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BRITISH WHITE PAPER CHARGES JEWISH AGENCY DIRECTED SABOTAGE AND TERROR IN PALESTINE

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- The British Government tonight issued a White Paper on violence in Palestine, charging that the sabotage and acts of terrorism were carried out under the direction of several members of the Jewish Agency.

The information secured by the government, which resulted in its decision to raid the premises of the Jewish Agency and arrest several of its members, led it to reach the following conclusions, the White Paper said:

1- The Haganah and its striking force, the Palmach, working under the political control of prominent members of the Jewish Agency, have been engaged in carefully planned movements of sabotage and violence under the guise of the Jewish Resistance Movement."

2- The Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Group have been working since last Autumn in cooperation with the high command of the Haganah and have carried out several joint operations.

3- The Haganah radio, "Kol Israel," was working under the direction of the Jewish Agency and supported the terrorist organizations.

After the kidnapping of six British officers by Jews last month, the government was obliged to take steps against the persons and groups responsible for the outrages, the White Paper added.

It said that the government's information was secured from the following sources: Eight telegrams which passed between members of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem and London from September of last year to May of this year, broadcasts by Kol Israel and publications issued by the Irgun, the Stern Group and the "Jewish Resistance Movement."

Cite Texts of Alleged Telegrams Involving Jewish Agency Leaders

Among the specific acts of sabotage cited in the White Paper were attacks on the Palestine railway system and a simultaneous attack on the oil refineries at Haifa. The British statement said that this incident was aimed at convincing the government that violence would result if it refused to accede to the Jewish demands.

The White Paper contains the alleged texts of the telegrams which were either sent or received by Dr. Moshe Shneh, Dr. Bernard Joseph and Moshe Shertok, all members of the executive of the Jewish Agency. The telegrams, as published in the White Paper, asked Shertok, who was then in London, to advise the Agency members in Jerusalem whether it would be advisable to launch large-scale violence, minor

incidents or remain passive. The alleged cables also gave key words which were to be used by Shertok in sending instructions to Jerusalem.

The White Paper quotes a telegram to London, allegedly from Dr. Sneh, dated September 23, 1945, which read as follows:

"It is suggested that we do not wait for the official announcement but call upon all Jewry to warn the authorities and to raise the morale of Yishuv. If you agree, ask Zeev Sharif for statistical material about the absorptive capacity and if you do not agree tell him that this material is not yet required. It has also been suggested that we cause one serious incident. We would then publish a declaration to the effect that it is only a warning and an indication of much more serious incidents that would threaten the safety of all British interests in the country should the Government decide against us."

"Wire your views with the reference as before but referring to statistical material about immigration during the war years. The Stern Group have expressed their willingness to join us completely on the basis of our program of activity. This time the intention seems serious. If there is such a union we may assume that we can prevent independent action even by the IZL. Wire your views on the question of the union referring to statistical material about Jewish recruitment to the army. SNEH."

Instructions Allegedly Sought in Exchange of Cables With Moshe Shertok

Another telegram quoted in the White Paper reads: "Eliezer Kaplan basing himself on a word from Hayyim via NWEW says that we should undertake nothing before you give us instructions to do. He is opposed to any real action on our part until we hear from you. Other members however are of the opinion that it is necessary to back your political effort with activities which do not bear the character of a general conflict. It is essential that we should know at once whether such actions are likely to be useful or detrimental to your struggle. Should you be opposed to any action whatever wire that we should wait for the arrival (one word unclear in cable). Should agree to isolated actions wire that you agree to sending a deputation to the dominions. If Hayyim meant us only avoid a general conflict not isolated cases, sent greetings to Chill for the birth of his daughter."

The White Paper quoted a third telegram "from Moshe Shertok in London to Bernard Joseph in Jerusalem - October 12, 1945". This read: "David will not leave before fortnight. Meanwhile probably revisit Paris. Regarding Dobkin written. David himself favored delegate dominions. Please congratulate Chill on birth of daughter."

A note in the White Paper said that "the reference in the telegram will show that the phrases about 'delegate dominions' and 'greetings to Chill' meant that it was desired, whilst avoiding a general conflict, to indulge in isolated actions."

Illegal Radio Operated With Jewish Agency Agreement, White Paper "Proves"

As proof that the "Kol Israel" station was working with the agreement of the Jewish Agency, the White Paper referred to further telegrams quoting one "to London from Sneh in Jerusalem October 12, 1945" which is given as follows:

"With effect from 4/10 the broadcast of 'The Voice of Israel' has been renewed. Two broadcasts were successful. Eliezer Kaplan and Bernard Joseph were invited to see the High Commissioner this morning. The agreement for the renewal of the broadcast and the Athlit undertakings have been obtained with difficulty. In future I shall not inquire but decide in conjunction with Shaul Meiroff and KN'NY."

7/25/46

PALESTINE AUTHORITIES REPORTED GIVEN WIDE POWERS TO PREVENT FURTHER VIOLENCE.

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- Informed political circles here said today that the military and civil authorities in Palestine have been given wide powers to prevent further disturbances, including the power to impose restrictions on meetings and free speech and to make wide-scale searches without warrants.

The Cabinet is also understood to be considering introduction of the death penalty for complicity in the preparation or carrying out of "murder plots" or possession of the means of perpetrating such deeds.

BRITISH WARSHIP ARRIVES IN PALESTINE; TWELVE MORE BODIES RECOVERED AT "KING DAVID"

JERUSALEM, July 24. (JTA) -- Rumors that British authorities in Palestine may impose collective fines upon the Jewish community were heard in Jerusalem today as the British cruiser Liverpool dropped anchor off Jaffa.

(In London, officials of the Colonial Office denied that there is a plan to impose collective punishment upon the Jews in Jerusalem for the bombing of the King David Hotel. However, they indicated that "drastic measures" may be expected.)

The situation in the city remained tense as twelve more bodies were recovered today from the wreckage of the Palestine government offices in the hotel. The death toll tonight was officially stated to be 61.

There are still 63 people missing and 47 injured, the official statement said, giving the total number of casualties as 171.

More than 700 Jews living in a slum quarter behind the King David Hotel and the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem's walled "Old City" have been rounded up and interrogated by police authorities during the past 24 hours, it was announced today. Of these, thirty are being held for further investigation.

The names of 14 British government officials killed and missing in Monday's explosion were listed today. Among the bodies recovered today was that of M. Rosen, a senior Jewish civil servant in the Attorney General's office.

An armed guard escorted the funeral cortege of twelve British army victims on a thirty-mile journey from Jerusalem to Ramleh today. The bodies were interred in the military cemetery on the outskirts of the city.

The immediate resignation of the executive of the Jewish Agency, as well as the executive of the Jewish National Council, is demanded today in Haaretz, organ of the General Zionists. "It isn't that we think that the members of the two executives are directly or indirectly responsible for the outbreaks, but something has happened in the Yishuv which must be handled otherwise than it is being handled," the paper says.

Dr. Nathan Altman, speaking for the World Executive of the United Zionists-Revisionists, said today that "we stand aghast and grieved beyond measure at the heavy toll of victims of the King David bombing." He pointed out, however, that "the government's decision to pursue an anti-Zionist policy -- annulment of the mandate in practice -- and its clear intention of preventing fulfillment of Jewish aspirations, and forcibly withhold salvation from the Jewish people, have inevitably driven the Jewish community to complete despair."

SOVIET MAY RAISE PALESTINE ISSUE BEFORE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL; ARABS SEEK TRUSTEESHIP

NEW YORK, July 24 (JTA) -- The Soviet Government may raise the Palestine question before the Security Council of the United Nations within the next few days, when Transjordan's application for admission to the United Nations will be discussed.

This was indicated today by a Soviet spokesman here following the disclosure last night by the Secretariat of the United Nations of the receipt of communications from the governments of Egypt and Iraq, requesting the British Government to enter into negotiations with the seven Arab States "to end the present situation in Palestine and to install a new regime in accordance with the provisions and the aims expressed in the charter of the United Nations."

The two governments, speaking also for five other members of the Arab League, asked the Secretariat of the United Nations to bring their communications "to the knowledge of all members of the United Nations", emphasizing that they intend to place their proposals with regard to Palestine before the General Assembly of the United Nations in September.

United Nations officials today interpreted the communications of the two members of the Arab League as an attempt to place Palestine under United Nations trusteeship. The request that the two notes be circulated to all members of the United Nations was complied with by the U.N. Secretariat. The notes demanded that all Jewish immigration to Palestine be halted pending agreement on a new Palestinian regime.

Agreement Will Not Be Reached in Time for U.N. Assembly, British Say

British sources in the United Nations today said that Egypt's and Iraq's notes do not add anything to the British decision to discuss the Palestine issue with both Arabs and Jews before agreeing to any final settlement of the problem. At the same time, they indicated that the problem was too complicated to reach a final agreement with the Arab States in time for submission to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The Soviet spokesman who declared that his government might raise the Palestine question before the U.N. Security Council within a few days declined to go into details. He also refused to commit himself as to whether his government would support or oppose the admission of Transjordan to the United Nations.

The New York Post today predicted that a "Big Three" split over Palestine may occur if the issue is raised before the United Nations. "It seems that only the attainment of an equitable solution of the problem by Anglo-American negotiators in London would serve to heal the breach, and even then the Soviet Union may act alone," the paper said.

CONGRESSMEN CONFER WITH TRUMAN ON PALESTINE; SUGGEST ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO U.S.

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- Representatives Emily Taft Douglas of Illinois, Chase G. Woodhouse of Connecticut and Helen Gahagan Douglas of California, all Democrats, conferred with President Truman this morning on Palestine.

They suggested to the President the admission of Jewish refugees to the United States on the basis of unused quotas, an action which would require Congressional approval. They reiterated to Mr. Truman their hope for admission to Palestine of the 100,000 displaced European Jews, as recommended by the President and the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee.

ANGLO-AMERICAN EXPERT COMMITTEE WORK NOT AFFECTED BY ARAB REQUEST TO UNITED NATIONS

LONDON, July 24. (JTA) -- The decision of the Arab States to place the Palestine situation before the United Nations did not come as a surprise here and will in no way affect the present British program of action, it was indicated here today by well-informed British circles.

The British Government, it was emphasized, will decide on its next step with regard to Palestine on the basis of recommendations to be made by the Anglo-American committee of experts now at work in London. These recommendations are expected to refer to an interim solution, it was pointed out. The ultimate future of Palestine is a matter for consideration by the United Nations as a whole, it was made clear by Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin last November in Parliament, it was recalled.

Official circles also reiterated that whatever the nature of the proposals of the Anglo-American experts, both Arabs and Jews will be consulted before final decision is taken. At the same time, the News-Chronicle reports today that the British Cabinet has envisaged a federalized Palestine, with separate Jewish and separate Arab states, each in control of the greater part of its own internal affairs and grouped together under a central Palestine government, in which would be Arabs, Jews and British, representing the mandatory.

"This," the paper says, "would enable immigration to be resumed into the Jewish province and would probably enable the British Government to announce the acceptance in principle of the admission of 100,000 Jews from Europe to Palestine within the near future."

Cabinet Members are Divided on Federalization of Palestine

The Chronicle reveals that not all the members of the Cabinet favor the federalization of Palestine. "Some feel that such a federal solution would not be acceptable to the Arabs and that it would lose us the friendship of the Arab rulers who are considered vital allies in the maintenance of our power in the Middle East," the paper states.

The proposed federal solution for Palestine would, it adds, leave the federal government in control of defense, finance and communication, but would give wide powers to the two provinces. "It is almost certain that the Jewish province would have the control of immigration into its own territory and would enjoy cultural autonomy," the paper concludes. "The discussion between the American and British experts during the past ten days in London have strengthened the hand of those who want the federal solution."

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE CONDEMNS BLASTING OF BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, July 24. (JTA) -- Condemnation of the blasting of military headquarters in Jerusalem was expressed today by the American Jewish Committee in a statement released by John Slawson, executive vice-president. The text of the statement follows:

"The American Jewish Committee joins with the responsible Jewish bodies of Palestine in condemnation of the senseless and inexcusable crime committed by a band of terrorists who represent no substantial Jewish group in or out of Palestine. Such acts are contrary to all Jewish and decent human traditions and are repudiated by all Jews who are genuinely interested in the peaceful solution of the Palestine problem."

HERBERT LEHMAN SCORES "COWARDLY AND CRIMINAL" BOMBING OF KING DAVID HOTEL

NANTUCKET, Mass., July 24. (JTA) -- Former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman today sharply condemned the "cowardly and criminal bombing of the King David Hotel," in a statement issued here, where he is vacationing. His statement read as follows:

"As a Jew who has been deeply interested in Palestine for a great many years, I condemn with all my force the cowardly and criminal bombing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, which resulted in the death and injury of many people.

"It was a cruel and utterly inexcusable act of a group of lawless fanatics. It will meet with the condemnation and abhorrence of the great majority of the Jews all over the world. Right-thinking people, whether they be of the Jewish faith or not, wish Palestine opened up as a haven for the cruelly oppressed and tortured Jews of Europe. Acts of violence such as the destruction of the King David Hotel will inevitably undo much of the statesmanlike and constructive work that has been carried on for years by responsible organizations and individuals.

"We Jews have a just cause and our fight to gain large-scale immigration into Palestine has met with a sympathetic and helpful response all over the world. We will not win our fight, however, by criminal violence or fanatical methods. To pursue such methods will merely lead to loss of our own self-respect and the respect and sympathy of the world.

"The Jews of Palestine are a law-abiding people and the handful of criminal fanatics who engage in atrocities of this kind must be curbed and rendered impotent. Right-thinking Jews in Palestine and all over the world must use every means within their power to make further tragic occurrences of this character impossible.

"I abhor the lawless and senseless act and wish to express my deepest sympathy for those who have been its victims."

HERZOG SEES BIDAUT ON ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO FRANCE; CONDEMNS PALESTINE BOMBING

PARIS, July 24. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine was scheduled to confer here late today with Premier Georges Bidault on the question of admission of Jewish refugees to France.

Dr. Herzog, who arrived today from Prague en route to London, expressed horror at the bombing of the King David Hotel, describing the outrage as a "dastardly crime."

"Despair - engendered by tragedy unparalleled in the annals of our history and by the failure of those in whose hands it now lies yet to bring the balm of healing to our tormented people - has borne its bitter fruits," he said. "I could never have imagined that the descendants of those who received the law of life on Mount Sinai could show such disregard for the sanctity of human life."

CONGRESSMAN CELLER CHARGES JERUSALEM VIOLENCE RESULT OF BRITISH PALESTINE POLICY

WASHINGTON, July 24. (JTA) -- Congressman Emanuel Celler, in a statement to the press today, blamed the bombing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem on the British acts of suppressing and imprisoning Jewish leaders in Palestine, acts which he said "had thereby opened the door to anarchy".