

Sunday, September 29, 1946

JTA*Daily News Bulletin*PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS ON JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN LONDON PARLEY STILL POSSIBLE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The decision of the Small Zionist Actions Committee not to participate in the London conference on Palestine does not close the door to further negotiations with the British Government, it was pointed out here today.

Only six members of the Actions Committee voted in favor of outright refusal to attend, and no one favored immediate participation. However, under the decision adopted by a 16 to 6 vote, the executive of the Jewish Agency is empowered to continue its efforts to bring about conditions which would make the Agency's participation in the London talks possible. The announcement of the decision emphasized that when this result is achieved, the Actions Committee will meet again and reconsider the situation.

The decision to abstain from participation in the conference "under the present circumstances" was adopted despite reports that the majority of the members of the Jewish Agency executive, including those detained at the Latrun camp, favor participation. A reported warning by Dr. Chaim Weizmann that abstention would hamper his future efforts also failed to sway the Actions Committee.

The resolution as adopted by the Committee was the mildest of the several texts submitted. Various groups had demanded non-participation until the cessation of the present "regime of terror" and the end of "oppression, searches and detentions." The text read as follows:

"The Actions Committee heard a report on the result of the negotiations with the British Government. The Committee declares that under the present circumstances it is impossible to agree to the participation of the Jewish Agency in the conference on Palestine. The Actions Committee empowers the executive of the Jewish Agency to continue its efforts with a view to bringing about such conditions as are essential for participation in the London talks. When this result is achieved, the Committee will meet again to consider the situation."

London Jewish Groups Shocked By Zionist Decision Not to Attend Conference

LONDON, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- The decision of the Zionist Actions Committee not to participate in the London conference came as a shock to Jewish groups here.

A meeting was held on Wednesday of leaders of all the groups invited by the Government to participate in the conference. Present were representatives of the Jewish Agency, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Anglo-Jewish Association and the Agudas Israel. No decision was reached, but it is understood that the non-Agency groups are seriously considering independent action.

The Anglo-Jewish Association and the Agudas Israel will meet separately on Sunday in an attempt to reach a final decision on whether to attend the parley, even if the Jewish Agency does not participate.

The Zionist Review, official Zionist Federation organ, published an editorial regretting the decision of the Actions Committee.

Government cannot, on the one hand, aggravate the situation in Palestine and, on the other, seek Jewish cooperation. "Whatever the merits of the decision of the Actions Committee may be, the Jewish people will stand solidly behind the Jewish Agency," it says.

A Jewish Agency spokesman here said an approach to the British Cabinet would probably be made after members of the executive in London, and possibly also in Paris, had heard a personal report from Berl Locker, who flew to Palestine where he conferred with members of the Actions Committee and with Moshe Shertok and other leaders detained in the Latrun camp.

(The New York Times reports today that a nine-man committee of the Palestine conference, including Arab and British representatives, has drawn up a plan calling for the appointment of a provisional government for Palestine, with six Arabs, three Jews and one Christian. The plan, believed to have drafted by the British and amended by the Arabs, provides for British troops to leave the country after a temporary period. Jewish immigration would not be controlled by the Jews, but by the central government.)

PALESTINE MILITARY AUTHORITIES BAN ALL ARMS SALES IN MOVE TO CRIPPLE TERRORISTS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- In an attempt to cripple the activities of terrorist groups, Lieut. Gen. Sir Evelyn Barker, British commander in Palestine, today banned the sale and purchase of explosives without a written permit from the military authorities. His order was issued under the sweeping Emergency Defense Regulations.

The ban came a day after the proclamation of a dusk to dawn curfew between Haifa and Tel Aviv, following rumors that several immigrant vessels were en route to Palestine in the hope of slipping through the British blockade.

Last night, Egyptian police arrested five persons in Alexandria after capture of five trucks containing tommyguns, hand grenades and forged passports. The police said the arms were destined for Palestine.

On the eve of Rosh Hashonah, seven Jews "suspected of complicity in terrorism," were deported to a British internment camp in Eritrea. The deportations were disclosed in a communique issued yesterday. The names of the deportees were given as Joseph Luntz, Zvi Bronin alias Zvi Smertovsky, Mordechai Moskovitz, Nathan Merfish, Levi Sassoun, Shlomo Yarkoni and Jacob Pavlitzki. On the same day, 148 men and women who had been held in the Raffa and Latrun camps and the Bethlehem prison for varying periods were released.

PASSAGE OF REFUGEE JEWS THROUGH RUSSIAN ZONE IN AUSTRIA REPORTED HALTED

VIENNA, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Palestine-bound visaless Jews en route from Hungary and Czechoslovakia to the American zone of Austria are reported to have been stopped by Russian military authorities in Austria, through whose zone the Jews must pass.

This action followed the announcement yesterday that the Czechoslovak government has closed its frontier with Poland to all illegal Jewish refugees, after receiving two British notes demanding an end to the entry of visaless Polish Jews, most of whom, the British said, were bound for Palestine.

Estimating that 20,000 to 30,000 refugees are now trying to leave Poland, Jewish welfare officials reported that 2,000 migrant Jews were turned back at two Czech points, Nachod and Broumov, the first two days after the border was closed.

PEACE CONFERENCE COMMISSION REJECTS PROPOSAL FOR EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PARIS, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- An Australian proposal for creation of a European Court of Human Rights was rejected today by a vote of 15 to 4 in the Italian Commission of the Peace Conference, thus virtually eliminating it from any further consideration, since similar proposals had been defeated earlier in other commissions.

Speaking against the proposal, Soviet delegate Andrei Vishinsky said that it was "juridically and politically illiterate." He declared that if such a court were created for Europe, it would be reasonable to expect that a court be set up to guarantee the rights of Indians in Asia and Negroes in the United States. The Australian proposal was supported by New Zealand, Belgium and South Africa.

Earlier, representatives of Jewish organizations appealed to the Hungarian Commission to include in the treaty with Hungary provisions which would safeguard Jewish interests. They pointed to the recent anti-Jewish outbreaks in the country as evidence of the continuing anti-Semitism which necessitates special safeguards for Jews. The action taken up to now by the government has been insufficient to guarantee the future security of the Jews, they said.

The appeal was signed by the American Jewish Conference, American Jewish Committee, World Jewish Congress, Board of Deputies of British Jews, Anglo-Jewish Association, Agudas Israel, Central Representation of the Jews of France and the Alliance Universelle Israelite.

ROMANIAN JEWS WILL BE GIVEN NATIONAL MINORITY STATUS IF THEY SO DESIRE, GOVT. STATES

BUCHAREST, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Rumanian Jewry will be given minority status under new legislation covering nationality rights now being drafted, if the Jewish community feels that this would be in its interest, Prof. Gheorghe Vladescu-Racoasa, Minister of Nationalities, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

His statement is a significant reversal of the official position that the Jews constituted a religious community, rather than a national minority. Should the Jews favor a minority status, the Jewish communities will fall within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Nationalities, Prof. Vladescu Racoasa said.

He affirmed that the Rumanian Government is not opposed to immigration to Palestine, stating that "every Rumanian Jew has the right to emigrate." He expressed the hope that an independent Jewish state would soon be established in Palestine.

HUNGARIAN JUDGE SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR FOR CONDEMNING JEWISH WOMAN PARACHUTIST

BUDAPEST, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- A Peoples Court has sentenced Dr. Julius Simon, chairman of a military court during the pro-Nazi regime, to one year's imprisonment for condemning as a spy Chana Szenes, Hungarian-born Jewish woman. She had parachuted behind the enemy lines to obtain vital military information for the British Army.

Last Christmas night, a small vessel named in her honor landed some 300 visaless Jewish immigrants on the Palestine coast near Tel Aviv. The Jews left the beached ship with a banner reminding the world that Chana Szenes had died serving the British cause, and pointing out that the British should be ashamed of barring her people from Palestine.

JEWISH DP'S IN U.S. ZONE IN GERMANY RECEIVE EXTRA FOOD RATION FOR HOLIDAYS FROM ARMY

FRANKFURT, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- In order to help them celebrate the High Holidays, displaced Jews in the American zone were issued extra food rations consisting of 16 tons of meat, 38 tons of flour, six tons of butter, two tons of honey and seven tons of raisins, U.S. Army headquarters announced today.

The food issue came after displaced and German Jews, and Allied military and civilian personnel attended Rosh Hashonah services in makeshift synagogues throughout the American zone.

Services in the larger cities were mainly held in buildings converted for the holidays, such as the Berlin Rathaus and a university auditorium in Munich. Most DP camps used regular synagogues, while the newer camps which are still without chapels converted their messhalls or other spacious chambers. Army chaplains also conducted services throughout the zone for troops and civilian employees, with DP's permitted to attend.

Another holiday event took place at a newly opened camp for Jewish DP children 40 miles from Munich, with the first distribution of Junior Red Cross packages contributed by American school children. The 1,300 Jewish children received packages from every section of the U.S., containing toilet articles, toys, games and school supplies.

MOSCOW JEWS JAM CITY'S CHIEF SYNAGOGUE FOR HOLIDAY SERVICE; OTHER SYNAGOGUES CROWDED

MOSCOW, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Four thousand worshippers jammed this city's principal synagogue, which has an official capacity of 2,000, for Rosh Hashonah services.

Thousands of others crowded the street on the outside to follow the ceremony from loudspeakers. Three smaller Moscow synagogues and 25 in the suburbs were described as equally crowded.

The congregation in Moscow's chief synagogue consisted mostly of the middle-aged or the elderly. Only a quarter of the worshippers were young people. The majority of the men did not wear prayer shawls but most of them had new prayer books, which were printed in Vilna. A few of the men, mainly railway officials, were wearing uniforms. The women in the gallery were fashionably clothed. During the service, many of the participants were emotionally stirred and burst into tears.

The service was conducted by Rabbi Samuel Shliffer. Present at the service was the head of the Moscow Jewish community, Samuel Chobrutzky, who is planning a visit to the United States.

THOUSANDS OF JEWISH SERVICEMEN HERALD COMING OF NEW YEAR ON THREE CONTINENTS

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jewish servicemen in the American armed forces assembled on three continents to take part in ceremonies for the Rosh Hashonah holiday, the National Jewish Welfare Board announced today.

Reports received by the JWB from Europe, Asia and all sections of North America emphasized the emergency housing and feeding preparations made by Jewish chaplains for G.I.s who travelled hundreds of miles by rail, jeep and plane; the provision of

facilities for worship by Army authorities; the high measure of aid and cooperation from Christian chaplains, and the large participation of refugees and civilian communities.

Hundreds of civilians took part in the services in Germany and Austria, held in camps, synagogues and JWB religious hospitality centers.

At Manila, a Jewish chaplain, accompanied by GIs and civilian youth from the community, visited the graves of Jewish men who fell in the struggle for the city and conducted memorial services.

GIs stationed at Saipan, Iwo Jima, Tinian and Kwajalein were flown to Guam where services were conducted by men from the ranks. Jewish servicemen scattered over the frozen wastes of Alaska were flown to Fort Richardson for observance of the New Year.

RUMANIAN JEWRY, GREETING NEW YEAR, HEAR SERMONS URGING UNITY ON PALESTINE ISSUE

BUCHAREST, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Jews gathering in synagogues throughout Rumania yesterday and today to observe Rosh Hashonah heard sermons voicing disappointment and anger at the situation in Palestine and determination to stand firmly united in the fight for Palestine.

All Jewish newspapers discuss the Palestine issue as the chief problem to be faced in the coming year. A.L. Zissu, former head of the Jewish National Party and a prominent Zionist, writing in the newspaper Mantuir, appealed to the democratic countries of the world to send volunteers to Palestine, just as they did to defend Madrid during the Spanish rebellion.

300 JEWISH REFUGEES HOLD ROSH HASHONAH SUPPER IN ROME; HEAR ACCOUNT OF CYPRUS CAMP

ROME, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Three hundred Jewish refugees attending a Rosh Hashonah supper here in an overcrowded hall heard addresses by David Hunter, UNRRA chief welfare officer; Julius Levine, JDC director; Dr. Umberto Nachon, Jewish Agency representative in Italy; and Jacob Garfunkel, head of the central committee of Jewish refugees in Italy.

Claire Neikind, Overseas News Agency correspondent, described her experiences aboard an illegal ship en route to Palestine and in a Cyprus detention camp.

NEW YEAR FINDS IMPROVEMENT IN SITUATION OF BULGARIAN JEWS; U.S. JEWS AIDING RECOVERY

SOFIA, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Rosh Hashonah was observed under more cheerful conditions this year, as a result of the improved situation of Bulgarian Jewry, which can be attributed in part to the aid extended by U.S. Jews through the JDC. There was comparatively less religious fervor than last year, which was reflected by smaller attendance at synagogue services.

ANTI-SEMITIC VANDALS IN POLAND DESTROY MONUMENT TO JEWS MURDERED BY NAZIS

WARSAW, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Unknown vandals completely destroyed the memorial erected in the city of Biala-Podolska to commemorate the Jews murdered there by the Nazis. The monument, which cost 400,000 zlotys, was built with funds contributed by former residents of the city who are now living in the U.S.

DR. GOLDSTEIN RESIGNS FROM EINSTEIN UNIVERSITY PROJECT; PROF. EINSTEIN REMAINS

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel Goldstein has resigned from the presidency of the Albert Einstein Foundation for Higher Learning, the organization announced today through its board of directors, adding that Professor Einstein's connection with the Foundation "remains unchanged."

It also announced that the Foundation is going ahead with plans to set up a Jewish-sponsored non-sectarian university, open to faculty and students without regard to race or religion.

Dr. Goldstein made the following announcement regarding his resignation: "In view of the differences on matters of public relations and faculty selection which have arisen between Dr. Einstein and myself, and believing that Dr. Einstein's association with the university project is indispensable to its success, I have resigned, on September 16th, from the Presidency of the Albert Einstein Foundation for Higher Learning, Inc., thus ensuring Dr. Einstein's continued identification with the Foundation.

"I hold myself ready to render whatever service I may be called upon to do and to continue to enlist the interest of my friends in the purposes of the Einstein Foundation. I am grateful for the privilege of having had some part in the development of the idea of a Jewish-sponsored non-quota university as a contribution to American higher education paralleling the contributions made by other denominations."

Dr. Goldstein did not elaborate on the differences of opinion that developed with Professor Einstein regarding the university project. The Foundation has not yet announced what professors or curricula had been decided upon for the university, which is expected to open in October, 1947, in Waltham, Mass.

Dr. George Alpert, a member of the Foundation's board of directors, announced that the board of directors of the Foundation will probably meet next week to appoint a successor to Dr. Goldstein.

FEDERATION FOR POLISH JEWS QUERIES CANDIDATES ON POSITION ON JEWISH REFUGEES

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. (JTA) -- A questionnaire asking more than 1,000 candidates for national and state offices to state their views on the admission of 100,000 European Jews to the United States, a similar number to Palestine, and the establishment of a democratic Jewish state in Palestine, has been distributed by the American Federation for Polish Jews, the organization announced today.

The questions on which the candidates were asked to comment are: Do you favor the immediate admission into this country of 100,000 Jewish refugees by making use of unfilled quotas? Do you favor immediate admission into Palestine of 100,000 Jews as provided for in the report of the Anglo-American Commission? Do you favor the immediate establishment of a democratic Jewish state in Palestine?

The Federation also revealed that it will soon start circulating a petition urging President Truman to call an emergency session of Congress to act on the question of Jewish refugees.