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ANGLO-AMERICAN HEARINGS ON PALESTINE CONCLUDED IN LONDON; ARAB DELEGATES TO UNO TESTIFY

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The hearings of the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee concluded here today as representatives of five Arab states testified against Jewish immigration to Palestine and a representative of the Communist Party in Britain recommended the termination of the Palestine Mandate and the establishment of an independent Palestine, but not a Jewish State.

Speaking for all the Arab states, Faris el Khoury, president of the Syrian Senate, said that even if other countries of the world open their doors to Jewish refugees, Palestine should still refuse to admit them. "We have taken enough of them," he said.

Asked whether he would oppose Jewish immigration to Palestine even if large scale improvements are made there, including the carrying out of the Lowdermilk plan and economic developments which would increase Arab well-being, Khoury replied: "Definitely yes. I wish to state again that we absolutely reject Jewish immigration." Asked if the Arabs in Palestine are interested in credits, machinery and industrial advancement, he stated: "Not at Jewish hands!" He added that the Arab states are also against the partitioning of Palestine.

Jewish Palestine Is Military Threat to Lebanon, Arab Spokesman Says

Testifying for Lebanon, Hamid Bey Frangie said that his country had been living in a state of anxiety in view of Jewish aspirations in Palestine. He asserted that if Palestine is made a Jewish State, his country's security will be menaced.

The spokesman for Iraq said that "giving Palestine to the Zionists would be against all principles of the United Nations and contrary to the White Paper." The spokesman for Egypt and for Saudi Arabia took a more moderate tone. Emir Feisal, second son of the ruler of Saudi Arabia, made a brief statement through an interpreter emphasizing that never in history had there been any difficulties between Jews and Arabs "until a religion was converted into a political movement."

William Phillips, American member of the committee, wanted to know whether the Arab states would not be prepared to agree to limited Jewish immigration to Palestine, if the idea of establishing a Jewish State were given up. Khoury, replying for the Arab group, said: "For the moment no, but an independent Palestine may make its own decision."

Communist Party Rejects Zionism; Wants Arab-Jewish State

The last witness to testify was Philip Piratin, Communist member of Parliament, who submitted a memorandum on behalf of his party stressing that Palestine is not a free country and, therefore, cannot be one of the countries to admit refugees.

The memorandum expressed regret at the fact that little has been done to implement the White Paper's pledge to make Palestine independent. It declared that the Communist Party does not believe that it would be in the interests of refugees to

change their citizenship from that of a free country to that of a country with a colonial status. It requested that Palestine be made an independent state where Jews and Arabs will be enabled to live together as equal citizens.

"We reject Zionism, because it denies the possibility of solving the Jewish problem on the basis of equal rights in countries where Jews live," Piratin said, adding that displaced Jews should be told to seek rehabilitation in their countries of origin, while those who cannot return to their native lands should be admitted to all countries of the world and be made free citizens there."

Questioned whether the Jewish members of the Communist Party hold the same views, Piratin replied he could not ascertain that, but added that some of them would like to see a Jewish National Home in Palestine. Asked how many Jews were in the British Communist Party, Piratin said that his party was not a Jewish organization and that the percentage of Jews belonging to it corresponded to their percentage of the general population. There are only two Jews among the thirty members of the party's executive committee, he stated.

#### PALESTINE ARABS CALL GENERAL STRIKE TO PROTEST ADMISSION OF JEWISH REFUGEES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A general strike of Palestinian Arabs has been called for tomorrow in protest against the British Government's decision to admit 1,500 Jews monthly into Palestine until the end of April.

The strike was proclaimed by the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, which will also submit a memorandum to the British Government and the High Commissioner protesting against Jewish immigration, and demanding abrogation of the Palestine Mandate. It will also appeal to the UNO and the Arab nations.

The first 350 of the 910 refugees off the Enzo Sereni will be released from the Athlit internment camp on Sunday, in accordance with the order issued yesterday by the High Commissioner. Most of them will be settled in agricultural villages. It was learned today that the Government will be unable to confiscate the Enzo Sereni under its defense regulations, since it was captured outside Palestinian territorial waters.

At a meeting this week of the heads of the Syrian army, police and secret investigation departments, held near the Palestine border, plans were mapped to prevent Jewish immigration into Palestine via Syria, and to halt the passage of Jewish goods from Palestine to Syria and other Arab countries.

The court martial, which this week found Capt. Itzhak Ben Ahron guilty of making unauthorized statements during an address to the Jewish National Assembly last November, voted that his sentence be an official reprimand, the military authorities revealed today, announcing that the court's decision had been confirmed by the command-in-chief in Palestine.

#### NEWS IN RUMANIA PROTEST DECISION OF INQUIRY COMMITTEE TO BYPASS INVESTIGATION THERE

BUCHAREST, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Rumanian Jews, 100,000 of whom have applied for emigration to Palestine, are appealing the decision of the Anglo-American inquiry committee not to visit this country.

In a cable to the chairman of the committee the local section of the World Jewish Congress protested the probe's present plan to deal with the question of central and southern Europe from Austria, and urged that it come to Rumania for an investigation. Protest meetings are to be held throughout the country to demand that the inquiry group change its itinerary.

## UKRAINIANS BACK COMPULSORY REPATRIATION OF ALL DISPLACED PERSONS EXCEPT GERMAN JEWS

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Yugoslav proposal that all displaced persons be forced to return to their homelands, with the exception of German Jews and Spanish Republicans was endorsed today at a sub-committee meeting by Mikola Bajam, speaking for the Ukrainian delegation.

At the same time, the French delegates urged that an advisory committee to the Economic and Social Council of the UNO assume the functions of both the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees and the League of Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees. They suggested that the new body discuss means of dealing with refugees admitted to various countries before the war, and those displaced since the war.

Meanwhile, the demand by the Arab states that the UNO define the term "the states directly concerned" in a manner which would allow Arab participation in any trusteeship for Palestine has been withdrawn for the time being, it is reported here. As a result of discussions within a sub-committee of the trusteeship committee, the Arabs have agreed that the "states directly concerned" shall be defined separately for each trusteeship under consideration.

The sub-committee is also reported to have agreed on a United States proposal that the transfer of trustee territories be handled by the UNO directly, or through diplomatic negotiations among the nations concerned. The Americans are also pressing for provisions which would specifically outline the obligations owed by administering authorities to residents of the trustee area, and which would require annual reports by the administering powers of conditions in the areas they control.

## UNRRA POLLS DISPLACED JEWS ON EMIGRATION PLANS; FIRST VOTE SHOWS PALESTINE IS FAVORED

PUERTH, Germany, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A questionnaire polling Jews in displaced persons camps in Germany on their desires for emigration and resettlement is being circulated by the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee on Palestine. The committee is using the facilities of UNRRA to distribute and collect the ballots.

The three questions, which are presented in English, Yiddish, and German, are: 1. Do you want to remain in Germany? 2. If not, do you want to settle in another European country? 3. If not, to which other country would you like to emigrate?

In the first polling, some 650 Jews at the Bamberg camp and another 1,200 at the Or Chadash camp, here, indicated their choices. Without exception none of the Jews desired to remain in Germany; an overwhelming number refused to go to any other European country; and almost every single Jew in both camps voted for emigration to Palestine.

Although there was room for a second choice on place of emigration, only five percent filled in that line. Most of those who voted for a second choice indicated the United States or some other country in the western hemisphere, while others insisted that if they could not go to Palestine, they chose the crematorium.

## "REPATRIATION FIRMS" ESTABLISHED IN POLAND FOR JEWS RETURNING FROM RUSSIA

WARSAW, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Central Committee of Polish Jews today announced the establishment of "repatriation posts" in Lodz, Cracow, Katowice, Bialystok, Przemyśl, Chelm and Warsaw to receive Polish Jews being repatriated from the Soviet Union.

Units of the committee's repatriation department will meet the repatriates and provide food and temporary lodging until they can continue to their eventual destinations. Most of the returning Jews are being directed to Upper Silesia for resettlement.

## DR. SILVER ATTACKS REINSTATEMENT OF GEN. MORGAN AS "LAMENTABLE ACT OF WHITEWASHING"

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, president of the Zionist Organization of America, today condemned Director General of UNRRA Herbert Lehman's reinstatement of Lt. Gen. Frederick Morgan as a "lamentable act of whitewashing."

"The action of Mr. Herbert Lehman in restoring Lt. General Morgan to his post as Chief of Operations in Germany for UNRRA is a lamentable act of whitewashing of a British official whose own words condemned him as hopelessly unfit to occupy any office where truth and humanity are primary requisites," Dr. Silver stated.

Declaring that the reason for reversing UNRRA's casting of Morgan remains a "mystery," he said "certainly Morgan's disingenuous letter of explanation could not have caused the change in heart. Morgan does not deny that he uttered those unconscionable and irresponsible statements which accused Jewish refugees, the survivors of Nazi horror, moving out of Poland in order to find greater security elsewhere, of being agents in some secret plot of world Jewry, and that in them 'we have the seeds of World War III.' Mr. Morgan lent himself to a British political maneuver to discredit the insistent and desperate clamor of the Jews of Europe to be permitted to go to Palestine," Rabbi Silver added, accusing Morgan of serving "British imperialism."

Morgan's reinstatement also drew criticism from Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, president of the American and World Federation of Polish Jews, who charged that Gen. Morgan's statement to Lehman was a "deliberate sidetracking" of the main issue in the demand for Morgan's dismissal.

## PEACE PROBLEMS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS PROGRAM TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF ETHNIC GROUPS

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The inclusion of a seven-point world "bill of rights" in the peace treaties still to be signed for World War II was urged today by the Committee on Peace Problems of the American Jewish Committee which has been meeting at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria since Thursday evening under the chairmanship of Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the executive of the American Jewish Committee.

The "bill of rights" for the conquered countries, the committee recommended, "should have the status of fundamental law in the countries concerned, and it should not be subject to alteration or infringement on any pretext without the consent of the UNO. Its enforcement should be placed under the supervision of the Commission on Human Rights of the Social and Economic Council."

The "bill of rights" demands, among other things: No discrimination should be tolerated in the right of, and to citizenship, including naturalization. The right of ethnic religious, or linguistic groups to maintain schools, cultural and religious institutions, and to use their own languages without discrimination. Full equality of legal status, administrative treatment, and economic opportunity, without discrimination because of religion, race, color, or sex. The right of any individual who feels aggrieved by a violation of any of the aforementioned rights to appeal to any tribunal or body which may be authorized by the UNO to receive such an appeal.

The Peace Problems Committee, will submit its recommendations to the 39th Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee which will open tomorrow and continue all day Sunday at the Waldorf.

## JEWISH AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS WILL VISIT U.S. TO STUDY NEWEST METHODS, ACHIEVEMENTS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A group of Jewish agricultural scientists will visit the United States this Spring to study the newest methods and achievements of American agricultural science, it was announced here today.



ORT RESUMES ACTIVITIES IN POLAND; WILL OPEN TRAINING SCHOOLS IN SEVERAL CITIES

GENEVA, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The revival of ORT activities in Poland was announced today by the world headquarters of the organization here. The announcement said that a central committee of the ORT has been formed in Warsaw under the chairmanship of Prof. C. Maszkat, and that vocational training courses for Jews will be opened in Lodz, Kattowice and Breslau "with strong backing by the Polish Government."

The world headquarters of the ORT in Switzerland will send to Poland the necessary equipment as well as a number of Swiss technical instructors, the announcement said. The ORT schools established in Lodz will be named after B. C. Vladsk, American Jewish labor leader and late president of the ORT in the United States. Before the war, ORT maintained 107 training institutions, workshops and cooperatives in Poland. All were destroyed during the Nazi occupation.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE DECIDES "TO CARRY ON AND CONCLUDE" ITS ACTIVITIES

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference today issued a call to delegates to its third session, which will open in Cleveland on February 17, explaining that the purpose in advancing the date of the session, originally scheduled for May, was "to unify and articulate the demands of American Jewry at this time of crisis."

The Conference also announced that at a meeting of its interim committee last Sunday "there was general agreement of the need, in the light of the past experience and the present situation of the Jews overseas, to carry on and conclude the work of the organization. There was also general agreement on the need of setting up, in due course, an overall and democratically elected Jewish body, to represent American Jewry on all questions affecting the Jews overseas. It was felt that when the American Jewish Conference, being a temporary body, completes its now unfinished business, steps should be taken to explore the possibilities of setting up an organization which would engage in safeguarding Jewish rights overseas and in Palestine."

JEWISH STUDENT CHARGED WITH KILLING PERONIST THUG FREED ON FLEA OF SELF-DEFENSE

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Isaac Fridenberg, Jewish medical student, who was charged with murder following the death of a Peronist thug in a street melee has been released. The public prosecutor announced today that the charges were being dropped because it had been found that Fridenberg acted in self-defense.

The shooting occurred when followers of Juan Peron, Argentine strong man, attacked a shop in the Buenos Aires suburb of Liniers owned by young Fridenberg's parents. The assault culminated a series of anti-Semitic incidents, including the stoning of the student's father.

B'NAI B'RITH MEMBERSHIP INCREASED DURING 1945; TOTALLED 264,853 AT BEGINNING OF 1946

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The B'nai B'rith membership had increased to 264,853 at the beginning of this year, it was announced here today by Maurice Binyer, national secretary. About 46,000 new members joined the organization and its affiliate bodies during 1945, the announcement said.

The Supreme lodge of the B'nai B'rith today announced a plan under which B'nai B'rith units are being asked to adopt a B'nai B'rith family overseas and to send directly to this family food packages and clothing. The food parcels, each weighing 11 pounds, are to be shipped at monthly intervals either directly by the sponsors or through the medium of B'nai B'rith's Advisory Committee on European Affairs, and its representatives in Holland, Czechoslovakia, Poland, France, Sweden, Denmark and China.

ZIONIST LEADERS WARN BRITAIN AGAINST IMPLEMENTING PALESTINE "DEFENSE REGULATIONS"

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The new "defense regulations" announced by the British Government in Palestine were branded as part of a "regime of terror" which "has placed Palestine out of the bounds of fundamental human rights," in a statement issued today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

"Speaking for American Zionism and the overwhelming majority of American Jewry, we not only protest against the new regulations of lawlessness in Palestine, but we also warn the British Government that if this is the regime which it proposes to impose on Palestine, henceforth Jews throughout the world will stand firm in support of any act directed against the maintenance and implementation of these inhuman laws," Drs. Silver and Wise declared.

Pointing out that "even the most elementary human right under law, particularly under Anglo-Saxon law, that every person is to be considered innocent until proven guilty, no longer exists in Palestine," the Zionist leaders continued: "The aim of the British colonial administration is clear. It wants to terrorize Jewish Palestine and Jews all over the world into submission to the planned liquidation of the Palestine Mandate and of the internationally assured rights of the Jewish people with regard to Palestine."

N.Y. JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES RAISE \$23,500,000; LARGEST AMOUNT EVER OBTAINED IN CITY

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A total of \$23,500,000, the largest amount ever obtained in a single campaign for health and welfare needs by a private philanthropic organization in a single city, has been raised by the 1945-46 campaign of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, according to an announcement by Maurice Wertheim, chairman of the appeal.

Mayor William O'Dwyer joined more than 600 campaign leaders in a luncheon at the Hotel Plaza, which culminated the five-month drive to obtain \$30,000,000. Of the total raised, \$9,000,000 will be devoted to current maintenance expenditures of the Federation's 116 member hospitals, health, and welfare agencies, and the remainder will be used in the Federation's first building fund in 25 years.

DRIVE TO RAISE \$1,000,000 FOR J.N.F. THROUGH REQUESTS LAUNCHED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A plan to raise \$1,000,000 through personal insurance requests to aid in the acquisition of land in Palestine by the Jewish National Fund, was announced here by Louis Lipsky, Nasi of the Order Bnai Zion, following a meeting of the executive board of the organization.

It was resolved to create a special agency, to be known as the National Ussishkin League, to devote itself to this activity. Membership of the league will be open to all those making the JNF a beneficiary of their wills for a minimum of \$1,000. Isaac Carmel, recently named director of Bnai Zion, will be in charge of the activities of the Ussishkin League.

Z.O.A. ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN INAUGURATES JEWISH NATIONAL FUND DRIVE IN CUBA

HAVANA, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Daniel Frisch, national chairman of the administrative council of the Zionist Organization of America, arrived here today to inaugurate the 1946 fund raising drive of the Jewish National Fund. Mr. Frisch came here in response to an invitation from the Zionist Organization and the JNF bureau in Havana.

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