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### JEWISH AGENCY RESUMES TALKS WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT; SEEKS TO EASE TENSION IN PALESTINE

LONDON, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Led by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, several members of the Jewish Agency executive today resumed informal talks on Palestine with representatives of the British Government, headed by the new Colonial Secretary, Arthur Creech-Jones. A further meeting will take place in the near future, an official announcement issued by the Colonial Office stated.

Among the questions raised at today's meeting was a British proposal for the creation of a joint Anglo-Jewish committee to seek ways of lessening the existing tension in Palestine and the establishment of a peaceful atmosphere there.

This proposal was made last week by then Colonial Secretary George Hall, but the members of the Jewish Agency did not accept it immediately because they feared that the creation of a new committee would only mean a further delay in securing the conditions demanded by the Agency.

Some of the members of the Agency were inclined to reject the proposal, but it was finally decided that the matter should be discussed in principle. A final agreement depends on the functions and authority to be given the committee.

### BRITISH MILITARY BEGINS INVESTIGATION OF "OPERATION LAND;" ARABS DISMAYED

JERUSALEM, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- British military authorities in Palestine today opened an investigation into the circumstances under which "Operation Land" was carried out Sunday in the Negev by 1,000 Jewish settlers who overnight established twelve settlements on territory on which the British planned to establish military bases.

The military authorities said they are especially interested in ascertaining whether the Jewish settlers brought with them arms in excess of those usually allowed by the Palestine Government for defense of a settlement. They admit that the settlers had a legal right to occupy the land since it was legally acquired by the Jewish National Fund.

The Palestine Arab Higher Committee today announced that it will investigate the conditions under which the sale of the Negev land to the Jewish National Fund was effected. The announcement said that the twelve settlements are situated in the Hebron, Gaza and Beersheba districts in which land sales to Jews "are supposed to be totally restricted."

Evidence of the dismay which "Operation Land" has caused among Arab leaders in Palestine was seen in a statement issued here today by Dr. Hassenin Khalidi, secretary of the Arab Higher Committee. He termed establishment of the new settlements "a Zionist stunt," and expressed the hope that it "would not be accepted by President Truman and the U.S. Congress as evidence of Palestine's absorptive capacity."

THREE BRITONS KILLED IN JERUSALEM BLAST; POLICE RAID JEWISH QUARTER OF CITY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Police and troops cordoned off the Givat Shaul quarter of Jerusalem today and conducted a house-to-house search after a land mine blew up an army vehicle just outside the city on the Jaffa road, killing two British soldiers and one officer.

Earlier, an unsuccessful attempt was made to blow up a British troop train near Benyamina, between Haifa and Tel Aviv. British authorities said they believed Jewish extremists were responsible.

A bomb exploded about the same time outside a house in the eastern outskirts of Jerusalem occupied by David Nashashibi, leader of the Arab opposition to the ex-Mufti. The explosion, caused by a mine buried on the Jerusalem-Hebron road, was laid to political opponents of Nashashibi, who was slightly injured.

The Palestine Government is preparing to transfer a number of the Cyprus deportees to the Athlit immigration clearance camp, after Oct. 14, when 1,200 persons are due to be released from Athlit under the Oct. 15-Nov. 14 immigration schedule of 1,500, the Tel Aviv newspaper Yedioth Achronoth said today.

TRUMAN HAS NOT REPLIED TO ATTLEE PROTEST ON PALESTINE STATE, ACHESON DISCLOSES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson said today that President Truman has not yet replied to Prime Minister Attlee's note protesting issuance of the President's statement on Palestine.

He told a press conference that no protests have been received from Arab states and that the only information concerning such objections that he had was contained in press reports.

Acheson confirmed that the State Department had transmitted the Jewish Agency's plan for a "viable Jewish state" to the Foreign Office several months ago, urging that it be given careful consideration, but had received no reaction from the British, except a statement that a similar plan had been submitted in London by Agency representatives.

U.S. AGUDAH LEADER MEETS WITH BYRNES IN PARIS ON PALESTINE ISSUE; SEEKS COOPERATION

LONDON, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Secretary of State James F. Byrnes met last week in Paris with a representative of the Agudas Israel of America to discuss the Palestine issue, it was revealed here today at a reception given by the Agudah to its Palestine leader, I.M. Lewin, prior to his return to Jerusalem.

The American representative of the Agudah, Meier Shenkolewski of New York, told Mr. Byrnes that his organization would welcome an active policy of cooperation on the part of the United States Government in reaching a solution of the Palestine problem.

The executive of the World Revisionist Organization declared in a statement today that Jewish participation at the London Conference on Palestine "would be a betrayal of Jewish interests."

JEWISH LEADERS UNABLE TO ESTIMATE BENEFITS UNDER HUNGARIAN REHABILITATION FUND

BUDAPEST, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders said today that it is still not possible to estimate the amount of money that will be available to the Jewish Rehabilitation Fund set up last week by Parliament until the estates of all heirless Jews have been probated. Aside from the court procedures, it will be necessary in some cases to make lengthy investigations to determine whether or not there are any legal claimants to estates left by dead Jews.

Lajos Stoeckler, president of the Jewish Community Council, said today that establishment of the Fund brings to an end for the time being the Jewish community's struggle for restitution. "We know that the country's position at present does not allow it to do any more," he stated. He expressed mild dissatisfaction at the government's refusal to waive all inheritance taxes on the heirless estates, although it has agreed to exempt from taxes all estates under 20,000 florins (nominally \$1,665) and halve taxes on all over that total.

RUMANIAN GOVT. EASES CUSTOM DUTIES AFTER 40,000 RELIEF PARCELS FROM U.S. PILE UP

BUCHAREST, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- After learning that 40,000 relief parcels, most of them from Jews in America, remained uncollected because the persons to whom they were addressed were unable to pay the heavy duties, the Rumanian Government today ordered the relaxation of duties on some commodities.

Second-hand clothing will now be completely exempted from duty, while the duty on foodstuffs is fixed at a minimum rate of 12 cents per kilogram. Cigarettes, being a state monopoly, are still banned. The Minister of Finance promised to speed distribution of parcels.

The Rumanian OSE expressed deep concern over the health of Jewish children threatened with a shortage of food because of the extremely bad harvest. The OSE promised to make special efforts to increase children's relief as much as possible.

At present, 6,400 children are cared for in 46 OSE establishments. That number is expected to be doubled at least in the next few months. Two sanatoria will be opened soon for children suffering from tuberculosis.

LIVING CONDITIONS IMPROVED IN DP CAMP BOYCOTTED BY REFUGEE POLISH JEWS

MUNICH, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- Living conditions have improved in the DP camp at Babenhausen, near Frankfurt, following last week's refusal by several hundred refugees arriving from Poland to enter the camp because of substandard conditions.

Chaplain Herbert Friedman, an aide to Rabbi Philip Bernstein, Jewish advisor to Gen. McNarney, remained in the camp for several days and helped smooth out the difficulties. He reported that about 2,500 DP's are now in the camp, while only 39 are still holding out.

Chaplain Friedman said that 120 DP's, 50 soldiers and German laborers were working constantly to make Babenhausen more livable. They have already removed the barbed wire fences inside the enclosure, while metal huts and stone buildings were partitioned for use as family units. They also dug more latrines and laid additional water pipes.

STALIN ORDERS PROBE OF TRANSFER OF JEWISH PROPERTY IN VIENNA; ACTS ON J.T.A. QUERY

NEW YORK, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- An inquiry called by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to Marshal Joseph Stalin with regard to Jewish property in Vienna reported to have been presented by Russian military authorities to a non-Jew, resulted in an investigation and a reply from the political representative of the UFSR in Austria that the property in question was returned to the former Jewish owner after the Soviet military "temporarily settled in the house an Austrian woman whose husband had perished in a concentration camp during the German occupation."

The reply, transmitted to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency through the Soviet Consul General in New York, Jacob M. Lomakin, emphasizes that the district where the property is located is now in the British zone and the Soviet authorities have had nothing to do with it since Sept. 1945.

The cable addressed by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to Marshal Stalin, on May 18, 1946, was based on a report which appeared at that time in the New York Times. It read:

"It is reported by the New York Times that Red Army authorities in Vienna have presented as a gift to a non-Jew a house at Schweitzertalstrasse 17, owned by Anna Robinson, a Jewish victim of Nazi persecution whose entire family was exterminated by the Nazis and who returned to Vienna after harrowing experience of seven years of Nazi concentration camps to find herself deprived of her own home.

"You can imagine her feelings seeing herself deprived of her home which was presented by the Red Army military command in Vienna to another person under "a certificate of gift."

"Your Excellency has repeatedly expressed powerful sentiments in favor of victims of Nazi persecution, assuring them that they will receive justice. The New York Times states that this is only one of several similar cases in Vienna. Jewish public opinion in the United States is deeply perturbed by this development.

"We cannot believe that this represents a considered policy, and would greatly appreciate a statement from you for distribution by our agency which serves the Jewish press throughout the world."

Text of the Soviet Reply; Says Family Lived in USSR During the War

Declaring that Mrs. Robinson and the members of her family found refuge in the Soviet Union in 1939, after fleeing from the Nazis, and returned to Vienna in Dec. 1945, the Soviet reply said:

"In reply to your cable of May 18, 1946, addressed to Generalissimo Stalin the political representative of the USSR in Austria communicates as follows:

"Mrs. Anna Robinson is at present residing in her own home at 17 Schweitzertalstrasse, District 13, Vienna (British occupation zone.) From 1939 until December, 1945, Mrs. Robinson lived in the Soviet Union together with her daughter, son-in-law and two grand-children. In December, 1945, with the assistance of the Soviet authorities she, together with the whole family, returned safely to Vienna, which she had left in 1938 fleeing from the fascists.

In 1939 her house in Vienna was confiscated by the German fascists. The fascist who had taken over the house fled Vienna at the advance of the Red Army in April, 1945. After the liberation of Vienna by the troops of the Red Army in April 1945, the

Soviet Kommendatura temporarily settled in the house an Austrian woman whose husband had perished in a concentration camp during the German occupation. Upon her return to Vienna in December 1945, Mrs. Robinson, with her family, resettled in her house, having received from the Vienna Magistrate new documents giving her full rights of possession of her house and property. She has never since made any complaints to the Soviet military authorities in Vienna.

"It is necessary to add for your information that since September 1945, the district where Mrs. Robinson's house is located has belonged to the British zone of occupation and since then the Soviet military authorities have had nothing to do with it whatsoever."

Mrs. Robinson Holds Full Legal Title to Her House, Records Establish

VIENNA, OCT. 8. (JTA) -- Seventy-one-year-old Anna Robinson today related to a correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency the circumstances under which her home was returned to her after it had been presented by the Soviet military administration to a non-Jewish family.

Mrs. Robinson said that in 1938 she left her house and fled to Katowice, Poland, where she met her daughter, her daughter's husband, Carl Schneider, and their two children. After her flight, the Gestapo removed her furniture and gave the house to a Gestapo official, Karl Koeppen. Mrs. Robinson's name remained in the official real estate register as owner, and a certain Dr. Artur Przyhoski was appointed by the Nazi authorities as administrator. Koeppen paid seventy marks monthly rent to the administrator.

In 1941, Mrs. Robinson and her family were evacuated from Poland by the Soviet authorities and sent to the Ural section of the USSR. They remained there until Sept. 1945 when they were repatriated to Katowice as Polish citizens. A month later they reached Vienna. They found that Mrs. Robinson's house was occupied by a certain Josephine Kaluzik, who is half-Jewish and whose husband was executed by the Nazis as a Communist.

Mrs. Kaluzik produced a document, dated May 10, 1946, stating that the house and its contents had been given to her as a gift by the Red Army. The document, bearing the title "Gift Certificate," was signed by Col. Sawenok for the Red Army command in Vienna.

Upon a complaint lodged by the Robinson family with the British military authorities--since the house lies in the zone taken over by the British in Sept., 1945--Soviet authorities asked the family for detailed information. They were advised that according to the real estate register Mrs. Robinson still held full legal title to the house, and that title had never been transferred by the Nazis.

The ownership of the house is still not clear, because the Austrian "commissar" who has been entrusted with administration of the property says that the Nazi clause placing the house under the supervision of a "commissar" cannot be fully revoked until new laws have been passed. However, it seems that Mrs. Kaluzik now recognizes the right of the Robinson family to the house, since she not only shares it with them, but is also paying 60 shillings monthly rental to Mrs. Robinson.

A.F.L. EXECUTIVE OPPOSES EASING OF IMMIGRATION LAWS; HITS FEPC BILLS

CHICAGO, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- The executive council of the American Federation of Labor, in its annual report addressed to the A.F.L. convention meeting here, today stressed the need to maintain "present restrictive measures" on immigration.

"When more shipping facilities are available, there will no doubt be large numbers of immigrants desiring to enter this country," the report reads. "The executive council recommends that any lowering of the immigration bars be opposed and the present restrictive measures maintained."

The report, while declaring that the A.F.L. favors "sound, constructive and practical fair employment legislation," opposes the present proposed FEPC bills on the ground that they provide for compulsory governmental regulation.

ADMISSION TO CANADA OF JEWS INTERNED IN CYPRUS OPPOSED BY MOST CANADIANS, POLL SHOWS

MONTREAL, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- The majority of Canadians are opposed to the admission into the country of the Jewish refugees who were barred from Palestine and are now interned in Cyprus, according to a "Gallup Poll" released by the Canadian Institute of Public opinion.

The question put to a number of adults, representing diverse sections of the population, was as follows: "As you know, Britain is interning Jewish refugees who have attempted to enter Palestine without permission. Do you think Canada should allow some of these refugees to settle here or not?" 61 percent answered no; 23 percent answered yes; six percent gave qualified answers and 10 percent were undecided.

The attitude of Canadians on this issue contrasts with their expressed approval of free immigration into Palestine during a "Gallup Poll" last February. At that time, when asked whether they thought "Jewish people should be allowed to settle freely in Palestine;" whether "a limited number should be allowed in;" or whether "no more Jewish people should be allowed to settle in Palestine," a sizeable majority of those with an opinion on the subject thought Jews should be allowed to settle freely in Palestine.

JEWS IN EUROPE LOOK UPON AMERICAN JEWRY AS SOURCE OF REVIVAL, CONGRESS LEADER REPORTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 8. (JTA) -- European Jews, the majority of whom hesitated immediately after the war to recognize American Jewry as the main source of Jewish spiritual life, today look upon the Jews of the United States as the major Jewish community in the world, upon whom the future of all aspects of Jewish life depends, Dr. Leon Kubowitzki, general secretary of the World Jewish Congress, told a press conference today, following his return from a two-month visit to Europe.

Estimating that about 1,000,000 Jewish children were exterminated by the Nazis, Dr. Kubowitzki said that Jewish organizations must provide a proper Jewish education and environment for those children who during the war were sheltered by non-Jewish families and institutions. Some of these children object to leaving a comfortable Christian home for inferior Jewish accommodations. Children must have first priority on relief funds, he stressed.

Reporting on the situation of the approximately 200,000 Jews in the camps for displaced persons, Dr. Kubowitzki said that in addition to the 100,000 for whom admission to Palestine is sought, at least 50,000 should be admitted to France, Belgium and the Scandinavian countries.