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TREATY GRANTING INDEPENDENCE TO TRANSJORDAN WILL BE SIGNED TODAY IN LONDON

LONDON, March 21. (JTA) -- A treaty granting independence to Transjordan will be signed at the Foreign Office here tomorrow. Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee and Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin will sign for the British Government and Emir Abdullah, ruler of Transjordan, will sign for his country.

The text of the treaty is expected to be published immediately after the signing. It will include both military and political clauses. A.S. Kirbridge, British Resident at Amman since 1939, will be the first British Minister to the Independent State of Transjordan, it is reported here.

ARAB CHRISTIAN ARCHBISHOP OF LEBANON SAYS POPULATION OF COUNTRY FAVORS ZIONISM

BEIRUT, Lebanon, March 21. (JTA) -- In an exclusive interview with a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent addressed specifically to the people of Palestine and the entire world, Monsignor Ignatz Moubar, Archbishop of the Maronite Church in Beirut, a Catholic church whose Arab members comprise a majority of the Christian population of Lebanon, today charged that the sub-committee of the Anglo-American inquiry committee did not hear the true voice of Lebanese public opinion, when it took testimony here.

"If the committee had heard the true voice, it would have heard that voice declaring support of Jewish reconstruction in Palestine--support of Zionism as a symbol of progress and security of all peoples of the Middle East," Monsignor Moubar declared. He insisted that the Christian majority in Lebanon is not represented in the present Government.

He made it clear that his views also represent those of the Maronite Patriarch, spiritual leader of the Maronite Christian world, "who has often expressed his sympathy with Judaism and Zionism.

Charges Lebanese President Did Not Give True Views on Palestine

"The Anglo-American committee heard only chosen Government spokesmen who have said what the Government wanted them to say," the Archbishop declared. "I charge our President did not give his true views, because he is fearful of the Arab League. He himself holds views contrary to those he expressed, and I, myself, told him so. The present Government would not now be in power without my help. I brought Christian support to the President of the Republic, whom I now charge with not having expressed his real feelings before the commission."

Speaking of the ties between Palestine and his country, Monsignor Moubar said that the development of Lebanon is tied up with the development of Palestine. "We Christian Lebanese know this," he continued. "We realize that Zionism is bringing civilization to Palestine and to the entire Middle East. I am very much in favor of Zionism because I have the good of Palestine at heart. The desire of the Moslem Arabs

to dominate the country and cast out the Christians. I tell you frankly, opposition to Zionism in Palestine means returning the people to the domination of savagery, and the return of the country to that state of anarchy and bribery in which it existed at the height of the Ottoman sultans.

"If anyone in this part of the world has sought to unite all communities, it is I," he asserted, adding "but I am sorry to state that we have found nothing on the part of the Moslems, except fanaticism, hate, and a desire to dominate the country. You can be sure that in this country, where Christians represent the majority of the population, the great majority of the Christians are against reactionary Arab anti-Zionist opinion, and support the Jews because they have the best relations with them and that together with the Jews they can best work out their salvation."

#### Lebanese Christians Consider Jews in Palestine A Symbol of Civilization

"We realize," he continued, "that there is a struggle here between civilization and regression, and the Jews symbolize civilization. We Christian Lebanese have always been pioneers of civilization, not only in Lebanon but in the entire Middle East."

Warning that the Middle East was witnessing a test case in the march of civilization, he stated: "In the desire of the Jews to rebuild Palestine there burns a very real flame. We must not extinguish it! The Jews of Palestine and the Christians of Palestine can work together, and if the Moslem Arabs would assist, it would be magnificent, but, unfortunately, they are opposed to anything which means progress. I was in Palestine thirty years ago. It was an arid, forgotten land. I've seen it since--I tell you, we Lebanese are jealous of the good fate of Palestine."

He pointed out that the "Moslem Arabs of Palestine, Damascus, and Beirut sold their land holdings in Palestine to Jews for high prices, and now the Moslem Arabs here wish to regain those lands and cast out the Jews.

"These are my views," Monsignor Moubar concluded "and I am not afraid to voice them. Last night I was invited to a dinner tendered by the Foreign Ministry to the members of the Anglo-American inquiry Committee and I refused to attend, lest my presence give the impression that I agreed with the opinions expressed before the committee."

At the conclusion of his interview, the Archbishop signed a statement embracing the essence of his remarks, adding "I propose to speak on this subject in the same way from the pulpit, this coming week-end."

#### TRUMAN DENIES HE INTERVENED TO PREVENT SPLIT IN ANGLO-AMERICAN INQUIRY BODY

WASHINGTON, March 21. (JTA) -- President Truman today denied that he had intervened with Bartley Crum, American member of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, to prevent Crum from resigning from the inquiry body.

Earlier this week, published reports stated that the President had prevented Crum from resigning in protest against the committee's procedure and its failure to issue an interim report recommending immediate action with regard to Jews in camps in Germany and Austria.

Replying to a question by the JTA, President Truman said at his press conference today that there has been no communication between him and Crum, and added that this was the first he had heard of the matter.

INQUIRY COMMITTEE HEARS EVIDENCE ON PALESTINE INDUSTRY AT BRIEF SESSION IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- A sub-committee of the Anglo-American inquiry committee heard evidence on Jewish commercial, colonization and medical activities at a brief session here today. The witnesses were Marc Jaffe, chairman of the Palestine Economic Corporation; Harry Wolfson of the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association; and Dr. T. Canan, president of the Arab Medical Association.

Although he asked that his evidence covering Jewish economic relations with Arabs be given in closed session to protect Arabs dealing with Jews from intimidation, Jaffe stated publicly that the Arab boycott of Jewish goods would be ineffective if increased immigration were permitted, because the local population could then consume the entire output of Jewish enterprises. Citing Jewish industrial activity, he said that the diamond industry last year exported \$24,000,000 worth of polished stones.

Mr. Wolfson reviewed the activities of Baron Edmond de Rothschild and the PICA in Palestine. He asserted that Arabs living near PICA colonies had benefited greatly from improved agricultural methods, and were very friendly to the Jews. He denied that Arab opposition to the Jews had been aroused through the purchase of Arab land, declaring that "Arab antagonism to Jews exists only among politically conscious groups and not among Arab peasants and agriculturists."

Dr. Canan paid tribute to the contributions of Zionists to the improvement of public health in the country, but denied that the rise in the Arab birth rate and the decline in infant mortality was attributable to Jewish efforts. He charged that Arabs were forced to pay high fees in Jewish hospitals and said that there were too many doctors in Palestine.

The committee, which consisted of Judge Joseph C. Hutcheson and Lord Morrison, then adjourned until Saturday.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES PLAN TO ADMIT 2,500 JEWS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

CANBERRA, Australia, March 21. (JTA) -- Immigration permits will be granted to 2,500 Jews, Immigration Secretary Arthur A. Calwell announced today.

The permits, he explained, will be given to former inmates of Nazi concentration camps who are close relatives to Jews now in Australia. "This is a humanitarian gesture," he said, "on the part of Australia in recognition of the suffering these people have undergone in Europe."

These permits will enable the recipients, now on the Continent, to proceed to Britain whence they will await transportation to Australia. Officials point out, however, that it may be two years before these Jews can get accommodations, since there is a priority list of more than 6,000 cases, which include the wives of Australian soldiers who will be brought to this country first.

PALESTINE JEW SERVING LIFE SENTENCE RELEASED FROM PRISON; JAILED DURING 1936 RIOTS

JERUSALEM, March 21. (JTA) -- Abraham Schein, one of the Jews who were sentenced to death during the 1936 disturbances in Palestine, and whose sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment, was suddenly released from prison today.

GOERING DENIES HE OR HITLER KNEW OF DEATH CAMPS; SAYS HIMMLER KEPT THEM SECRET

NUREMBERG, March 21. (JTA) -- Pressed hard by British Prosecutor Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, Herman Goering today denied before the International Military Tribunal that he knew of the brutalities against Jews in the concentration camps, and added that he doubted whether even Hitler knew of the existence of death camps.

Goering, whose cross-examination by Allied prosecutors was concluded today, asserted that Heinrich Himmler, Gestapo chief, had kept secret the extermination of European Jewry. Questioned whether he had never heard foreign broadcasts concerning anti-Jewish atrocities, he said that he had heard such broadcasts only four days before the collapse of Germany.

The former No. 2 Nazi repeatedly reiterated his lack of knowledge concerning the German extermination policy, denied that he had any part in it, and rejected interpretations of some of his orders as favoring the destruction of "undesireable" people. He protested sharply when the prosecution referred to "your friend Himmler," declaring that the Gestapo chief was never a friend of his.

Goering displayed extreme nervousness for the first time. His answers were facile and shrewd, and he attempted to deny his connection with practically all of the crimes of which he is accused. Some of his denials were so fantastic as to evoke smiles from his fellow defendants.

U.S. ARMY WILL NOT APPOINT SUCCESSOR TO RIFKIND; SAYS BASIC DP POLICY ALREADY SET

FRANKFURT, March 21. (JTA) -- The Army is not contemplating the appointment of a successor to Judge Simon H. Rifkind, who has just completed a five-month tour of duty as adviser on Jewish affairs to the Commanding General of the European Theatre, the office of the Chief of Staff of the USFET said today.

Pointing out that Judge Rifkind came to Germany to advise and assist Gen. Eisenhower, and later Gen. McNarney, in establishing basic policies and plans for the care of the displaced Jews, the Army spokesman said that "general theatre policies with which Judge Rifkind was concerned are now well established. The procedures to care for the DP's of persecuted races is well organized and the situation is generally satisfactory."

He noted further that UNRRA has accepted the task of operating the centers in which these persons are being accommodated, and in addition Jewish welfare agencies are supporting it, and providing staff advisers on Jewish affairs.

A vivid example of what the Nazis have accomplished in Germany was given at Mannheim this week. At the formal opening of a new synagogue by the local Jewish community there were present 35 of the former congregation of 6,700. All the others were either dead or dispersed.

AMG In Germany Again Postpones Trial of Jailed Jewish Youths

WIESBADEN, March 21. (JTA) -- For the second time in two weeks the American Military Government yesterday again postponed the trial of two Rumanian-Jewish youths accused of beating a German woman, the sister of a Gestapo agent who murdered the father of one of the boys. The two--Andor Horowitz and Ber Blum--were arrested on Feb. 11 and have been in jail since.

Capt. Alan Fraser, AMG legal officer here, told the JTA that the case probably would not come up for another week. When asked whether it was customary to keep defendants jailed for such a long time before trying them, Fraser said that the delay was due to the absence of trained personnel.



ROMANIAN-PALESTINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REOPENS; DISCUSSES EXCHANGE OF GOODS

BUCHAREST, March 21. (JTA) -- The Rumanian-Palestine Chamber of Commerce has reopened here, and is now discussing with the Government plans for resumption of trade between the two countries.

Rumania needs Palestinian manufactures and goods, such as medicaments, which it formerly obtained from Germany, citrus fruits and chemicals. In return, it can send to Palestine timber, which is vitally needed there, and poultry.

Several thousand Jews recently repatriated from the Soviet Ukraine (Transnistria) have not yet been permitted to return to their homes. They have been concentrated in four provincial border towns.

BRITISH LABOR GROUP URGES GOVERNMENT TO CURB RESUMPTION OF FASCIST ACTIVITIES

LONDON, March 21. (JTA) -- The National Council of Labor, which represents 10,000,000 British workers, today warned that fascist groups must not be permitted to resume their agitation against political and racial groups.

In a letter to Home Secretary James Chuter Ede the Council said that "it would be intolerable if any fascist group was permitted to resume its threat to peace and order or to the political, economic, racial or religious liberties in Britain." The Council added, however, that it did not believe that special legislation was required to curb the fascists.

JEWS IN SLOVAKIA STILL RESET BY ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND ANTI-SEMITIC DISCRIMINATION

BRATISLAVA, Czechoslovakia, March 21. (JTA) -- The situation of the Jews in Slovakia has shown no marked improvement in the many months since their liberation, and many are in desperate economic straits and subject to anti-Semitic discrimination, speakers said today, addressing a conference of Slovakian Jewish community councils.

Dr. Joseph Lettrich, chairman of the Slovak National Council, semi-autonomous parliament, assured the delegates, who pressed him for some statement, that Slovak political groups would repair the wrongs done to the Jews. The meeting discussed the general legal, financial, economic and political situation of the Jews in Slovakia.

CONFERENCE OF ZIONIST FEDERATION OF ITALY CONVENES IN ROME; DISCUSSES EMIGRATION

ROME, March 21. (JTA) -- The third conference of the Zionist Federation of Italy opened here last night to discuss problems concerning emigration of Jews to Palestine.

Speakers included Chief Rabbi David Prato; Dr. Umberto Nahon, of the Jewish Agency; Carlo A. Viterbo, chairman of the Federation; Rafaele Cantoni, head of the Italian section of the World Jewish Congress; Jacob Garfunkel, chairman of the Jewish Refugee Organization; a representative of the Palestinian soldiers stationed in Italy; and others.

Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog, who is now visiting Jewish refugee camps in Italy, was greeted by a guard of honor of Palestinian troops when he paused at a military installation between Caserta and Naples, it was reported today.

CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE ON PALESTINE IN DETROIT EVOKES WIDE INTEREST

DETROIT, March 21. (JTA) -- Michigan's first Christian Conference on Palestine concluded here tonight, after hearing outstanding Christian leaders from all parts of the country warn that the peace of the world will be threatened unless Palestine is established as a Jewish National Home. The conference attracted state-wide attention.

Participating in the conference were university, women's, youth and church groups. In all, there were forty separate gatherings in churches, colleges and community centers. Several universities arranged special assemblies to hear guest speakers on Palestine.

Speakers included Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Rep. John Coffee, Mrs. Walter C. LowCermilk, Countess Marie Tolstoy, Sen. Warren Magnuson and many other prominent statesmen, educators and communal leaders.

TUBERCULOSIS HIGH AMONG DISPLACED JEWS IN GERMANY, J.D.C. MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- Years spent in hiding and concentration camps have left the 100,000 displaced Jews in Germany and Austria with a tuberculosis rate that may be eight times higher than the rate normally prevailing in this country, Dr. William Schmidt, overseas supervisor of health and medical services for the Joint Distribution Committee, reported today at a press conference here, on his return from a 13-week inspection tour of the health conditions of Jews in France, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland.

Discussing the hospital facilities now available for caring for tubercular patients, Dr. Schmidt said that while there are approximately 1,000 Jewish displaced persons in German hospitals administered by UNRRA and other agencies, at least another 1,000 are in need of hospitalization, but the shortage of beds has so far prevented their receiving hospital care.

To help alleviate this condition, the JDC has among other measures appropriated \$235,000 for the purchase and maintenance of a 200-bed hospital for tubercular Jewish refugees in Switzerland, Dr. Schmidt said. An official Swiss war relief agency has agreed to the admission of 200 Jewish persons, under the agency's quota from the displaced persons centers, to this hospital.

UNRRA COUNCIL IS ASKED TO GIVE AID TO JEWS IN FORMER AXIS COUNTRIES

ATLANTIC CITY, March 21. (JTA) -- An effort to secure large-scale UNRRA aid for the surviving Jews of Europe is being made here by a delegation of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation in connection with the session of the UNRRA Council. The delegation has conferred with numerous delegates of the participating nations.

In two communications addressed to F.T. Tsiang, chairman of the Council, the Hebrew Committee pointed out that despite specific resolutions adopted at the Second UNRRA meeting held in September, 1944 in Montreal, which made the Jews in Axis countries eligible for UNRRA relief, nothing has been done to date.

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN EN ROUTE TO ENGLAND TO HELP IN UPA DRIVE

NEW YORK, March 21. (JTA) -- Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, of Temple B'rith Kodesh in Rochester, N.Y., who recently retired as executive director of the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the Jewish Welfare Board, has left for London to participate in the United Palestine Appeal campaign in Britain, the UPA here announced today.

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