

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

U.S. MILITARY COURT SENTENCES 19 JEWS TO JAIL FOR LANDSBERG RIOT; SIX TO SERVE TWO YEARS

AUGSBURG, Germany, May 22. (JTA) -- Nineteen displaced Jews were today sentenced by an American Military Government court here to jail terms ranging from two years to three months, after the five-man tribunal had convicted them of participating in a riot at the Landsberg DP Camp on April 28. One defendant was acquitted.

Six men were sentenced to two years, 12 to one year and only one, Faivel Seligman, to three months. Seligman was found guilty of disobeying military government orders, but was cleared of the charge that he participated in the disturbance.

Defense counsel, who were shocked by the severity of the sentences, announced immediately that they would file an appeal with the next higher legal authorities at Munich, who have the power to reduce the sentences.

The sentences were unexpected because of the paucity of evidence connecting the defendants with the outbreak. Only one of the six who received two-year terms was identified as having thrown stones. In issuing its verdict, the court admitted that there had been "no conclusive proof" that the defendants had participated in the violence, but added that there was evidence that "they did however take some part in the riots." Four military police who attended the entire trial expressed amazement when they heard the verdicts.

Prior to the sentencing, Capt. Abraham Hyman, of Gary, Indiana, who headed the defense, made a plea for clemency, requesting the court to bear in mind the background of the disturbance: the disappearance of the two DP guards and the defendants' past sufferings. He also urged that the men not be punished for a disturbance for which the entire camp was guilty.

The prosecutor, Capt. Herman Gulkin, of Atlantic City, New Jersey, failed to recommend to the court that it suspend the sentences or exercise clemency, which was his prerogative. He told the court that it must be kept in mind that the Military Government's mission was to maintain law and order and eliminate Nazi methods "of taking the law in your own hands, as the defendants did."

After the sentencing, the court announced that evidence presented during the trial indicated that some violence had been perpetrated by two other DP's, who were not arrested, and asked that they be apprehended.

ZIONIST LEADERS MEET WITH UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE TO DISCUSS PALESTINE ISSUE

WASHINGTON, May 22. (JTA) -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, leaders of the American Zionist Emergency Council, were received today by Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson, with whom they spent thirty minutes discussing the Palestine question. The Zionist leaders had no comment to make upon leaving the State Department.

DISSOLUTION OF JEWISH NATIONAL FUND REPORTED UNDER CONSIDERATION BY PALESTINE GOVT.

JERUSALEM, May 22. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government is reported to be preparing a revision of the land laws which would provide for dissolution of the Jewish National Fund, it was learned today from reliable sources.

Allegedly based on the inquiry commission's recommendation that the land legislation be revised so as to allow Jews to purchase holdings anywhere in the country, the new regulations would divide the JNF's cultivated land among the present occupants and throw open its reserve holdings to joint Arab-Jewish colonization.

Although it would abandon the division of Palestine into zones, in many of which Jews are now barred from purchasing land, the law as presently drafted would make it virtually impossible for Jews to acquire land any place, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency informant said.

The revised regulations must be approved by the Colonial Office in London, but it is understood that the Palestine Government and the Colonial Secretary have already exchanged views concerning the proposed changes.

JEWISH AGENCY WILL COMPLETE ITS OBSERVATIONS ON ANGLO-AMERICAN REPORT WITHIN WEEK

JERUSALEM, May 22. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine today announced that it is now in the process of completing its observations on the report of the Anglo-American inquiry committee and will submit them next week to the Zionist Actions Committee.

At a closed session of the Actions Committee today, Dr. Chaim Weizmann spoke at great length on the implications of the report and gave an outline of the general Zionist policy pursued since the appointment of the Anglo-American inquiry committee. He also reiterated his suggestion that the forthcoming World Zionist Congress, scheduled to open on August 7 in Jerusalem, be postponed.

Dr. Moshe Sneh, speaking for the executive of the Jewish Agency, opposed Dr. Weizmann's suggestion. He urged the Actions Committee to stand by the executive's decision to hold the congress in Palestine in August. He reported that about 1,500,000 Shekolim will probably be sold throughout the world in connection with the election of delegates to the congress. Of them 300,000 will be sold in Palestine and a similar number in the liberated European countries. At least 700,000 shekolim will be sold in the United States.

ALL ARAB COUNTRIES OPPOSE RAISING PALESTINE QUESTION BEFORE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

JERUSALEM, May 22. (JTA) -- All Arab countries are against raising the Palestine problem before the United Nations Security Council, since this would be against their interests, it is reported today in the well-informed Arab newspaper Al Mizhar.

Reuter's reports today that Jamal Hussein, chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, issued a statement declaring that the Arabs of Palestine do not believe that they can gain anything if the Palestine case is brought before the Security Council.

The Arab press today criticized what it called "the attempt by the British and the United States Governments to exclude the Palestine case from the scope of the Arab League." The Hebrew press continued to criticize the "month-long mockery" with regard to the recommendation that 100,000 displaced Jews be transferred to Palestine immediately. The Palestine Post in an editorial said that the 100,000 Jews are now condemned to a further indefinite term of stagnation "since there is no assurance that after the month, some further pretext for doing nothing will not be devised."

MORGENTHAU ASKS TRUMAN TO SET UP SPECIAL BODY TO MOVE 100,000 JEWS TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, May 22. (JTA) -- The creation by President Truman of an agency similar to the War Refugee Board, which would be charged with effecting the transfer to Palestine of the 100,000 displaced Jews in the U.S. zones in Germany and Austria, was urged tonight by Henry Morgenthau Jr., former Secretary of the Treasury.

Speaking over radio station WMCA here, Mr. Morgenthau said that there was no place to where the displaced Jews of Europe could go except Palestine. The recommendations of the Anglo-American inquiry committee, he added, provide a blue-print for action, but such action could not be expected from routine government agencies.

Mr. Morgenthau suggested that President Truman appoint either a group selected from the Cabinet, or one man directly responsible to him, who would be entrusted with utilizing all means--even Army transport planes--to move the Jews to Palestine quickly. He stressed that the "situation is grave, and half-hearted measures or routine handling in the lower echelons of a governmental department will no longer suffice."

YOUTH ALIYAH CONFERENCE ASKS ADMISSION TO PALESTINE OF 40,000 JEWISH CHILDREN FROM EUROPE

GENEVA, May 22. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jewish children in Central and Eastern Europe are on the march in an attempt to reach Palestine, a representative of the Jewish Agency told the closing session of the European Youth Aliyah conference yesterday. Most of the children, he said, are orphans who have been living in homes in various parts of Europe.

The conference adopted a resolution urging that 40,000 of the 100,000 Jews to be admitted to Palestine under the recommendations of the Anglo-American inquiry committee be children. At the same time, it appealed to Britain, Sweden and Switzerland to admit sick children pending their eventual transfer to Palestine.

Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine arrived today in Montreux. While in Switzerland, he will confer with Jewish groups on refugee relief problems.

DELEGATION OF JEWISH COMMITTEE OF POLAND SEEKS TO RAISE \$17,000,000 IN AMERICA

NEW YORK, May 22. (JTA) -- The sum of \$17,000,000 will be sought here by a delegation of the Central Jewish Committee of Poland which arrived in the United States yesterday, it was announced today at a press conference at which the ten members of the delegation reported on the revival of Jewish life in the liberated Polish Republic.

Dr. Emil Sommerstein, head of the delegation, made a strong appeal to the Jews of America in behalf of the surviving Jews in Poland. He emphasized that it was the duty of American Jewry to help the Jews of Poland to restore their communal and cultural life. He pointed out that even if some Jews emigrate from Poland to Palestine, many thousands will still remain.

Members of the delegation reported that there are about 130,000 Jews in Poland and the Jewish population is expected to increase to 220,000 by the end of June due to the continuing repatriation of Jews from Soviet Russia. About 10,000 Jews are now undergoing Hachahara training, in preparation for emigration to Palestine, they said.

In Lower Silesia, acquired by Poland from Germany, there are about 40,000 Jews, the delegation revealed. While admitting that anti-Semitism is strong in the

other sections of Poland, the members of the delegation said that in Lower Silesia Jewish settlers do not meet with antagonism from the Polish population and are successfully engaged in developing agricultural projects.

The delegation expressed the conviction that the Polish Government will contribute greatly to the revival of Jewish life in the country, but reiterated that American Jews must contribute at least seventeen million dollars to the Jews of Poland if they wish to see their speedy economic, social and cultural revival.

The delegation reported that the Central Jewish Committee of Poland this year received \$735,000 from the Joint Distribution Committee in addition to transports of clothing and medicaments. It emphasized that only \$5,000 was received from the Federation of Polish Jews.

U.N. COMMISSION WILL SOON DRAFT AN INTERNATIONAL BILL OF RIGHTS, STETTINIUS ANNOUNCES

NEW YORK, May 22. (JTA) -- The United Nations Commission on Human Rights "will begin soon the task of drawing up an International Bill of Rights," it was announced last night by Edward R. Stettinius, United States representative to the United Nations, at a dinner of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, at which he received the conference's award as a "Hero of Peace" for his "courageous and effective service to all mankind."

James N. Rosenberg, chairman of the Conference's Committee on Human Rights, praising the role which Mr. Stettinius played at the San Francisco Conference, said that "the seeds of an International Bill of Rights for all mankind planted at San Francisco must be made to bear fruit." He emphasized that this is a challenge to all men of good will throughout the world.

"We labor under no illusions," he continued. "We are well aware that to eradicate or even allay hatred, bigotry, prejudice and national suspicion requires long, patient and concerted effort and the support of an informed public world opinion. We know that to the terrible threat of atomic energy, the only answer is united human energy, whatever men's race or religion or nationality."

"LEAGUE FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN PALESTINE" EXPOSED AS FRONT FOR ARAB INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, May 22. (JTA) -- The "League for Peace with Justice in Palestine," which has been placing full-page advertisements in the newspapers opposing the recommendation of the Anglo-American inquiry committee that 100,000 Jews be admitted to Palestine, was exposed today by the American Jewish Committee as a front for the Institute of Arab American Affairs.

Committee investigators uncovered the fact that Benjamin H. Freedman, the so-called representative of persons of the Jewish faith in the League, was a "one-man organization," representing no one but himself. The representative of "persons of the Christian faith," P.M. Schoendorf, is Freedman's mother-in-law, while the representative of the Arabs, Habib I. Katibah, is connected with the Institute of Arab American Affairs and has collaborated with anti-Semitic groups.

The Committee says that Freedman has admitted he is working in close cooperation with the Arab Institute and with the Arab Office in Washington. He also is reported to have stated that he helped prepare a memorandum submitted to the State Department by the Arab Office, opposing the Anglo-American report, and accompanied the delegation which presented the memorandum to Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson.

JOB DISCRIMINATION IN CHICAGO AREA HAS RISEN SHARPLY SINCE END OF WAR, SURVEY SHOWS

CHICAGO, May 22. (JTA) -- Discrimination against Jews by employers in the Chicago area has risen sharply since the end of the war, according to a survey released here by the Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems.

The report cites the fact that discrimination is much more widespread in Chicago than in New York, which has an anti-bias law. A comparison between the Chicago survey and one made in New York City by the National Community Relations Advisory Council discloses the following facts:

1. In Chicago 93 percent more complaints of employment discrimination were filed at the Bureau in the six months following V-J Day, than in the corresponding period last year. In New York, however, there was a decline of six percent in the number of complaints.
2. Fifty-two percent of Jewish applicants in Chicago, almost two-thirds of them veterans of World War II, were required to state their religion in interviews with one or more employers. In New York the comparable figure was 15 percent.
3. In Chicago 97 percent of commercial employment agencies required that applicants state their religion and lineage, while in New York the corresponding figure was two percent.
4. In Chicago 37 percent of all business firms approached for employment required information about the applicant's religion, while in New York the corresponding figure was eight percent.
5. Fifteen percent of Jewish applicants in Chicago experienced, besides questions on religion, additional concrete evidence that they were refused jobs because of religion. In New York this figure was seven percent.
6. Discriminatory religious specifications in help-wanted ads in 1946 increased 144 percent over 1945 in Chicago, while no discriminatory ads were published in New York City newspapers.

On the basis of these findings the Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems came to the following conclusions:

1. That employment discrimination against Jewish workers is sharply increasing in the Chicago area.
2. That serving their country did not earn for Jewish veterans a fair opportunity for employment as they were subjected to even more discriminatory practices than other Jewish workers.
3. Comparing the Chicago survey with a similar report from New York, it seems clear that the existence of an FEPC statute in the state of New York has been effective in preventing overt practices of employment discrimination.

CHARTER OF CALIFORNIA KKK LISTED; BARRED FROM FUTURE OPERATIONS IN STATE

LOS ANGELES, May 22. (JTA) -- Following testimony by many witnesses, including former members, that the Ku Klux Klan taught racial hatred and fostered violence and intimidation, Superior Judge Alfred A. Paonessa yesterday revoked the California charter of the KKK and barred it from obtaining a new permit to operate in this state. The revocation of its charter was urged by Attorney General Robert W. Kenney.

PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA CONDEMNS ANTI-JEWISH ATTACKS; SAYS WILL NOT TOLERATE BIGOTRY

BOGOTA, Colombia, May 22. (JTA) -- The recent attacks on Jews in Bogota were condemned today by the newly elected President of Colombia, Dr. Mariano Ospino Perez, in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The President-elect emphasized that he will not tolerate any assaults against Jews or any other national minority. "Such action," he declared, "is contrary to the traditional democratic spirit of our country."

The President's statement was received with great satisfaction by Jews here and has helped to ease the tension under which the Jewish population of Bogota has been living since the outbreaks on May 8, during which students attacked Jews in the street and stoned the windows of Jewish stores. Organized anti-Semitic groups also attacked the local synagogue and the premises of several Jewish institutions.

Jewish life in the city has returned to normal following the strong measures taken by the local police authorities when it was feared that the anti-Jewish attacks would be continued. Increased police patrols prevented the repetition of disturbances and the Jews began to appear in the street, after keeping their businesses closed for two days.

SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER OF JUSTICE BANS MEETINGS OF ANTI-SEMITIC ORGANIZATION

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, May 22. (JTA) -- Minister of Justice H.G. Lawrence today prohibited meetings of the anti-Semitic Grey Shirts in Johannesburg and other cities. He issued the ban under the provisions of the Riotous Assembly Act.

The mayor of Johannesburg, J.P. McPherson, has cabled to Prime Minister Atlee urging the immediate unconditional admittance of 100,000 Jews to Palestine as recommended by the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS ASKED BY JEWISH DEPUTY TO CURB INCREASING ANTI-SEMITISM

OTTAWA, May 22. (JTA) -- An appeal to the Canadian Government to take immediate action to curb anti-Semitism in the country was made in the Federal Parliament by Col. David Groll, a Jewish deputy.

Emphasizing that anti-Semitism is on the increase in Canada, Col. Groll cited the case of a Jewish war veteran in Toronto, Joseph Moses, who lost his job because his employer asserted that customers objected to being served by a Jew. The dismissal of the Jewish veteran evoked strong protests from a number of veterans' organizations throughout the country.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT GETS MEMORANDUM SUGGESTING MEANS OF COMBATTING ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, May 22. (JTA) -- A memorandum suggesting means of combatting anti-Semitism in Great Britain was presented to Home Secretary James Chuter Ede today by a delegation of the Board of Deputies of British Jews headed by Gordon Liverman. Mr. Ede promised he would give the memorandum careful consideration.

FIRE GUTS TEL AVIV OFFICES OF PALESTINE GOVERNMENT'S LABOR AND IMMIGRATION BUREAUS

TEL AVIV, May 22. (JTA) -- A fire broke out yesterday in the offices here of the Palestine Government's Immigration and Labor Department, destroying many files and some furniture. Authorities said the origin of the fire was "suspicious."