress, however, out of their fear that this progress might conflict more and more with the Empire's interests in Europe and the Middle East."

Yellin cited the fact that the British have prohibited the purchase of American machinery and raw materials by Palestine's Jews and said that in this they are carrying out two objectives: "Restricting the economic capabilities of Palestine, which might develop a virile commercial competition in this part of the world; and deliberately creating unemployment among the settlers, providing one more excuse against further immigration."

Opposes Strategic Military Rights for Britain in Palestine

He contended that the appointment of an Anglo-American commission of inquiry merely served to "camouflage" these two aims. "We are sorry if the Americans have been taken in by this British maneuver and we believe that Jews should refuse to appear before the commission," he said.

Questioned as to various "solutions" of the Palestine problem, such as partition, a bi-national state and dominion status, the young leader said he unequivocally opposed them all. He also opposed a proposition advanced by many Jewish leaders, offer-

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ing Britain the guarantee of strategic military rights in Palestine. He said: "It is naive to think that if Britain had a great naval base at Haifa and airdromes and thousands of troops throughout Palestine she would allow Jews any more freedom to conduct their own affairs than she does now."

### Says British-Russian Relations Involved in Palestine

Questioned as to Palestine in relation to the international scene, he said: "We know of course that Britain's relations with the Soviet Union are also involved in this problem. Today the British are concealing their real feeling toward Russia. But their bayonets are on our backs."

Yellin said his organization has no definite political program along social and economic lines. "But we are for a truly democratic, as well as free and independent, Palestine," he declared. "We are opposed to every kind of exploitation. We are not anti-Socialist. We believe in a strong state encouraged by cooperative methods. The majority of Jewish people in Palestine are workers--we believe they will govern the country well."

### JAMAL HUSSEINI AND OTHER RELEASED ARAB EXTREMISTS ARRIVE IN CAIRO IN BRITISH PLANE

CAIRO, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Four Palestine Arab extremist leaders--Jamal Hussein, Dawood Hussein, Kemal Osman Haddad and Amin Buweika--arrived here yesterday afternoon by military planes from Rhodesia, where they were detained during the war.

An application for their release was granted by the High Court in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, on Nov. 29, the attorney general stating that information had been received that detention was no longer necessary.

Jamal Hussein, who was one of the instigators of the anti-Jewish outbreaks in Palestine, was arrested in 1941 and sent to Southern Rhodesia in 1942. He was elected president of the Palestine Arab Party in 1943. He was a member of the Palestine Arab delegations to London in 1936 and 1939, and opened the Arab case before the British Royal Commission on Palestine in 1937.

### CHINA ASSURES UNRRA THAT JEWISH REFUGEES WILL NOT BE DEPORTED FROM SHANGHAI

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- The Chinese Government appears ready to reconsider the order under which thousands of Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria would have been deported from Shanghai, it was reported today by the American Jewish Conference.

"It is confidently anticipated that the order, as it applies to Jews, will be countermanded shortly," the Conference said. It revealed that its Washington representative "drew the attention of the UNRRA to the situation in Shanghai and was assured categorically that the deportation order would not be implemented by the Chinese Government." UNRRA has already registered its objections, the Conference announcement emphasized.

It disclosed that the American Jewish Conference and the World Jewish Congress have sent a letter to the Chinese Embassy in Washington requesting that the Chinese Government issue specific orders exempting Jewish refugees from the application of the deportation decree.

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AMERICAN REPORTS ON POSITION OF DISPLACED PERSONS; UNRRA WILL HELP JEWISH REFUGEES IN CHINA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- Governor Herbert Lehman, director general of UNRRA, told a press conference here that displaced persons camps in the American zone in Germany have shown great improvement. He acknowledged, however, that the present flow of supplies and the type of housing is not entirely adequate.

Lehman said that UNRRA is cooperating with the Joint Distribution Committee in caring for German-Jewish refugees in China.

15,000 AMERICAN SOLDIERS SIGN PETITION FOR FREE IMMIGRATION OF JEWS TO PALESTINE

MANILA, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- A total of 15,000 American servicemen in the Pacific Theater have signed a petition to President Truman urging that the doors of Palestine be opened to free Jewish immigration.

Sixty percent of the signatures on the petition, which is being circulated by the Servicemen's Committee for a Jewish Palestine, have been obtained from Christian soldiers and sailors. In one engineer company 200 servicemen signed the petition, although only eight men in the unit were Jewish.

Pointing out that the signers fought to preserve "the principles of humanity and justice," the petition requests that Jewish survivors of the Nazi terror be permitted to enter Palestine, "the only country willing and able to receive them." Only in that country, the petition continues, "can the grim specter of the concentration camp be lifted, and self-respect and dignity restored to a broken people."

TRUMAN URGED BY UPA CONFERENCE TO IMPLEMENT CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- An appeal to President Truman, urging implementation of the Congressional resolution on Palestine, was voiced today by 4,000 delegates attending an Emergency Conference on Palestine, at Manhattan Center, called by the council of organizations of the United Palestine Appeal.

A resolution pledging all-out support of the \$100,000,000 drive proclaimed by the United Jewish Appeal for 1946 was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

Speakers included Joseph Rosenzweig, chairman of the Central Jewish Committee in the British zone in Germany, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Louis Lipsky, Judge Jonah Goldstein, and Leon Gellman, president of the Mizrahi Organization.

The resolution embodying the appeal to President Truman charged the British Labor Government with "flagrantly violating its own party pledges" and declared that that Government "now employs that strength which the Jews helped to create, to bar Palestine to the Jewish people," while the British Colonial Office deliberately utilizes and directs the discontent of the exploited Arab peoples into anti-Zionist and anti-Jewish channels." It stated that the newly designated Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry would "defer unduly the immediate remedial action required."

"JEWISH YELLOW BOOK" PUBLISHED IN HUNGARY; CONTAINS EYEWITNESS REPORTS OF ATROCITIES

BUDAPEST, Dec. 23. (JTA) -- A "Jewish Yellow Book" describing eyewitness accounts of the systematic torture and murder of Jews in concentration camps in all parts of Nazi Germany, and the development of the anti-Semitic movement in Hungary has been published here.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN WILL APPEAR ON WEDNESDAY