

Tuesday, February 19, 1946

JTA**Daily News Bulletin**

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

FIVE JEWS KILLED, MANY INJURED, HOMES LOOTED WHEN FASCIST BAND RAIDS POLISH TOWN

WARSAW, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Five Jews were killed and many injured last week when an armed fascist band invaded the town of Parozew, in Warsaw province, and organized a systematic hunt for Jews, it was learned today.

The fascist guerrillas, of whom there were about 200, were commanded by a major and a captain. They disarmed the local militia, took over complete control of the town and organized a house-to-house search for Jews. Those who were unable to hide or flee were assaulted.

Jewish homes were looted by the bandits, who were ordered by their leaders to destroy anything they could not carry away with them. Government security police are now hunting for the band.

LEADERS OF JEWISH COLLABORATIONIST ORGANIZATION IN RUMANIA GET LONG PRISON TERMS

BUCHAREST, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Five leaders of the collaborationist "Central Union of Rumanian Jews" were today sentenced to terms ranging from life imprisonment to twelve years at hard labor, after being found guilty by a peoples court of having aided the pro-Nazi Antonescu Government in carrying out its anti-Jewish measures.

Mandor Ghingold, who headed the organization, was sentenced to life imprisonment, as was M. Isachescu. H. William received a 20-year term; S. Grossman, 15 years; and T. Jackleon, 12 years. All the defendants suffered loss of civil rights and confiscation of their property. The sentences are being appealed.

Among the witnesses heard during the trial, which began last week, were Zionist leaders A.L. Ziesu and M. Benvenisti, who described the anti-Zionist activities of the "Central Union." William Filderman, who was president of the Union of Rumanian Jews, which was liquidated when the collaborationist organization was formed, testified for the defense, stating that the situation of the Jews in Rumania was better in some respects after the "Central Union" was set up, than previously.

ANGLO-AMERICAN INVESTIGATORS CONFER WITH JDC AND UNRRA ON SITUATION OF JEWS IN AUSTRIA

VIENNA, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine today conferred with local directors of the Joint Distribution Committee, UNRRA and the Red Cross in an effort to obtain a picture of the situation of the Jews in Austria.

Tomorrow, a sub-committee consisting of Wilfred Criel, Frank Burton and Major Reginald Manningham-Buller will leave for a four-day tour of the camps in the American zone in Austria. On Wednesday, another sub-committee, composed of Bartley Crum and Frank Crossman, will visit the British zone, while Sir John Singleton, Judge Joseph Hutcheson and Sir Frederick Leggett will remain here to confer with Allied military officials and Austrian Government authorities.

According to Leslie Reed, secretary of the committee, the group has still not received clearance to enter the Balkan countries.

POLITICAL SITUATION DOES NOT FAVOR ZIONISTS, SILVER TELLS AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

CLEVELAND, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that "the present political constellation is not very favorable" to Zionist aims in Palestine, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, in a powerful address which was frequently interrupted by stormy applause, today bitterly attacked the British Government, expressed the hope that the U.S. Government will be firm in demanding the implementation of the Palestine Resolution adopted by the Congress, and appealed to the Soviet Government not to side with Arabs on the Palestine issue.

"The political situation," he said, addressing the American Jewish Conference, "is being complicated for us also by the developing rivalry between Great Britain and the Soviet Union, which has now come to embrace the Middle East. From stray and, as yet, inconclusive incidents, it might be inferred that the Soviet Union like Great Britain, may also be interested in winning over the Arab world to its side by offering up our legitimate national rights in Palestine as part payment for such an alignment.

"We hope that this is not so. We have no quarrel with the Soviet Union. We do not and cannot take sides in imperial conflicts. We do not wish to be made the shuttlecock of power politics. We do not wish to be crushed between the upper and the lower millstones."

Declaring that the Zionist cause is a "moral cause," Dr. Silver pointed out that the Zionists appeal for sympathy and support to all governments which can be moved to assist the re-establishment of Jewish national life "in the historic home" of the Jewish people. "Why should a clear, honest purpose sanctioned by the nations of the world after the last war, and now in the process of fulfillment, be permitted to become entangled in the tortuous folds of competitive imperial maneuvers?" he asked.

"Great Britain does not require for its survival the cramping and constricting of the total extinction of the Jewish national home in Palestine. Its position in the Middle East is not and cannot be endangered by the presence of a Jewish state in that small notch of 10,000 square miles in that vast Arab world. Nor does the Soviet Union, strong and victorious, covering, as it does, one-sixth of the globe, need such a sacrifice. Why should the Jewish people again be made the scapegoats?"

Scores Critics of Zionist Attempts to Win Soviet Support

Dr. Silver took issue with those "who resent every approach made to win over the sympathy of the Soviet Government to the Zionist cause. They call it flirting," he said, "and they point the finger of derision at Zionists whenever some anti-Zionist statement or act emanates from Soviet or pro-Soviet sources. This is an amazing phenomenon in Jewish life, which can only be attributed to a blind and bitter partisanship, which carries over from an area which is not related to Jewish life to a specifically Jewish issue of greatest moment."

He emphasized that he was not asking the Zionist movement to align itself with the Soviet Union, but, he said, the Zionists were not discouraged in their efforts to win over Great Britain even though they have been grievously disappointed time and again; nor were they discouraged in attempts to win over the President and the State Department, even though they have encountered considerable misunderstanding and resistance there; and, therefore, he saw no reason why the Zionist movement should regard itself as being in any way inhibited from trying to win understanding and friendship from the Soviet Union.

"The Arabs," he pointed out, "are certainly not adverse to carrying on their propaganda both in the direction of Great Britain and of the Soviet Union. My regret

is not that we have tried, but that we have not tried hard enough, or soon enough. At the moment, the attitude of the Soviet Government does not seem to be favorable to us, but there is nothing final about it. Some of us recall that up to a few months ago definite evidence seemed to point to a favorable and friendly attitude. The present attitude may, or may not, change again in the future. We may not succeed, but we certainly owe it to ourselves to do everything in our power to see that that attitude does change, and in our favor."

Dr. Silver insisted that the Jews should have a voice in the Assembly of the UNO, and said that the strength and the hope of the Jews lie in the good will and the sympathy of the democratic peoples of the world. He called for unification of American Jewish groups to urge the American Government to demand the implementation of the Congressional resolution on Palestine, which, he said, expressed the will of the overwhelming majority of the American people.

At the same time, Dr. Silver warned the Jews of America to be on guard "against accepting substitutes or appeasement gifts from the Administration in lieu of the great service which it can and should render to the Jewish people." To appoint a Jew to an important government post, he said, or to make "inexpensive goodwill gestures" in the direction of the Jews is of little value to the Jewish people. "They are neither commensurate with the tragic magnitude of our problem, nor in any way related to its solution," he added.

Dr. Silver predicted that the British members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine will almost all follow the line of the Colonial Office--"the Bevin line"--and that only a few American members, at best, will sharply deviate from it. He attacked the British Government for readmitting to Palestine Jamal Hussein, "the pogrom-maker of 1936," while not permitting the immigration of Jewish survivors from Europe. "Presumably the return of the Mufti will be the next step," he said. "This is how the mandatory government plans for the peace of Palestine."

Resolution Appeals to Inquiry Commission To Approve Jewish Palestine

The Conference today voted to send a cable to the Anglo-American commission, appealing for a decision in favor of a Jewish Palestine, open to unrestricted Jewish immigration from Europe. At the same time, the Conference adopted a resolution reaffirming the determination of the Jewish people "to establish relations of amity and cooperation with the Arab-speaking people of Palestine." The resolution stressed that the Conference sees no incompatibility between Jewish national aspirations in Palestine and the rights and welfare of the Arabs who reside there. The resolution deplored the fact that the British Government has allied itself with extremist and reactionary Arab elements.

Another resolution passed today protests against the unilateral decision of the British Government to sever Transjordan from the Palestine Mandate and proclaim it an independent state. The resolution points out that Transjordan is geographically and historically a part of Palestine and subject to the same mandatory administration. The announcement of the British Government, made without consultation with the United States is "a further attempt to prejudice the just and total solution of the Palestine problem," the resolution charged.

Still another resolution protested against "the brutal violation of civil rights in Palestine." It asserted that the Jews of Palestine are subjected to gross indignities and are arrested without cause. "Civilized and peace-loving persons are kept in a state of virtual imprisonment, under what is substantially martial law," the resolution says. "Deportations are carried out in direct violation of the Palestine

courts' decision. We demand that these practices, which are in fundamental contradiction to Anglo-Saxon law, and to the best tradition of the English and the American people, shall be discontinued forthwith."

A final resolution on Palestine declared that American Jews "will never accede to any arrangement in Palestine which will in any manner abrogate, or impair, the rights that the Jewish people now have to that country under the terms of the Balfour Declaration."

Delegates Authorize Study of Possibility of Forming Permanent Body

Following a heated debate, in which many delegates took the floor to demand a clear-cut statement on the advisability of the establishment of the Conference as a permanent body, today's plenary session adopted a resolution authorizing the interim committee to continue and intensify its work, and to call a fourth session "at such time and place as it deems advisable, but not later than fifteen months from the date of this session." The resolution said further:

"It is recognized that there is a wide-spread demand for an American Jewish organization, competent to speak authoritatively for the Jewish community, and since this conference was not designed as a permanent body, the interim committee is directed to explore the possibility of establishing a permanent, democratic, representative Jewish body, in consultation with representative community organizations, and through agreement as to the nature and scope of such an organization with existing national organizations, and, subject to such agreement, to propose ways and means for bringing such a body into existence." The resolution was adopted 45 to 8 by the organization committee, prior to its presentation to the plenary session.

A moving report on conditions of life of the displaced Jews in Germany was given at the evening session by Dr. Zalman Grinberg, president of the Council of Liberated Jews in Germany. Dr. Grinberg appealed for the transfer of all the displaced Jews to Palestine. He pointed out that a plebiscite taken among the Jewish DP's recently showed that 98½ percent of them wanted to go to Palestine.

Dr. Grinberg demanded that a "Jewish passport," to be granted by his committee, and approved by the military government, should be issued to every displaced Jew as an identity document, the validity of which should be recognized for travelling permits and visas. "It is our hope that such passports in the near future will be equivalent to a Palestinian passport," he stated.

Jewish DP Leader Warns Anti-Semitism Is Strong in Europe

He stressed that "the seed of anti-Semitism, sown by Hitlerism, is bearing fruit in liberated Europe as never before, and it appears that for a long time to come it will remain in Europe as an inheritance of Nazism." That is the reason, he added, why the Jews must leave Europe.

Dr. Jacob Robinson, who is acting as a Jewish adviser at the Nuremberg trials, reported last night on the proceedings there, and paid high tribute to Justice Robert Jackson, American prosecutor, for his special interest in the Jewish case. He revealed that ten pages of the sixty of Jackson's presentation were devoted to the atrocities against Jews.

The afternoon session today was addressed by Mrs. Moses Epstein, national president of Hadassah, and by Dr. Hayim Fineman, Zionist labor leader.

JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL NAMES COMMITTEES TO PREPARE DATA FOR INQUIRY GROUP

JERUSALEM, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The new Jewish National Council, which was elected last week by the Jewish National Assembly, voted today to establish its own economic and political departments, which will work with similar bureaus in the Jewish Agency.

The Council also approved the decision of Jewish institutions to testify before the Anglo-American inquiry committee, and special committees were set up to prepare material to be submitted to the inquiry group.

The Palestine Government, it was learned today, has already completed preparation of the documents it will submit to the committee. They will be printed in a 2000-page volume, which will also contain memorandums by the Jewish and Arab communities in Palestine and the British Government on various problems. In addition, the Government is preparing another memorandum for the committee, which will be mimeographed in order to prevent leakage of its contents.

The Council also decided today to call a conference of the mayors and heads of local councils of Jewish towns and villages to discuss the recently promulgated Government budget estimates, which allocate negligible sums for Jewish education and welfare activities.

POLISH GOVERNMENT ASKED TO FACILITATE EMIGRATION TO PALESTINE OF 600 JEWS IN USSR

MOSCOW, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency has appealed to the Polish Government to facilitate the emigration to Palestine of 600 Polish Jews now in the Soviet Union, to whom immigration certificates were allotted in 1941 and 1942. The visas were never used because of wartime transportation difficulties.

The appeal, which was sent through the Polish charge d'affaires in Teheran to the Polish Embassy here, for forwarding to Warsaw, asks whether in view of the changed conditions and the Government's expressed willingness to allow legal emigration to Palestine, it would facilitate the transfer of these 600 Jews. It points out that the certificates will be wasted if the Jews to whom they were assigned cannot use them. The Agency said that it would assume transportation and other costs.

ONE-FOURTH OF BOHEMIAN, MORAVIAN JEWS REGISTERED FOR IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE

PRAGUE, Feb. 18. (JTA) -- Over 4,000 Jews in Bohemia and Moravia, representing more than one-fourth of the Jewish population of those provinces, have applied to the Palestine Office here for immigration to Palestine, M.Friedl, head of the Office, told a JTA correspondent today. Friedl added that the number of applications being filed was increasing steadily.

Akiba Neufeld, a leader of the Hechalutz movement in Bratislava, has estimated that 8,000 Slovakian Jews wish to emigrate to Palestine. He also said that the Hechalutz was operating nine children's homes and seven training units where some 500 Jewish youths, half of them orphans, were being prepared for emigration.

Chaim Barlas, director of the immigration department of the Jewish Agency, who is visiting here, expressed great hope for the immigration of Jews to Palestine, and pointed out that the Agency was especially interested in the plight of the Jews in Carpatho-Russia. Barlas, who is scheduled to proceed to Budapest and Vienna, said that his mission was to smooth out difficulties being encountered in countries where new Palestine immigration offices have recently been opened.

GERMANS REPORTED TRYING TO CLAIM JEWISH BLOOD IN ORDER TO GET EXTRA FOOD RATIONS

LONDON, Feb. 18. (JTA)--Some Germans are now trying to prove that they have Jewish blood, and thus qualify for the extra rations allotted by the Allies to victims of persecution, the London Daily Express reports today, quoting travellers returning from Germany.

According to the Express, the price of bogus documents showing that the bearer's grandmother was Jewish is four cartons of cigarettes. The paper comments editorially: "Could irony go further?"

JDC ARRANGES FOR SHIPMENT OF PASSOVER MATZONS, WINE TO U.S. ZONES IN GERMANY, AUSTRIA

PARIS, Feb. 18. (JTA)--The Joint Distribution Committee has completed arrangements for the shipment of 1,000,000 pounds of matzohs to the U.S. zones in Germany and Austria for Passover, European headquarters of the JDC announced today. An order has been placed in Palestine for 50,000 quarts of Passover wine, which will be transhipped through a French port.

FULL SUPPORT OF UJA \$100,000,000 DRIVE PLEDGED AT CONFERENCE OF WESTERN JEWISH LEADERS

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 18. (JTA)--A two-day session of the Western States Conference for the United Jewish Appeal opened here yesterday at a large meeting attended by more than 600 Jewish leaders. One hundred percent support of the UJA national drive for \$100,000,000 for refugee, overseas and Palestine needs was pledged.

Speakers included Eddie Cantor; rabbi Jonah Wise, co-chairman of the UJA; Command Joshua L. Goldberg of the Third Naval District; Saul Elgart, JDC director in Germany; Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin of Los Angeles; and Judge Isaac Pacht of Los Angeles. Other speakers were Capt. Robert Gamzon, French partisan leader; Reuben Rosnik, wartime JDC director in Italy; and Leo Herman, secretary general of the Keren Hayesod.

JWS IN ROME MARK 50th ANNIVERSARY OF HERZL'S "JUDENSTAAT;" CALL FOR JEWISH STATE

ROME, Feb. 18. (JTA)--A public meeting of Italian Jews and Jewish refugees residing in Italy was held here to mark the 50th anniversary of the publication of Theodor Herzl's "Judenstaat."

Resolutions adopted at the rally called for the establishment of an independent Jewish state in Palestine, and demanded that unrestricted immigration of Jews be permitted.

JNB PUBLISHES PAMPHLET DESCRIBING WORK OF JEWISH CHAPLAINS WITH ARMED FORCES

NEW YORK, Feb. 18. (JTA)--The National Jewish Welfare Board today announced publication of a pamphlet telling the story of the heroic work of the Jewish chaplains in the American forces on behalf of the persecuted Jews of Europe. The work is based on the letters of the chaplains themselves and is illustrated by photographs from Buchenwald and other points where they met and served displaced persons. The foreword is written by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, retired executive director of the JNB Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities.

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