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IRGUN CONFIRMS TRUCE IN NOTE TO PALESTINE GOVERNMENT; PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS EXPECTED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Irgun Zvai Leumi today confirmed reports that it had agreed to a temporary truce in its "war" against British forces in Palestine, in a letter sent to the Information Office of the Palestine Government. The letter arrived in a franked government envelope.

No reason for the truce was given, but the letter asked the Information Office to announce the news in the form of a communique to the press. This request was ignored.

Leaders of the world Zionist executive have been hoping that the dissident groups would declare a truce and enable the Jews to negotiate with Britain in a peaceful atmosphere. David Ben Gurion's return to Palestine today following his talks with Colonial Minister Arthur Creech-Jones in London strengthened the feeling in the Jewish community that the British Government realizes the necessity of finding a final solution in Palestine.

Palestine Arabs Likely to Attend London Conference

The Palestine Government today announced officially that the Palestine Arab Higher Committee has been invited to send a delegation to the London Conference. Immediately after the announcement, the Committee held a meeting in Jerusalem at which it was virtually decided to accept the bid. Although certain reservations were made, everything points to the fact that it will be accepted when the Committee meets again on Sunday. Jamal Hussein, acting chairman of the Committee, declared this evening that since the Committee as a whole had been invited, he sees no further obstacle to participation.

Arab circles are inclined to interpret the British invitation as including the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem who is nominally the Committee chairman. Government circles, however, pointed out that the ex-Mufti's membership on the Committee is not recognized by the Palestine Government and that he is persona non grata in the country.

At its recent session in Cairo, the Arab League council rejected a suggestion by the Higher Committee that the League approach the British Government and the Palestine authorities and propose that the Mufti be allowed to re-enter Palestine and that he be permitted to carry on his political activities without restraint.

MEMBERS OF WORLD ZIONIST EXECUTIVE MEET IN LONDON; DISCUSS DISTRIBUTION OF FUNCTIONS

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Members of the world Zionist executive and the staffs of the three branches of the Jewish Agency political department met here under the chairmanship of Moshe Shertok. They discussed the distribution of functions among members of the executive and laid out the political work of the three sections.

IRGUN LEAFLET BOMBS EXPLODE IN ROME, VENICE; THREATEN BRITISH FORCES

ROME, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Irgun Zvai Leumi leaflet bombs exploded in Rome and Venice today, and the chief of the Rome political police has taken over personal supervision of the case in an attempt to apprehend those responsible.

The Rome bomb exploded near the Palace of Justice showering the area with leaflets reading: "The vanguard of the secret Jewish Army of Liberation, with headquarters in Italy, will attack the British forces until a Jewish state is restored within the historic boundaries of our country."

The Venice bomb, wrapped in a small package, was left by an unidentified youth near the British press office.

Police are still holding four Jews arrested last month on suspicion of having been implicated in the bombing of the British embassy here. They are: Dov Gurwitz, Tiburzio Deitel, Michael Braun and David Viten.

EIGHTEEN ARRESTED DURING RAIDS ON TEL AVIV AND RISHON LE ZION; TROOPS BEAT JEWS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Eighteen Jews were arrested today during raids on Tel Aviv and Rishon le Zion.

A man found unconscious on the Petack Tikvah road yesterday died this morning. He was identified as David Bernitzki, 27. It is thought he may have been attacked by a military patrol.

The Tel Aviv arrests were made by troops carrying lists of wanted men. The thirteen seized were found in different parts of the city. One of those arrested had a tommygun in his possession. During the raids four soldiers invaded a house in the Kiriat Meir quarter of the city and beat all the occupants and stole a quantity of valuables.

Five Jews were detained in Rishon le Zion after 119 persons were searched during a three-hour search of the Yemenite quarter of the town.

MOSCOW WILL OPPOSE PALESTINE PARTITION, SOVIET DIPLOMAT IS QUOTED AS STATING

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Arab newspapers published in Beirut, which reached here today, carry a report stating that the Soviet Charge d'Affairs there has declared that his government will oppose the partitioning of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states.

Negotiations are now going on with the Syrian Government to permit Germans residing in Palestine to settle in Northern Syria, it was learned today. Apparently anticipating the establishment of a Jewish State which would include the section of Palestine where they are living, the Germans are reported to have proposed to the Syrian Government that they transfer their Palestine holdings to Arabs in Palestine in exchange for a land grant in Syria.

OUTBREAK OF SCABIES IN CYPRUS CAMP FOR JEWS ATTRIBUTED TO POOR SANITARY FACILITIES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- An outbreak of scabies in one of the internment camps for visaless Jewish immigrants on Cyprus which infected 500 of 1,800 internees is now under control, it was learned here today. The spread of the disease was attributed to inadequate bathing facilities and to delayed arrival of medical supplies.

POLISH GOVERNMENT REMOVES ANTI-SEMITIC "RITUAL MURDER" PICTURE FROM CATHOLIC CHURCH

WARSAW, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Polish Government has ordered the removal from the Catholic church in Leszycza, near Lodz, of a ritual murder painting which has been displayed there for many years, serving as a stimulus for anti-Jewish propaganda, it was revealed at a press conference in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The picture which shows Jews murdering a child for ritual purposes, was shown to the correspondents present at the conference.

M. Sluczanski, an official of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, told the correspondents that the anti-Semitic picture was removed over the opposition of the church. He emphasized that a part of the Catholic clergy in Poland is still engaged in spreading anti-Jewish propaganda and said that the government is taking all possible measures to combat it.

A trial of two Polish women, Rozalia Gadomska and Sabina Leszczyszkowa, charged with spreading rumors that Jews kidnapped the 12-year-old son of Gadomska "for ritual purposes" was held this week in Otwock, near Warsaw. The court established that Gadomska's son was kidnapped by two non-Jews shortly before the Kielce pogrom last July, in an attempt to provoke anti-Jewish disturbances. Both women admitted that they spread the rumor that the kidnappers were Jews, since they did not know that the boy had been kidnapped by Poles. They were acquitted after the court found that they had not intended to incite the population against the Jews.

NAZI GOVERNOR OF WARSAW RENOUNCES RACIAL CREED; SAYS MURDER OF JEWS "WORST CRIME"

WARSAW, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Nazi extermination of Warsaw's Jews was "the most horrible crime in the history of mankind" and "a shame to German culture and civilization," Ludwig Fischer, Nazi governor of Warsaw, under whose direction tens of thousands of Jews were murdered in the ghetto and deported to death camps, testified today during his trial before a Polish Peoples Court.

Fischer alleged that he no longer believed in the Nazi theory of racial superiority and stated that when he saw what was being done to the Warsaw Jews, he begged to be relieved of his post and sent to the front.

A Jewish witness, Mieczylaw Maszlanko, one of the most prominent attorneys in pre-war Poland, who spent several years in the Warsaw ghetto and the Maidanek and Oswiecim camps, testified, however, that Fischer exceeded even the orders issued to him by the governor-general of Poland, Hans Frank, inflicting the most barbarous punishment on the Jews.

One of Fischer's co-defendants, Gestapo leader Joseph Meissinger, was charged by the witness with being equally responsible for the atrocities in the ghetto. He said Meissinger had participated in a conference in Berlin at which the extermination of all Jews in Europe had been mapped.

POLISH PRESIDENT RECEIVES PALESTINE LEADERS; SAYS POLAND SUPPORTS JEWISH ASPIRATIONS

WARSAW, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Polish Government appreciates the struggle the Jews of Palestine are engaged in as they seek to build a Jewish nation, and is in sympathy with Jewish national aspirations, President Boleslaw Bairnt today told Meir Yaari, Palestine leader of the Hashomer Hatzair during a lengthy interview.

Yaari expressed appreciation for the efforts by the Polish Government to rebuild Jewish life here and to wipe out anti-Semitism. He reported to the President on latest developments in the Jewish community in Palestine. The Hashomer Hatzair leader, who recently attended the World Zionist Congress, plans to visit Rumania and Bulgaria before returning home.

BRITISH FASCISTS CONTINUE WAR OF NERVES AGAINST JEWS; THREATEN MORE SYNAGOGUES

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- British fascists, engaged in a systematic war of nerves against the Jewish population, have threatened to attack more synagogues in London, it was learned today.

The Hampstead, Edgware, Catford and New West End Synagogues received telephonic threats this week warning that the structures would be either blown up or burnt down. At the same time, Jews in the Manchester area received threats from anonymous callers, who identified themselves as members of the fascist National Guard.

One of the new fascist groups--Union for British Freedom--held a meeting this week at Edgware, at which Victor Burgess, who was detained during the war as a "dangerous person," suggested that four British Jews should be flogged publicly for every Briton whipped in Palestine. Scotland Yard officials were present as observers.

The Union for British Fascists has merged with the anti-Semitic "Sons of St. George" and is issuing a publication called "Unity." One of the principal contributors is Raven Thomson, who is a lieutenant of fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley.

CZECH JEWISH COMMUNITY WILL MAKE GRANTS TO NEEDY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FROM POLAND

PRAGUE, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Communities of Bohemia and Moravia announced today that it will provide financial assistance for a number of Jewish students from Poland who desire to study in Czech universities. The grants will be made in "exceptional" cases where the student shows promise and is too poor to continue his studies without assistance.

Dr. Georg Smichovsky, a Czech war criminal charged with collaborating with the Gestapo in the murder of Jewish and Czech prisoners, has decided upon a novel defense. He has requested that the court furnish him with a Hebrew version of the Bible and various Hebrew texts and dictionaries in order that he may prepare his case. A student of Oriental culture, Smichovsky confiscated the Hebrew libraries of many Jewish prisoners during the war for personal "research."

ALLIED COMMISSION HAS NOT GRANTED PERMISSION FOR PUBLISHING ZIONIST ORGAN IN HUNGARY

BUDAPEST, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Contrary to previous reports, the Zionist organization in Hungary has not received permission to issue a weekly publication. A publication permit has not yet been granted by the Allied Control Commission, the new Hungarian Ministry of Information today told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

An enthusiastic audience filled the unheated Stadion Hall last night to hear the Hungarian delegates to the World Zionist Congress report on its proceedings. Principal speakers included Rabbi Jozef Berg and others, all of whom lauded the results of the Congress and the attitude expressed in its resolutions.

U.S. REQUEST FOR ADMISSION OF 25,000 JEWISH DP'S TO ITALY REMAINS UNANSWERED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Italian Premier Alcide de Gasperi told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Italian Government has not yet replied to the United States request that Italy give temporary shelter to some 25,000 Jewish refugees from the American zone of Austria. He added that it was not the Americans or the Italians who are interposing obstacles.

Jews in Austria May Face Slaughter if Occupation Troops are Removed, Hirschmann Warns

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The lives of the thousands of displaced Jews in Austria "would not be worth ten cents" once the occupation troops withdraw, Ira A. Hirschmann, who has just returned from Europe where he toured DP installations as a special inspector-general for UNRRA, said today.

Hirschmann told a press conference that in light of the fact that the removal of occupation troops is fairly imminent since a peace treaty for Austria is to be negotiated within the next months, it is imperative that the Jewish DP's be transferred from the country to prevent their "slaughter."

In Germany, Hirschmann found that the morale in the Jewish DP camps had deteriorated since he visited them last July, as a result of the inability of the refugees to emigrate to Palestine or any other country. He urged that the United States take the lead in immediately admitting 50,000 DP's.

Hirschmann praised the efforts of the Polish Government to crush anti-Semitism and said that the authorities in Poland were doing everything possible to enable surviving Jews to rebuild their lives there if they so desire.

Rabbis Classified as Displaced Persons Will be Considered for Non-Quota Entry to U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Rabbis now classified as displaced persons in Europe, who because of the war were prevented from the pursuit of their ministry, will be considered for non-quota immigration to the United States, it was disclosed in a State Department ruling received today by Abraham Herman, president of HIAS.

Following a report made by Isaac L. Asofsky, Hias executive director, who recently completed a study of DP conditions in Europe, that many bona-fide rabbis are in camps unable to avail themselves of the non-quota privileges provided for spiritual leaders under Section 4D of the Immigration Act of 1924, a decision was asked by the HIAS legal staff in Washington.

The State Department replied that if facts in each case prove conclusively to the American Consul that the applying rabbi had been in the clergy at least two years and had not abandoned his profession, but merely was prevented from pursuing it, he will be eligible for immigration to the United States as a non-quota immigrant.

200 Refugees Leave Shanghai en Route to U.S., Canada and South American Countries

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Over 500 Jewish refugees from Shanghai are en route to new homes in Canada, Latin American and the United States, according to word received today at the offices of the J.D.C., which aided them to emigrate.

Charles Jordan of New York, director of J.D.C. relief, reconstruction and emigration activities in Shanghai, cabled that the number of Jewish men, women and children who left for new havens is the largest ever to leave at one time.

Aboard the S.S. General Meigs are 217 Jewish survivors going to Ecuador, Venezuela, San Domingo, Bolivia, Canada, Argentina and the United States. Of 195 en route to this country, 165 survivors are members of special Yeshiva groups aided by the J.D.C. The S.S. General Gordon, which sailed yesterday, has 314 refugees coming to the United States, Canada, and Latin America.

The S.S. Marine Falcon, which is leaving January 15th, will hold 750 Austrian Jews who are returning to Austria in the hope of reaching new lands of settlement, especially Palestine.

BRITISH CONSUL IN LOS ANGELES ATTACKS TRUMAN, U.S. GOVT. AND JEWS ON PALESTINE ISSUE

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- British Consul General Eric Carvell attacked President Truman, the U.S. Government, the two major political parties in the United States and American Jewry for supporting the demand for the admission of 100,000 displaced Jews to Palestine, in a recent address here, it was revealed today.

The attack by the British diplomat was made at a gathering in the Greyfriars Memorial Church. The Los Angeles Zionist Emergency Committee today released an eye-witness report by the Rev. Harold H. Robertson in which the British Consul General is quoted as stating:

"The Jews have plenty of money and they have been using it in this country and the result is that pressure has been brought to bear on this government and the President. The suggestion that 100,000 be admitted to Palestine is ridiculous and the British Government is not going to admit them.

"These people and organizations in this country who are promoting this trouble on Palestine are not really interested in the question at all. The two major parties climbed on the Palestine band-wagon just before the last election. In Palestine, gangsters and murderers are causing a reign of terror, which we are putting down with every means at our command.

Says Jews in America Are "Trouble Makers;" Calls Them "Impudent"

"The Jews in this country are trouble makers, and their effort to flood Palestine with their people is impudent. I could use some stronger words, but this is as strong as I am going. Money and pressure brought to bear on government officials here, account for the sudden interest in Palestine. The British Government is using tear bombs and water on the illegal immigrants and it is a harmless way of dealing with them. After we got them to Cyprus, they still were disorderly and wrecked the buildings and fouled the camps.

"The British Government expects to receive a Mandate over Palestine from the United Nations and will continue to enforce the law. We will not permit any more immigration until proper measures are taken and if the United States Government continues to insist on immigration, it is my opinion that the United States Government should send troops to Palestine to assist us in keeping order."

LUXEMBOURG GOVERNMENT EASES REGULATIONS ON FOREIGN-BORN JEWS MARRIED TO CITIZENS

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Foreign-born Jews married to Luxembourg citizens have been granted government permission to engage in business in that country, the World Jewish Congress announced today. The announcement followed the conclusion of negotiations between the Luxembourg government, the Jewish Relief Organization of Luxembourg and representatives of the World Jewish Congress.

Up until now foreign-born Jews could not engage in commerce or industry. The number of these Jews in Luxembourg increased considerably during the war years and the relaxation in restrictions affecting those who have married Luxembourg citizens will give them an opportunity to establish themselves in a gainful occupation.

The negotiators are continuing their discussions in an effort to obtain similar permission for German Jews who migrated to Luxembourg after 1936 but were either already married or have not married citizens of the latter country. Their legal status has not yet been clarified.