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# JTA

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BRITAIN ANNOUNCES ALL "ILLEGAL" IMMIGRANTS WILL BE DEPORTED TO CYPRUS AND ELSEWHERE

LONDON, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- A British Foreign Office statement issued tonight said that all "illegal" immigrants to Palestine would be sent to Cyprus and elsewhere.

At the same time, a Foreign Office spokesman said that it was logical to assume that the first to be deported to Cyprus would be the 1,500 persons aboard three refugee vessels in Haifa Bay and the estimated 1,350 on two vessels which were brought into Haifa today by British destroyers. (See page 2 and 3.)

The statement said that the British Government appreciated the fact that many of the "illegal" immigrants had suffered considerable hardships, and, therefore, all reasonable measures will be taken to safeguard their well-being. It declared that continuation of such "illegal" immigration would have a harmful effect on the eventual solution of the Palestine problem.

Britain Asks U.S. to Prohibit Publication of Zionist Appeals for Funds

Meanwhile, it was reliably reported today that Britain has made representations to the United States Government with regard to publication in America of Zionist appeals for money to transport Jewish refugees. It was indicated that U.S. authorities have agreed to look into the matter.

A Reuter report said that "there is reason to believe" that most of the funds financing the so-called "illegal" immigration of Jews from Europe to Palestine has come from Zionist groups in the United States. "These have been conducting their appeals quite openly in the columns of American newspapers," the report said, adding that "appeals of this nature are illegal both in Britain and in Palestine, but under U.S. law the money collected in this way apparently has so far been exempt from taxation on the grounds that it was for a charitable purpose."

Britain's note to the United States is part of the full-fledged diplomatic campaign launched by the government in an effort to halt Jewish "illegal" immigration to Palestine at the points of departure. The move completes a series of diplomatic representations inviting cooperation in preventing Jews from leaving Europe for Palestine, which now have been addressed to most of the governments on the European continent.

Poland Yields to British Demand to Close Borders to Fleeing Jews

It was revealed here today that the Polish Government has informed the Foreign Office that measures will be taken to tighten border controls to prevent Jews from leaving the country without permission. Other governments who were asked by Britain "to assist in control of illegal Jewish emigration to Palestine" at the departure end have similarly notified the Foreign Office of their readiness to comply with its request.

A Foreign Office spokesman today said that Britain has addressed a similar request to the Greek Government. A Reuter report from Athens tonight said that after

receiving the British statement, Greek police visited the local representative of the Jewish Agency. The full list of countries to which such notes are known to have been sent includes the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Greece, France, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Mexico and Panama. No reply has yet been received from the Soviet Union.

The inclusion of Mexico and Panama in the list of countries asked to prevent Jewish "illegal" immigration to Palestine followed representations made last week by the Foreign Office to the embassies of these countries in London. The British demanded that a careful check be made by these governments on the issuance of visas to Jewish refugees in Europe, emphasizing that many Jews arriving "illegally" in Palestine hold Mexican and Rumanian visas, enabling them to leave Europe.

#### Reply to British Statement Expected from Jewish Agency Meeting in Paris

LONDON, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Jewish Agency circles here refused to comment on the Foreign Office's statement, stating that any reply would have to come from the meeting of the Jewish Agency executive in Paris.

#### BRITISH-JEWISH TALKS SCHEDULED TO START IN LONDON; CALLED OFF BECAUSE OF ILLNESS

LONDON, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Consultations between the Colonial Office and leaders of the Jewish Agency which were scheduled to open today were called off "because of the illness of a certain personality," the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from authoritative sources.

British circles indicated that some of the Jewish Agency leaders who arrived here yesterday by plane from Paris came primarily for the purpose of participating in the consultations. Jewish circles reported that these leaders came to confer with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, whose eye operation has been postponed until the coming week-end.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that President Truman's statement on the British-proposed "federalization" plan for Palestine was expected to be received here today, but no communication from Truman has reached the Foreign Office so far.

(In Washington a White House announcement said that the President is still considering the entire Palestine question and has set no date for an announcement regarding his final decision on the British federation plan. Mr. Truman is understood to be in cable communication with Prime Minister Attlee. Despite conflicting reports that the President has veered toward the British plan and is now said to be negotiating for a larger area and more autonomy for the proposed Jewish province, well-informed Administration circles continue to insist that the President will not accept the plan.)

#### HIGH COMMISSIONER CALLS MEETING OF TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING SECURITY CHIEFS

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- High Commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham tonight hurriedly convened a conference of top members of his administration, including security officials. The meeting was believed to be connected with the rapidly rising tension resulting from the British decision to deport visaless refugees to Cyprus.

At the same time, troops surrounded the Athlit clearance camp, where several thousand "illegal" refugees are being held.

Several correspondents left here tonight by air for Cyprus to be present at the landing of the deportees, which is expected to occur tomorrow.

Advance units of the Sixth Airborne Division began leaving Palestine tonight. The division has been here for nearly a year.

BRITISH DESTROYERS DETAIN TWO SHIPS WITH 1,300 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS OFF HAIFA HARBOR

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Special precautions were ordered by British security authorities in Haifa today as two refugee ships carrying more than 1,300 Jewish immigrants arrived in the harbor under escort of several destroyers.

The two ships, which were barred from entering the port, are the Yagour, named after a Jewish settlement in Palestine, and the Henrietta Szold, named after the late founder of the Hadassah. The Yagour with 700 passengers aboard was manned by a Turkish crew which was arrested by British naval officers. No trace of a crew was found on the Henrietta Szold which has 650 passengers, including children under 16, and it is assumed that the ship was manned by the refugees themselves.

Jewish leaders here fear that the two ships may be diverted to the island of Cyprus where detention camps are reported to have been prepared for Jewish immigrants seeking to enter Palestine without visas. Officials of the Jewish Agency's immigration department asked permission to board the ships, but were refused. Several thousand special troops were standing by in the Haifa port area to prevent any contact with the vessels. Two other vessels, the Shertok and the Raffa, were expected tonight.

Jewish Agency Denies That Arriving Refugees Are Terrorists

A Jewish Agency spokesman today vehemently denied at a press conference the allegation that the Jewish refugees arriving from Europe are terrorists. "On the contrary," he said, "they are opposed to terrorism in Palestine."

The Jewish Agency representative estimated that there were now about 3,700 Jewish refugees aboard vessels anchored in Haifa harbor. He said that he believed that an additional 1,300 Jews were en route to Palestine. He also disclosed that the Palestine authorities have unofficially extended the censorship blanketing the country's press to include mail to individuals and organizations. He declared that letters addressed to the Agency have been ripped open and then forwarded without envelopes being resealed.

Reports from Cyprus today said that port officials at Famagusta have been alerted for the possible arrival of six ships. A former British troopship, the "Wayward," arrived in Haifa today with its decks covered with rolls of barbed wire.

The Resistance Movement's underground radio, "Voice of Israel," continued warning today against the British attempt to convert the "Yishuv into a ghetto" by introducing a blockade against Palestine similar to that imposed upon Nazi Germany during the war. The announcer forecast further curfews, arrests and interrogations aimed at leaders and members of the Haganah as well as sympathizers of the movement.

MUFTI RESUMING ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN PALESTINE POLITICS AS FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET

CAIRO, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem has seized upon the conference of Arab Foreign Ministers opening in Alexandria tonight to resume active large-scale participation in Palestine and Middle East politics, it was reported today.

The Mufti yesterday conferred for several hours with Abdul Rahman Azzam Bey, secretary-general of the Arab League, on Palestine questions and today saw Jamal Husseini, the deputy chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, of which the Mufti is the titular head. They are understood to have discussed the foreign ministers meeting, which will be devoted exclusively to Palestine.

MCNORNEY BAN ON ORGANIZED MIGRATION TO U.S. ZONE NOT A NEW POLICY, JEWISH LEADERS SAY

MUNICH, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here today pointed out that the announcement by Lt. Gen. Joseph T. McNorney, American commander in Europe, that he intends to bar large groups of Jews from areas where they are not persecuted from entering the United States zone, is a reiteration of an existing policy. They added that the Army has always permitted and will continue to allow Jews from countries where they are being persecuted to seek haven in the American zone of Germany.

Meanwhile, it was learned that a plan to permit the orderly exodus from Poland of all Jews who wished to migrate to the U.S. zone has been shelved for the time being. The plan, which was proposed by an Army officer sent to Poland to investigate the situation of the Jews there, has been studied by high Army officers and the State Department.

By instituting a plan whereby the Jews could register for transfer from Poland, it was hoped that the Army would be prepared to receive these refugees and care for them adequately. It would also protect the Jews from robbery, beatings and murder which now occur while they attempt to cross the border at unprotected places.

The temporary abandonment of this plan is seen as a victory for those Army and State Department circles which feared that the institution of such a scheme would encourage widespread immigration. This plan, these circles feel, might lead to violation of international protocol since the emigration would be undertaken without the issuance of individual visas and other red tape. At present the State Department does not maintain a consulate in Poland and therefore could not issue such visas.

Salzburg-Munich Route into U.S. Zone Reported Reopened for Jewish Refugees

PARIS, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Information reaching Jewish leaders here today says that the Salzburg-Munich route used by Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe en route to the American zone in Germany is again open.

However, the border between Czechoslovakia and the U.S. zone in Austria remains closed. As far as can be ascertained here, the Czechoslovak authorities want guarantees that the number of Jewish refugees allowed to enter the American zone will not be deducted by the U.S. authorities from the number of Sudeten Germans that Czechoslovakia is being allowed to send into Germany. On the other hand, the military authorities feel that the arrival of the Jews complicates their task of screening the Sudetans.

The only route still open to refugees seeking to reach the American zone in Vienna from Czechoslovakia is across the Russian zone of Austria.

23 JEWS ACCUSED OF HAIFA RAID FORCE ADJOURNMENT OF TRIAL BY "SINGING FILIBUSTER"

HAIFA, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Nineteen Jewish men and four women who are charged with having participated in a raid on the Haifa Bay railway yards on June 17 today forced the adjournment of their trial within 25 minutes after it opened, by conducting a "singing filibuster."

They commenced singing Jewish and underground songs as soon as the members of the court entered the chamber and continued while an interpreter was sworn in. The court adjourned the trial to a later date.

NOT ALL JEWS PLAN TO LEAVE POLAND, BUT EVEN THEY MAY BE FORCED TO FLEE COUNTRY

WARSAW, Aug. 12. (JTA) -- Contrary to reports, not all the Jews left in Poland now are planning to leave. But even those few who are planning to remain admit that they may have to change their minds in a hurry.

It is not a question of economic security and certainly not a question of an unfriendly government. It is simply the fear that tonight or tomorrow the innate anti-Semitism of so many of the Polish people may break out in a violent form.

In Warsaw there is a capable Jewish woman lawyer who had decided to remain in Poland and who had an excellent position as office manager of a large organization. Her position offered both economic security and opportunity for advancement. Two months ago, her husband's best friend, a Jewish doctor, was brutally murdered in his house by members of one of the forest bands. Now her only thought is to get away.

Although fully aware of the persistence of anti-Semitism in postwar Europe, these two young, well-educated Jews had hoped that they could somehow fit into the new picture. They are still hopeful and for that reason they have not yet decided where to go. They know only that they want to get out of Poland.

In a few weeks or a few months, they will join the mass movement of Jews who are leaving Poland independently and illegally without any definite plans for the future. This is the larger of the two groups. The other is the well-organized illegal exodus of Zionists whose only goal is Palestine.

Most Jews Leave Country Illegally Because Unable to Secure Visas

The number of Jews who leave Poland legally is so small in comparison that it is hardly worth mentioning except as an illustration of the difficulties that Jews who want to leave Poland must face.

To get out of Poland, there is only one direction for Jews - south through Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak Legation in Warsaw will only issue visas to those - Jews having a United States military permit which will enable them to enter the American zones of Austria and Germany. The office of the American military attache in the American Embassy in Warsaw will issue military permits only to those Jews who want to go through the American zones and can furnish proof that they are in transit and have a visa from some country in South America or from South Africa, France, Belgium or Holland.

Visas of this type are, of course, very rare. The passport willingly granted to Jews by the Polish Government is an "emigration passport" as a result of which foreign legations in Warsaw are reluctant to grant visas for fear that the Jews will settle down in their countries.

Belgium, France and Italy have each allocated 500 visas for Polish Jews but they are restricted to orphans under 16 years of age. Still the American military attache's office here, despite extremely limited facilities, is interviewing about 50 persons a day and granting permits to half that number of whom two or three are Jews.

These fortunate few then leave for Czechoslovakia - but not by train - for they are afraid of bandit raids. They, too, though they have the precious passport, travel south through Poland just the same as the less fortunate - by night, slowly and cautiously, from town to town, keeping off the main roads and always ready to hide the children, just as they did when the Germans attacked them.

(This is the first of a series of articles by a special JTA correspondent sent to Poland to survey the current situation of the Jews there.)

BRITISH TROOPS DESECRATED CEMETERY IN SEARCH FOR HIDDEN ARMS IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Aug. 12. (JTA)--British troops uprooted tombstones and uncovered graves in their search for hidden arms during the four-day raids in Tel Aviv two weeks ago, it was disclosed today in a report issued by Zvi Pinkas, president of the local burial society.

Police yesterday searched all hospitals in Tel Aviv, but the reason for the raids was not announced.

A letter received here today from 30 detainees in Eritrea, who escaped in June but were subsequently recaptured, reports that they are imprisoned on a hill-top at Port Abalzira, near Asmara, in Eritrea. They appealed for food and asked that counsel be sent to assist them at their forthcoming trial.

ARGENTINE STUDENT, LIBERAL GROUPS HIT ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS ON JEWISH MEDICAL STUDENTS

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 12. (JTA)--Protests are mounting here against the violent anti-Semitism prevailing among students at the Buenos Aires University medical school's hospital, which culminated last week in an attack on a Jewish intern and warnings to several others that they would also be assaulted if they did not resign their posts.

A group of democratic students have submitted a memorandum to the government-appointed administrator of the university, protesting the anti-Jewish agitation and the Association of Women Students has published a statement repudiating the attacks. The anti-Peron Radical Party is expected to adopt a resolution condemning the anti-Jewish students and demanding that university authorities take steps to curb the outbreaks.

The national congress of the Argentine Socialist Party issued a statement urging the outlawing of anti-Semitism as "a crime against humanity."

SOVIET GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATES 7,500,000 RUBLES FOR CHILD CARE IN BIROBIJDAN

MOSCOW, Aug. 12. (JTA)--The Soviet Government appropriate 7,500,000 rubles for improving the care of mothers and children in the Jewish autonomous region of Birobidjan within the last two years, it was reported today.

During 1945 the sum of 3,500,000 rubles was allotted to the autonomous Jewish region, while nearly 4,000,000 rubles were earmarked for this purpose for 1946. Last year, grants to mothers amounted to more than 2,000,000 rubles. The report added that the present nursery and kindergarten system will be enlarged during the present five-year plan.

CANADIAN SOCIALISTS "REGRET" BRITAIN'S FAILURE TO ADMIT 100,000 JEWS TO PALESTINE

REGINA, Canada, Aug. 12. (JTA)--The ninth national convention of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, Canada's Socialist Party, has adopted a resolution expressing its "deep regret at the failure of the British Labor Government to implement the recommendation of the Anglo-American Inquiry Commission for the immediate admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine."