

Wednesday, November 6, 1946

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

JEWISH AGENCY LEADERS RELEASED IN PALESTINE; 120 OTHER JEWS FREED, ALSO 20 ARABS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- Eight leaders of the Jewish community, headed by Moshe Shertok, Dr. Bernard Joseph and Itzhak Greenbaum of the Jewish Agency executive, were released today from the Latrun detention camp, where they had been held since June 29. At the same time 120 other Jewish prisoners were freed from the Raffa camp.

Those released from Latrun included David Remez, Histadruth leader and chairman of the Jewish National Council; David Ha'Cohen, head of the Solel Boneh, Histadruth construction cooperative; David Shingarevsky, an official of the Agency; Mordechai Shatner, a Labor Party leader and Joseph Shoffman, a Revisionist leader.

At the same time, the High Commissioner announced that an amnesty had been granted to 20 Arab leaders, including several exiled on the Seychelle Islands in the Indian Ocean since 1937 for organizing terrorism in Palestine. Two of the exiles, Musa Abdul Hussein and Salin Hussein, are cousins of the ex-Mufti.

Families, Friends Greet Released Men at Latrun Gates

Shortly after dusk, when an official communique was released giving the text of the announcement in Commons by Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones that the Jewish leaders were to be freed, their families, as well as members of the Jewish Agency, the Jewish National Council and the Histadruth executive, gathered outside the Latrun camp.

Inside the camp, the men who were to be released addressed an informal meeting of the other prisoners, assuring them that they would fight to free all of them, so that "there should be no Jewish political detainees in the Jewish homeland."

They then entered cars furnished by the police which took them out of the camp precincts. However, as soon as the cars passed the gates, they alighted and were surrounded by their families and friends and photographers.

Remez left immediately for his home in Tel Aviv, while the Agency chiefs went to the Jerusalem headquarters of the Agency where a huge crowd awaited them.

Release of Agency Leaders May Reduce Tension, Colonial Minister Hopes

LONDON, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The release of the Jewish Agency leaders may help to reduce tension in Palestine, Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones told the House of Commons today, while an official spokesman of the Jewish Agency, welcoming the release, pointed out that they "should never have been arrested at all."

Creech-Jones assured former Colonial Secretary Col. Oliver Stanley that the releases were not the result of a bargain, but were decided on because it was thought they would be best for security in Palestine.

11/6/46

ARAB VILLAGERS FIRE ON JEWS IN SECOND ATTACK ON JEWISH SETTLEMENT WITHIN WEEK

JERUSALEM, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- Arab villagers today fired on Jewish settlers at Massouth Itzhak, south of Jerusalem, in the second such incident to occur within the past three days.

The Arabs dispersed after Jewish settlement police fired several shots into the air. No one was shot, but two Jews were injured by stones.

Meanwhile, work on the new settlement of Neoth Mordechai, the scene of Sunday's clash in which two Jews were killed, has been suspended pending a hearing by the authorities on Thursday of Arab claims to the land.

Jewish inhabitants of the Hatikvah quarter between Tel Aviv and Jaffa report that the Arab "army" called "Hajadas" drills there nightly, using firearms and dressed in uniforms, without interference from the authorities. The wearing of uniforms has been prohibited even for Jewish sports organizations.

Two persons were reported to have been seriously injured during the night when a land mine exploded under a train on the Lydda-Tel Aviv line, six miles from the all-Jewish city.

Another ship with Jewish visaless immigrants is reported due to reach Palestine within the next two or three days, according to British naval circles in Haifa.

BRITISH SECURITY POLICE SEARCH OFFICES OF JEWISH REFUGEE ORGANIZATION IN MILAN

ROME, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- British field security agents today raided the offices of the organization of Jewish refugees in Milan, while in Rome the chief of the political section of the police force announced that three Jews among fifteen persons arrested after the bombing of the British embassy here last Thursday are believed to be implicated in the blast.

Their names were given as Chaim Waimber, Pinkus Widman and a man named Schaak, whose first name is not known. Meanwhile, police are investigating one Jacob Onetzi, who is reported to be the man who arranged the delivery to correspondents of a "communiqué" of the Irgun Zvai Leumi assuming responsibility for the bombing.

The Organization of Jewish Refugees in Italy, the Union of Jewish Communities in Italy and the Zionist Federation of Italy today issued a joint statement declaring that none of their members had any connection with the British embassy explosion. They expressed formal regrets at the alleged statement by the Irgun Zvai Leumi acknowledging responsibility for the bombing.

Dr. Umberto Nahon, the Jewish Agency representative in Italy, today sent a letter to British Ambassador Sir Noel Charles expressing "deep horror" at the Irgun's statement and pointing out that the Jewish Agency has condemned this "kind of criminal act."

Two young Jewish refugees, a boy and a girl, were arrested in Naples when they tried to sneak aboard a vessel bound for Cairo. Neither of the refugees had any travel documents.

BRITISH PROTEST TO FRANCE AGAINST EMBARKATION CENTER NEAR MARSEILLES FOR VISALESS JEWS

PARIS, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The British Government has sent a note to the French Foreign Office drawing its attention to the situation at the village of La Ciotat, 25 miles from Marseilles, which the British allege is an embarkation center for visaless Jews seeking to reach Palestine, it was learned today. According to the newspaper France Soir the refugee vessel Latrun, which arrived in Palestine last week, sailed from La Ciotat.

Reports from Haifa say that British intelligence officers there have discovered a list of about 100 ships which it is planned to use to bring 100,000 visaless Jews to Palestine within the next few months. The reports say that most of the ships are unseaworthy tramps, although included among them are converted Canadian corvettes, a former Hungarian gun boat and luxury yachts. The list will be studied by the British naval commander in the Mediterranean, Admiral Sir Algernon Willis, at a forthcoming conference at Malta to discuss means of checking illegal immigration.

ORT circles here expressed surprise that the training ship Cutty Sark, operated by the Jewish Marine League, which is affiliated with the ORT, was included in the list of blockade runners. They said that the vessel was used solely for training Jewish seamen for service anywhere in the world. In order to increase its accommodations, the Cutty Sark's engines were recently removed, they pointed out.

4,000 JEWS MAY BE PLACED AT WORK IN GERMAN FACTORIES TO PRODUCE CLOTHING FOR JEWISH DP's

MUNICH, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- A meeting of high ranking officers from the DP section of the U.S. Army headquarters in Germany, military government and German officials and DP leaders has been held to discuss implementation of the plan for a "DP economy" proposed by the Central Jewish Committee, it was learned here today.

The plan, which is an outgrowth of schemes presented earlier by Dr. Philip Auerbach, Commissioner for Jewish Affairs in the Bavarian Government, and voluntary relief organizations, involves the employment of some 4,000 displaced Jews in German factories where they will manufacture a year's supply of clothing exclusively for the 185,000 displaced Jews in the American zone of Germany. As submitted, the plan lists the names and number of workers and apprentices to be assigned to each factory and lists the exact number of items to be manufactured.

Two stumbling blocks in the path of immediate implementation of the scheme are believed to be the DP's request for payment in American currency and their refusal to work on any goods destined for the German economy. The Army will agree only to paying them in German marks taken from the German economy and says that the amount of clothing they wish to manufacture could be produced within four months. After that, Army officials insist, the DP's should continue to produce for German markets. The Jews, however, are firm in their refusal to work for the Germans.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS CANNOT FIND 400 JEWISH ORPHANS IN EUROPE FOR ADOPTION, DELEGATION SAYS

VIENNA, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- Two members of a delegation of the South African Jewish Appeal, which arrived in Europe to escort 400 Jewish orphans to homes in Johannesburg and Capetown, today told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent that they are encountering difficulty in finding 400 orphans who have not already been placed on other emigration lists.

The two South African Jews, Harry Cohen and Julius Schochet, are here to arrange the transportation of the group through Austria. The children from Poland who will be included in the group have already been selected.

STATE DEPT. ASSIGNS STAFF OF EXPERTS TO ASSIST BYRNES IN TALKS WITH BEVIN ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- A staff of experts on Palestine and the Near East has been assigned by the State Department to assist Secretary of State Byrnes in his forthcoming discussions on the Palestine issue with Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin who is now in this country attending the Council of Foreign Ministers in New York, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today.

The staff includes Harry Villard, deputy director of the Near Eastern Division of the State Department; Evan Wilson, also of the same Division who was American secretary of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine; and George Wadsworth, U.S. Minister to Syria and Lebanon.

Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson was asked at his press conference today whether the fact that Secretary Byrnes will enter into direct negotiations with Bevin on the Palestine issue meant that the State Department has decided to become more active in finding a solution of the Palestine problem. He evaded the question by stating that he preferred "to skip it" since it is "a mine field."

The news that Byrnes and Bevin, in a private talk yesterday, agreed to discuss the Palestine question within the next few weeks while Bevin is in the United States was made public last night by a spokesman for the State Department. He revealed that Byrnes informed Bevin that he was authorized by President Truman to take over the handling of the Palestine issue in so far as it concerns United States policy. Heretofore, Palestine has been a subject handled exclusively by Truman through direct communication with Prime Minister Attlee.

The State Department spokesman indicated that Byrnes will ask Bevin for details on the status of the conference on Palestine which is to be resumed in London on Dec. 16 and will submit to the British Foreign Secretary the views of President Truman on the Palestine problem in the hope that the United States may contribute to a solution of this problem. This was interpreted to mean that the U.S. Government may be prepared to possibly accept a greater share of responsibility in the search for a solution.

London Believes Byrnes-Bevin Talks May Lead to Shift in British Stand

LONDON, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The projected talks on Palestine between Foreign Minister Bevin and Secretary of State Byrnes, which were announced last night in New York, may lead to a modification of British plans before resumption of the London talks on Dec. 16, informed circles said today.

They base this assumption on the possibility that the United States may make some offer of cooperation in solving the Palestine problem. Were the British to modify their stand, it would probably facilitate the efforts of the Jewish Agency to convince the forthcoming Zionist Congress that Jewish participation in the London discussions would be advisable.

A Foreign Office spokesman who was asked today whether the British intend to transfer the Palestine issue from the Colonial to the Foreign Office in view of the Byrnes-Bevin talks said that no such shift was contemplated and that the Colonial Office will remain in charge of Palestine affairs, with the exception that negotiations with sovereign states will be handled by the Foreign Office.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO LIBERALIZE U.S. IMMIGRATION LAWS

NEW YORK, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- A drive to liberalize American immigration policies, in order to make possible the admission of a substantial number of displaced persons into the United States, has been launched by the American Jewish Committee, it was announced here today.

"The full membership of the Committee throughout the country has been called upon by Joseph M. Proskauer, president, to concentrate all its efforts in the drive to open the doors of America to immigration of displaced Jews," the announcement said. It revealed that in two letters circulated to the membership, Judge Proskauer called attention to the delay in negotiations over Palestine, the fact that Palestine "cannot alone furnish the solution of the problem of the post-war Jewish rehabilitation" and the rapidly deteriorating situation of the estimated 200,000 Jews now living in DP camps in Europe.

The letters point out the need for the United States to lead the world in the settlement of this problem. "It is perfectly clear," Judge Proskauer stated, "that only if the United States takes the initiative in making immigration opportunities available will other countries do the same. It is equally clear that in addition to motives of humanitarianism, considerations of our own country's interest should induce the United States to do so."

The campaign was initiated by a resolution adopted by the administrative committee of the American Jewish Committee. The resolution authorized the creation of a special body to direct all agency activities related to immigration; Gen. Edward S. Greenbaum and Irving M. Engel, both of New York, are the honorary chairman and chairman, respectively, of the special group, the members of which are Col. Frederick F. Greenman, Isadore Lubin, Judge Simon H. Rifkind, Louis I. Dublin, Jerome I. Udell and Judge Phillip Forman.

CHURCH GROUPS ASK GOVERNMENT ACTION AGAINST "COLUMBIANS" RACIAL HATRED ACTIVITIES

ATLANTA, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The Atlanta Christian Council and the Atlanta Baptist Ministers Conference yesterday added their voices to the many other civic, liberal and religious groups in this city and elsewhere which have called for immediate government action against the Columbians, a new hate organization which has been terrorizing Negroes and has publicly attacked the Jews.

Denouncing the Columbians movement as "anarchy" and calling for an immediate grand jury investigation, the Baptist group adopted a resolution which declared: "It is inconceivable that the Christian people of our beloved city and country would remain complacent when sinister movements as the Columbians appear to represent are unleashed on our people."

M.A. Hornsby, Atlanta police chief, expressed the belief that the Columbians shoulder insignia, a red lightning flash on a white background, was copied from that worn by a Nazi youth organization in Germany.

Meanwhile, the Atlanta city attorney has ruled that any action to revoke the Columbians' charter must come from the state instead of from the city.

ANTI-SEMITIC LEAFLETS AND PAPER SWASTIKAS DISTRIBUTED IN VIENNA BY UNDERGROUND GROUP

VIENNA, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- Paper swastikas and anti-Semitic leaflets were distributed here last night. They were signed by an organization calling itself the "Rebel."

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIPS IN U.S. FOR EUROPEAN WOMEN

DALLAS, Texas, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The 18th triennial convention of the National Council of Jewish Women here today heard its president, Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, report on the expansion of the organization's overseas program which includes the addition of homes in Europe for unattached Jewish women and the establishment of social work scholarships here for European Jewish women who will return to their countries to aid in reconstruction there.

The convention also adopted recommendations of its national board calling for increased emphasis on adult Jewish education in the United States and for the development of a greater interest in cultural achievements in Palestine.

\$150,000 RAISED FOR HAIFA INSTITUTE AT N.Y. DINNER; KAPLANSKY ARRIVES FROM PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- The sum of \$150,000 was raised here last night for the Hebrew Institute of Technology in Haifa at a dinner attended by 1,500 persons each of whom subscribed \$100. Shlomo Kaplansky, president of the Institute, who arrived by special plane from Palestine yesterday, was the principal speaker.

Declaring that "the Jewish people will overcome present difficulties and will build in this long-neglected ancient land a free and just society, based on the sound foundations of modern science and technology," Kaplansky urged full support for the Institute which is the only school for technological and engineering education in Palestine, with a student body of close to 1,100 and an outstanding faculty.

The dinner, which was held under the auspices of the American Society for the Advancement of the Hebrew Institute of Technology, was tendered in honor of Alexander Konoff, a director of the society. It marked the final stage of a drive, headed by Field Marshall Sir Bernard L. Montgomery and Professor Albert Einstein, to raise a half-million dollar building fund for the erection and equipment of additional engineering laboratories at the Institute. The laboratories will be named after Brigadier General Frederick H. Kisch, late chief engineer of Montgomery's Eighth Army and a former trustee of the Institute at Haifa.

SOCIETY FOR ADVANCEMENT OF JEWISH LITURGICAL MUSIC FOUNDED; WILL PUBLISH NEW MUSIC

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- A Society for the Advancement of Jewish Liturgical Music was founded at a meeting in the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in New York, Rabbi D.A. Jessurun Cardozo of the Congregation Mikveh Israel here and president of the new society, announced today.

The society was founded to develop and improve musical standards in the field of Jewish liturgical music, Rabbi Cardozo said. The group hopes to publish its own magazine and will promote other scholarly publications and discussions as well as lists of available synagogue music. It will also encourage the composition and performance of such music.

ARGENTINE JEWS LAUNCH 1,000,000-PESO J.N.F. DRIVE FOR SETTLING JEWISH BRIGADE VETERANS

BUENOS AIRES, Nov. 5. (JTA) -- A campaign for 1,000,000 pesos for the Jewish National Fund was launched here at a meeting attended by 2,000 Argentinian Jews. The funds will be used to settle veterans of the Jewish Brigade in Palestinian settlements.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION