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JTA

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106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.BRITAIN TO RECOMMEND INDEPENDENCE FOR TRANSJORDAN; WANTS HER TO JOIN UNITED NATIONS

LONDON, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Transjordan, which constitutes part of the British mandate over Palestine, may soon be given full independence and become a member of the United Nations Organization at the recommendation of the British Government, it was indicated here today.

It was predicted that when Foreign Secretary Bevin delivers his address this week before the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization, he will point out that Transjordan is at present mature and ready for independence. He will also announce that a treaty granting the country independence will be signed when Emir Abdullah, the ruler of Transjordan, arrives in London shortly.

The British Foreign Secretary will express the hope that Transjordan may be able to join the United Nations before the session of the General Assembly is concluded. At present, the treaty between Britain and Emir Abdullah provides for the appointment of a British resident in Amman, capital of Transjordan, who is subordinate to the High Commissioner of Palestine.

Move Soon As Attempt to Evade Placing Country Under Trusteeship

Bevin's intention of announcing the independence of Transjordan is looked upon in well-informed circles here as a move to prevent the placing of Transjordan, a mandated territory, under the supervision of the Trusteeship Council of the UNO. Such a move would bring Transjordan into the same category as Syria and Lebanon, mandated territories which were made into independent states by a decision of one or more of the great powers.

The question of mandated territories will come before the General Assembly within a few days, as a result of a resolution presented by the Soviet Government, urging the nations that hold mandated territories to place them under the supervision of the Trusteeship Council as soon as possible. The resolution was adopted by the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Organization.

Should Transjordan become a member of the United Nations, the Arab countries will have six votes in the General Assembly, which will be increased to seven if Yemen, an Arab principality, which is also anxious to join the UNO, is admitted to membership. The Arab bloc will thus become one of the largest regional groups within the United Nations Organization.

Riad El Solh, former Prime Minister of Lebanon, who is a delegate to the General Assembly, today said that "though the question of Palestine is not before the present session of the UNO, the Arab nations would show their agreed point of view if it should come up." He emphasized that the Arab delegates will press for a representative in the Trusteeship Council, which will decide on matters concerning the mandated territories.

PALESTINE PROTEST MEETINGS HIT STOPPAGE OF IMMIGRATION; NOTE SENT TO GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- A delegation of top leaders of the Jewish community, including Isaac Ben Zvi, president of the National Council, Mayor Rekach of Tel Aviv and the two chief rabbis, today presented a protest against the stoppage of immigration to High Commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham, as a large rally heard denunciations of British policy in Palestine.

Returning from the High Commissioner's office before the rally had concluded, the delegation reported that Sir Alan had promised to transmit their memorandum to London immediately, and had added that the matter of immigration was now under consideration, presumably in London, besides being investigated by the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

The memorandum asked the opening of Palestine to free Jewish immigration and repeal of the restrictive land laws, and, at the same time, assailed the British Government for asking Arab permission for the entry of Jews. It also urged that the Jewish Agency be vested with authority to facilitate Jewish immigration and the colonization and development of Palestine.

Protest meetings similar to the Jerusalem rally were held throughout the country today to demonstrate against the failure of the Government to carry out the pledge of a 1,500 monthly immigration quota made by Foreign Minister Bevin.

CHURCHILL CALLS FOR ANGLO-U.S. COOPERATION ON PALESTINE; SCOMES WHITE PAPER

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Tearing himself "a Zionist from the very beginning," former Prime Minister Winston Churchill said last night that he was still opposed to the White Paper which restricts Jewish immigration into Palestine, but believed that the entire problem was one for joint Anglo-American action.

Expressing his approval of the inquiry committee which is now studying the issue, Churchill told a press conference, following his disembarkation from the Queen Elizabeth, that "I think too heavy a weight has been thrown on Britain, considering the complicated nature of her Moslem and Arab relations." He added that the question "is really too difficult to handle by one nation alone."

Although he refused to suggest any specific suggestion as to how the United States could help solve the problem, declaring that he would find it difficult to formulate any precise ideas at the present time, Churchill reiterated his belief that "far better results can be obtained through the efforts of both nations. They might bring about a most happy solution for the whole world," he continued.

ANGLO-AMERICAN INQUIRY COMMITTEE CONFERRED WITH TRUMAN AT WHITE HOUSE; SAILING FRIDAY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- All twelve members of the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee on Palestine called at the White House this morning, where they spoke with the President for a half hour. They declined to comment on their discussions, but it is understood they reported to Mr. Truman on what progress they have made so far. The committee, which completed hearings here yesterday, is sailing for England on the Queen Elizabeth on Friday.

MASS GRAVES OF NAZI VICTIMS DISCOVERED IN AUSTRIA; 160 BODIES EXUMED

VIENNA, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Two mass graves, containing the bodies of 160 Jews, were discovered near Eisenstadt, Austria, the Innsbruck radio reported today. Eighty persons have been arrested as suspects in the mass murder. Investigations revealed that victims were part of a group of some 4,000 Hungarian Jews who were being taken to

UNRRA REFUSES TO COMMENT ON STATUS OF MORGAN CASE; DEADLOCK PREVAILS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Headquarters of UNRRA here today declined to comment on the status of Lt. Gen. Sir Frederick E. Morgan beyond the statement it originally issued, requesting his resignation.

Morgan, who was asked to resign following a public statement in which he made a number of anti-Semitic remarks, announced that he does not intend to resign. At the moment the deadlock seems to be unbroken, with Sir Humphrey Gals, European director of UNRRA, who has the power to oust Morgan, apparently doing nothing about it.

WISH RELIEF UNIT FROM AUSTRALIA NOT ACCEPTED BY UNRRA FOR WORK IN SHANGHAI

SIDNEY, Australia, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Plans for sending a Jewish relief unit from here for work among refugees in Shanghai have been cancelled because UNRRA insist that the unit pay its own transportation and maintain itself while in Shanghai.

(In Washington, UNRRA headquarters told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the action with regard to the Australian Jewish unit is part of a policy enunciated last September for the Far East, which is being applied to all volunteer teams. The UNRRA does not need volunteer units in China to the same extent as in Europe. If the Australian Jewish unit, which is a medical one, would consent to go to Europe, its expenses will be paid by the UNRRA, a spokesman emphasized.)

Egyptian Minister Denies Report of Lifting Ban on Jewish-Made Palestinian Goods

CAIRO, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Abdul Rahman Azzam Bey, Egyptian Minister for Arab Affairs and secretary general of the Arab League, today denied American reports that the Arab League was considering lifting the ban on Jewish-made goods from Palestine, as a result of British diplomatic pressure.

The Egyptian Government, meanwhile, announced that it intends to place a ban on all Palestinian imports, making exception only when it is certain that the goods are Arab. Makram Ebeid Pasha, Minister of Finance, who made the announcement, said that the boycott, called by the Arab League on Jan. 1, has been enforced since that date.

TWO JEWS WOUNDED BY ARAB ASSAILANTS; JEWS CHARGED WITH ATTACK ON BORDER POLICE

ERUSALEM, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Two Jews were wounded, one seriously, today, when they were attacked by a group of Arabs while en route to the planting of the first "wood" in the Negev, the arid southern section of Palestine. Funds for the trees were provided by the Pioneer Women's Organization of America and its Palestine affiliate, the Women Workers' Organization.

The police issued a communique today stating that at dawn yesterday a group of Jews entered a tent near the Palestine-Syrian border, in which five police were housed, assaulted them and removed the bolts from their rifles.

ANTI-SEMITES SET MAJDANEK BARRACKS ON FIRE; SEEK TO DESTROY ANTI-NAZI DISPLAY

WARSAW, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Members of the Polish underground anti-Semitic organization which is conducting anti-Jewish activities throughout Poland, today made an attempt to set on fire the barracks in the Majdanek camp where material is displayed showing Nazi barbarism against Jews. The fire in several barracks was extinguished, and an investigation was started.

JEWISH AGENCY RIDICULES REPORT THAT WEIZMANN OFFERED \$100,000,000 BRIBE TO IBN SAUD

JERUSALEM, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Jewish Agency circles today ridiculed a report being circulated in Cairo by an American news agency that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Agency, had offered Ibn Saud \$100,000,000 to remain neutral on the Palestine question.

The same circles expressed doubt concerning the truth of another report carried by a New York newspaper that Judge Joseph C. Hutchison, American chairman of the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee on Palestine, and several other committee members are inclined to propose admission of 200,000 Jews to Palestine as the price for liquidation of the aim of a Jewish state.

This report, an Agency spokesman said, is "illogical and improbable" since the committee has not as yet carried out inquiry in Europe and Palestine. "But if the report is true, the Jewish Agency will unequivocally and unflinchingly reject it," the spokesman declared.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT GRANTS VISAS TO U.S. VETERANS WISHING TO STUDY IN HAIFA TECHNION

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government has instructed the British Passport Control Office in New York to issue tourist visa to American veterans desiring to study engineering and industrial arts at the Haifa Technion under the G.I. Bill of Rights, it was announced today by the American Society for the Palestine Institute of Technology, a national organization with offices in New York.

The Palestine Government also gave its consent to an arrangement whereby veterans applying for admission will be selected by a special committee of engineers and educators affiliated with the American Society. The Haifa Technion, also known as the Hebrew Institute of Technology of Haifa, Palestine, is the only institution in Palestine devoted to technological training and research. It offers complete educational facilities to students in engineering, applied science and industrial arts. The Institute has an Engineering College, a Post-Graduate School, as well as a Vocational High School and Nautical School.

ARMED GROUP RAID'S WAREHOUSE IN PALESTINE; ESCAPES WITH CHEMICALS USED FOR EXPLOSIVES

TEL AVIV, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Six or seven men and a woman, all armed, broke into an Imperial Chemical Industries store last night and made off with two truckloads of nitrate of soda, used in the manufacture of explosives, it was disclosed here today. The store is located halfway between here and Jaffa.

The raiders, whose haul totalled more than eight tons, covered their tracks with pepper to impede police dogs, used in tracking them.

JUDGE HARRY HOLZER, JEWISH LEADER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, DIES IN LOS ANGLES

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 15. (JTA) -- Federal Judge Harry A. Hollzer, president of the Los Angeles Jewish Community Council since 1934, died here tonight after a ten-day illness, following a heart attack suffered shortly after his return from the United Jewish Appeal national conference at Atlantic City.

Judge Hollzer, who was considered one of the leading Jewish citizens of Southern California, had been active in Jewish communal life for many years. He was chairman of the Los Angeles Army and Navy Committee, a director of the Joint Distribution Committee, a member of the national council of the United Palestine Appeal, a director of the Jewish Welfare Board, a leader of the Los Angeles Federation of Jewish Welfare Organizations, and an officer in numerous other civic and philanthropic bodies.