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106 EAST 41<sup>st</sup> STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.U.S. GOVT. WILL ACT ON PALESTINE ONLY AFTER COMPLETING CONSULTATIONS WITH JEWS AND ARABS

WASHINGTON, May 23. (JTA) -- The Department of State today reiterated that no decisions will be made on the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, in whole or in part, until after completion of the consultations with Jews and Arabs.

Michael J. McDermott, special assistant to the Secretary of State on press relations, responding to a question at a news conference as to whether yesterday's statement denying conflict between Presidential and State Department views on the recommendation to admit 100,000 Jews to Palestine meant rejection of Arab protests against the report, said that the whole subject is under discussion with Jewish and Arab groups, and that pending conclusion of the consultations, nothing has been rejected or any action taken.

The State Department's denial yesterday of any conflict in policy on Palestine between the President and itself was prompted by recent articles in the press alleging a divergence of views, and was submitted for Presidential approval before publication, it is learned. The statement reads as follows:

"The Department of State has been asked the question whether the statement of May 10 of the then Acting Secretary of State regarding the initiation of consultation with Jews and Arabs on the recommendations of the Anglo-American Committee on Palestine represents a withdrawal from the statement issued by the President on April 30.

"In reply the Department said today that there is no conflict and can be no conflict in the two statements. It must be clear that the President's statements are controlling upon all the departments of government. In his statement of April 30 the President reaffirmed the urgency of the transference of the 100,000 Jews as recommended by the Committee and previously by him.

"It is precisely because of the urgency of this problem that under the direction of the President the State Department has agreed to and inaugurated immediate consultations with Jews and Arabs as well as with the British Government as to the best and quickest means of reaching an effective solution of the problems dealt with in the report."

State Dept. Says It Favors Admission of Maximum Number of Jews

Today, the State Department explained that the United States policy has consistently been based on the principle that as many as possible of the displaced Jews of Europe should go to Palestine. It was pointed out that the figure of 100,000 persons to be admitted to Palestine originated a year ago with the Jewish Agency, was reiterated by Earl Harrison in his survey last summer of conditions in the DP camps, and accepted by President Truman.

"When the report of the Anglo-American Committee was submitted," the explanation continues, "the President expressed his pleasure at the Committee's endorsement

of his proposal concerning the 100,000 and then authorized the State Department to institute consultations on the report, this Government having always been bound to consult with Jewish and Arab leaders. It was decided to use the report as a basis for the consultations."

In stressing the identity of Presidential and State Department policy, it was pointed out that the memorandum outlining this Government's position on Palestine, which the Department sent on May 20 to Jewish and Arab groups asking for their views by June 20, was approved by the President.

#### AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS OPPOSE CONSULTATIONS DELAYING TRANSFER OF 100,000 JEWS

WASHINGTON, May 23. (JTA) -- A declaration suggesting to the Jewish Agency and the American Zionist Emergency Council "the advisability of refusing to become involved in procedures which will spell further unconscionable delay in carrying out the most urgent recommendation to rescue 100,000 Jews," was issued here today by 400 Zionist leaders from all parts of the country attending a special conference convened by the Zionist Emergency Council to discuss the report of the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

Expressing pleasure at that part of the statement issued yesterday by the State Department assuring that the President's position on the immediate transfer of 100,000 Jews to Palestine "is now the fixed policy of our Government," the declaration said that the State Department "is nevertheless continuing in practice a procedure of 'consultations,' which may delay indefinitely the attainment of the immediate objective to which our Government is already fully committed."

The declaration further said that "the Zionist movement cannot be involved in activity which can only increase the agony of the helpless Jewish survivors in Europe." It called on President Truman "to stand firm" on the position he took April 30, stating his pleasure at the unanimous endorsement by the Anglo-American inquiry committee of his request for admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine and asking for their earliest transfer.

"We call upon the President to direct the departments of our Government to move with the greatest despatch in the implementing of what is now the accepted policy of the United States," the declaration urged.

#### Charge State Dept. With Delaying Action on Moving Jewish DP's to Palestine

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, joint chairman of the Zionist Emergency Council and president of the Zionist Organization of America, and Emanuel Neuman, vice-president of the ZOA, reviewed recent developments concerning Palestine and reported they indicated that a forceful program of public pressure is being organized to insist on dropping of the consultations and on early action by the State Department to carry out American policy regarding the immigration of the 100,000.

Delegations of Zionist leaders called this afternoon on their Congressmen and Senators, to express the urgency of the views voiced in the declaration. Copies of the declaration will be sent to American officials concerned with the question of Palestine.

"The Zionists of America, representing the overwhelming sentiment of American Jewry, are outraged by the announcements that the immediate admission of 100,000 homeless European Jews into Palestine is to be delayed while another time-consuming series of consultations is launched by the British Government and our own Depart-

ment of State," the declaration points out. "In the meantime, these 100,000 harassed men, women and children--a fraction of the European Jews who must emigrate to Palestine or be doomed--are consigned to further misery and mental torture."

Emphasizing that President Truman, in his statement of April 30, clearly distinguished between the Anglo-American committee's recommendations for action upon the immediate objectives of the report, and the recommendations for long-range policies, the declaration continued: "In view of this forthright declaration of American policy, we were confused by the statements issued by the Department of State, which seemed to indicate a sharp divergence from the President's position. The State Department seemed to have adopted the delaying tactics of British Prime Minister Attlee with regard to the Anglo-American committee's recommendation concerning 100,000 displaced Jews."

The declaration charged Great Britain's original motives in launching the committee of inquiry lacked sincerity, and said that "when our Department of State becomes an accomplice in Britain's procrastination, it becomes our solemn obligation to bring these facts to the attention of the American public."

#### ATTITUDE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT TOWARDS TRANSFER OF 100,000 JEWS IS STUDIED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- Both Jewish and Arab leaders here are studying the statements made today and yesterday by State Department spokesmen in Washington concerning the admission to Palestine of 100,000 displaced Jews from Europe.

A spokesman for the Jewish Agency issued the following statement: "The test of the Jewish attitude to the policy of the United States Government is whether or not the Anglo-American committee's recommendation for 100,000 Jews to be permitted to go to Palestine immediately will in fact be implemented and without delay. It is gratifying to learn that this is apparently the intention of the United States Government."

Jamal Hussein, chairman of the Arab Higher Committee, declared that the U.S. stand on the 100,000 Jews was "one good reason why the Arabs will refuse to participate in any further consultations. So long as the United States declares its policy first and asks Arabs to talk it over afterwards, it is obvious that no useful purpose can be served by further discussions," Hussein added.

#### MISTREATMENT OF DISPLACED JEWS BY U.S. SOLDIERS RESULTS IN MINOR RIOT IN GERMAN TOWN

MUNICH, May 23. (JTA) -- Two drunken American soldiers who attempted to mistreat a group of displaced Jews last night precipitated a minor riot at the Foehrenwald Camp, near the town of Wolfrathausen, about 30 miles from here, it was learned today when military authorities launched an investigation.

According to the UNRRA director of the camp, Henry Cohen, the trouble started when the two soldiers entered a house in which six DP's were gathered and forced them at gun-point to do calisthenics and to play the harmonica while they jeered at them. Cohen said one soldier tried to shoot a DP, but his gun jammed.

German civil police were called, but they refused to come and the DP's, growing excited, rushed from the camp and threw up a road block, which forced a car bearing several minor German officials to halt. When the car's occupants got out, they were assaulted. American troops soon cleared the area and the DP's returned to the camp in orderly fashion.

The disturbance, according to camp officials, resulted from tension which developed because of a long-standing dispute between the UNRRA director of the camp and the Military Government officer at Wolfrathausen, Major Philip Speers, who is reported to be hostile to the DP's.

200 JEWISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN REACHED ITALY WITHIN PAST FEW DAYS SEEKING PALESTINE ENTRY

GENEVA, May 23. (JTA) -- Twelve hundred Jewish women and children from Poland, Germany and Hungary entered Italy through the Brenner Pass during the last few days in the hope of reaching Palestine, according to a report from the Milan office of the OSE, Jewish health organization. OSE officials are conferring with Italian Jewish organizations concerning assistance for these and other refugees now in Italy.

Akibah Lewinsky, who acted as chairman of the European Youth Aliyah conference which concluded here this week, disclosed today that hundreds of children from Poland, Rumania and Hungary are slipping into Italy in order to escape anti-Semitism. He revealed that in Poland and Germany, relief groups are having difficulty in locating many Jewish children who were hidden from the Nazis, because the youngsters are afraid to reveal that they are Jewish.

Lewinsky reported that the Swedish Government has agreed to send a special plane to Palestine at its own expense to transport to Sweden fourteen Youth Aliyah instructors.

2,000 JEWS WISH TO RETURN FROM PALESTINE TO AUSTRIA, MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCES

LONDON, May 23. (JTA) -- Austrian Minister of the Interior Oscar Helmer has announced in Vienna that 2,000 Austrian Jews who settled in Palestine after the "Anschluss" have applied for permission to return to Austria, it is reported today by Reuters.

Helmer stated that many of those desiring to return are doctors, teachers and technicians who can be of great assistance in rebuilding Austria, but the Government is not able to facilitate their repatriation until the Allied Control Council allows the Government to grant them travel papers.

MOSCOW RADIO REPORTS SOVIET GOVERNMENT RECEIVED APPEAL FROM ARABS ON PALESTINE ISSUE

LONDON, May 23. (JTA) -- The Moscow radio, heard here last night, announced that the Soviet Government has received a plea from a committee of Arabs in Iraq, asking it to bring the Anglo-American Palestine report before the United Nations Security Council. The broadcaster did not comment on the appeal.

A dispatch from Bagdad today says that Abdul Wahhab Mahmud, Iraq Minister of Finance, told the parliament that Iraq had contributed \$800,000 to the Arab Land Redemption Fund in Palestine. He also reported that Iraq had appropriated \$200,000 to help finance the activities of the Arab Office in Washington.

Replying to a recent pro-Zionist appeal issued here by a group of prominent British statesmen in the form of a letter to the Times, an equally prominent group of pro-Arab figures today sent a letter to the newspaper warning that acceptance of the inquiry committee's recommendations will permanently alienate the Arab states from Britain. The signers include Sir Edward Spears, former British minister in the Levant, and Sir John Hope-Simpson, who wrote an anti-Zionist report on Palestine in the '20s.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT WILL RECRUIT 3,000 POLICEMEN IN BRITAIN; FIRST GROUP LEAVES

LONDON, May 23. (JTA) -- Three thousand Palestine policemen will be recruited in Britain shortly, it was reported here today. Ninety men, the largest group recruited this year, left for Palestine today.



JEWS WHO FLED TO ABYSSINIA FROM ERITREAN CAMPS FACED WITH RETURN TO INTERMENT

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- Max Seligman, attorney for the Jews deported to Eritrea by the Palestine Government, revealed today that Benjamin Zereoni and Jacob Gurewitz, who escaped from Eritrea to nearby Ethiopia, have been arrested in Addis Ababa, the Abyssinian capital, and are threatened with return to Eritrea.

Seligman announced that he has wired high Abyssinian authorities, stressing that the deportation of the two fugitives would be a breach of international law.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES NEW DEPARTMENT FOR TRADE; WILL PROMOTE TOURISM

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- The establishment of a new government department for trade and industry was officially announced here today.

The new bureau will deal with inquiries concerning home trade, foreign trade, general marketing conditions, and transport. It will also handle commercial agreements with foreign companies, will promote tourist trade, and will attempt to stimulate village industry.

SCIENTISTS ARRIVE IN PALESTINE TO ATTEND LAYING OF CORNERSTONE FOR WEIZMANN INSTITUTE

JERUSALEM, May 23. (JTA) -- Many prominent scientists are arriving in Palestine to attend the laying of the cornerstone for the new Biophysical and Chemistry Research Center, which will be the nucleus of the projected \$4,000,000 Weizmann Institute of Science. It will take place on June 3 at Rehovoth on the grounds of the Sieff Institute of Chemistry.

Preceding the cornerstone laying will be a series of lectures and symposia entitled "Trends in Modern Science" in which American and British scientists will participate. The erection of the new buildings will begin in August and is expected to be completed by Spring of 1947. The dedication will take place next Passover.

Some of the equipment which will be housed at the new center has already been purchased in the United States and is being assembled at the Brooklyn Polytechnical Institute by a number of scientists who have shown great interest in the project. The new institute will maintain close cooperation with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem as well as with the Jewish Agency's Agricultural Research Institute.

The ceremonies next month will probably be attended by High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham and other Palestine notables. A delegation of American and British scientists is expected to arrive this week. They include Prof. L. Fieser of Harvard University; Prof. David Rittenberg and Prof. Chaim L. Pekeris of Columbia University; Prof. Herman Mark, Prof. Kurt Stern and Dr. Peter Hohenstein of Brooklyn Polytechnical Institute; and Dr. Y. Quastel of Cardiff University. It is expected that a number of the scientists coming to Palestine for this event will become associated with the new institute.

Weisgal Leaves for Palestine to Confer on Weizmann Institute

NEW YORK, May 23. (JTA) -- Meyer W. Weisgal, general secretary of the American branch of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, left by plane yesterday for London, en route to Palestine where he will attend a conference in Rehovoth in connection with the scientific symposium which will be held at the Sieff Research Institute in the beginning of June. The conference will consider and approve the architectural plans for the erection of the Weizmann Institute wings.

WALLACE WARNS U.S. HITLERITES RESUMING AGITATION; ASKS FIGHT ON INTOLERANCE

NEW YORK, May 23. (JTA) -- Hitler's followers in this country "have come out from the rat holes where they found refuge during the war" and have once again "reaped themselves with the flag of national patriotism to do the dirty work of social degradation," Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace warned tonight, addressing the seventh annual meeting of the Brooklyn Jewish Community Council.

Mr. Wallace appealed to all peoples to "work side by side in mutual trust and respect to defeat the forces of hate, intolerance and barbarism that still survive in our social life." He pointed out that the greatest challenge facing the world today is building a "workable society based upon lasting tolerance, mutual respect and productive peace."

The Jewish people have contributed greatly to human welfare and social betterment, Mr. Wallace said, adding that in "no place is this fact more apparent than in the Jewish contributions to all of science." The Secretary of Commerce cited the achievements of Prof. Albert Einstein; Dr. Ernst Chain, one of the co-discoverers of penicillin; Dr. Edwin Cohn, who developed a blood plasma substitute; Dr. Simon Flexner; Albert A. Michelson, Nobel Prize physicist; Dr. Lise Meitner, who first exploded the uranium atom; and many other Jewish scientists.

BRITISH ANTI-ZIONIST POLICY AROUSES ANTI-SEMITISM IN MIDDLE EAST, SAYS PALESTINE LEADER

NEW YORK, May 23. (JTA) -- A call for the immediate creation of a Jewish provisional government in Palestine was voiced here last night by Dr. Louis Altman, president of the United Zionists-Revisionists of Palestine, addressing a meeting of more than 700 people.

Declaring that the solution of the world Jewish problem is of vital interest to the entire world, Dr. Altman asserted that for the Jews it was "a question of life and death." He asserted that the "anti-Zionist policy in Palestine has aroused active anti-Semitism in the Middle East; the unsolved Jewish problem and anti-Semitism, its accompanying factor, is more dangerous to world peace than the atomic bomb."

ARGENTINE JEWS LAUNCH \$500,000 DRIVE FOR PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

BUENOS AIRES, May 23. (JTA) -- A campaign for \$500,000 for the Palestine Foundation Fund was launched here at a dinner attended by leaders of the Jewish community. More than \$50,000 was contributed by those who attended.

A group of German-Jewish refugees here have decided to raise funds for the planting in Palestine of a small wood named after the late Dr. Michale Ircub, who, as a representative of the Palestine Foundation Fund, made several visits to the Jewish communities in South America.

UNITED SYNAGOGUES OPENS FIRST POST-WAR CONVENTION; 1,000 DELEGATES ATTENDING

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., May 23. (JTA) -- The first post-war convention of the United Synagogue of America, the federation of Conservative congregations, opened here tonight at the St. Charles Hotel, with 1,000 delegates from 500 synagogues in attendance. The meeting will continue through Sunday. The opening address was delivered by Samuel Rothstein, president of the organization, who stressed that world Jewry faces a crisis of survival in the next 20 years.