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PALESTINE GOVT. NOT PLANNING TO IMPOSE MARTIAL LAW, CUNNINGHAM TELLS JEWISH AGENCY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- High Commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham today informed the Jewish Agency that the Palestine Government is not planning to impose martial law at present.

The assurance was given to Goldie Meirson, chairman of the political department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, and Eliezer Kaplan, Agency treasurer, who were called to Government House, the High Commissioner's residence, early this afternoon. Sir Alan told them that the recent requisitioning of Jewish buildings and the establishment in Jerusalem and other cities of heavily guarded government compounds were purely security measures, so that the government would be prepared for every eventuality.

Although no substitution for the present civil administration was contemplated, the situation created by terrorist activities made it imperative that certain preparations be taken, the High Commissioner added. He expressed regret at the inconvenience caused so many individuals as a result of the requisitioning of sections of Jerusalem, but said that the government was not responsible. He appealed to the Jewish community to remain calm while urgent efforts are being made to find a solution to the Palestine problem.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the Jewish Agency's reply to the ultimatum handed it last Monday by Chief Secretary Henry L. Gurney will be given to the government either tonight or tomorrow morning. Members of the Agency and Jewish National Council executives were in conference during the week-end drafting the reply. The Agency met all day today to discuss the situation here and the British plan handed to Jewish representatives in London Friday by Foreign Minister Bevin. The text of the British proposals are being printed by the government printing office here and will be made public shortly.

Jerusalem Life Disrupted by Establishment of Security Zones

Security restrictions in the four "protected areas" of Jerusalem where British civilians, police and military personnel are now residing, which went into effect yesterday, have disrupted the normal life of the city. No one is permitted to enter or leave the security zones without a pass bearing his photo, but the passes have not yet been issued and it is estimated that 10,000 will be required.

All personnel working outside the areas must be escorted to and from their jobs by armed guards. Trucks will travel with armed guards and no military vehicles will be permitted to move after dark. British soldiers have been confined to barracks during off-duty hours and have been banned from cinemas, cafes and bars. Rail service between Jerusalem and Lydda and Jaffa will be suspended as of Tuesday.

Dov Gruner's lawyer, Max Kritzman, today cabled to former Senator Guy M. Gillette, president of the American League for a Free Palestine, asking him to appeal to the U.N. Security Council, through a member state, for U.N. intervention on behalf

of Gruner. Kritzman cited as a precedent the appeal made yesterday by U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie to the Greek Government to postpone the execution of 11 Greek guerrillas. Kritzman said that since Palestine was a mandated territory under international authority the U.N. had ample grounds to make such a plea.

Mrs. Helen Friedman, Gruner's sister, who is flying here from New York, has been delayed by bad weather. It is hoped that she will arrive here from Cairo some time this evening.

Prior to the statement on martial law by the High Commissioner, the Haganah radio this morning, discussing the possibility of military rule, said that there can be no regime set up in this country which will succeed in destroying the Jewish nation's will to settle in Palestine and bring in legal and illegal immigrants.

The Irgun radio tonight called for unity of all Jewish resistance forces. It said that "the enemy's efforts to split us have not succeeded and there will be no traitors and informers among us. United we will beat the enemy, not only in Palestine, but throughout the world, and convert his life into the hell which he has made ours." The broadcast also called for the establishment of a Jewish government-in-exile.

IMMIGRANT SHIP CARRYING 650 BROUGHT INTO HAIFA; JEWS CALL STRIKE TO PROTEST DEPORTATION

HAIFA, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The Jewish refugee ship La Negev, carrying about 650 visaless immigrants was brought into Haifa harbor tonight by two British destroyers which captured the vessel early this morning a short distance outside territorial waters.

A general strike called by Jewish leaders to protest the imminent deportation of the arrivals began at 5 p.m. and will last until midnight. All shops, factories and places of entertainment in Haifa have closed down. Traffic was virtually at a standstill.

As soon as the vessel was berthed in Haifa harbor, which had been cut off from the rest of the city by military cordons, 100 British troops went aboard. They wore steel helmets and anti-gas eyeshields and carried pick handles. The first 20 passengers taken off, all of whom were women, were immediately transferred to the Empire Heywood, which has been used to transport visaless refugees to Cyprus.

The La Negev, named after the southern section of Palestine, is believed to be the same vessel which left Sweden about two weeks ago and subsequently put in at Le Havre for provisions. It was held at the French port for about 24 hours, but finally was allowed to proceed.

The vessel was first sighted about 11 p.m. last night. About three hours later a boarding party from one of the destroyers attempted to land on the ship's decks, but was repelled by a shower of broken bottles, iron bars and other debris. Four canisters of tear gas were then thrown aboard, but were tossed into the sea. Finally, shots were fired across the vessel's bow, several of which ricocheted injuring one Jew severely and three others slightly.

As soon as word of the ship's capture reached here, 1,500 troops were sent into the dock area and a curfew was clamped down. Earlier, a cordon was thrown around the Jewish fishing village of Sdoh Yam, following the capture of a small vessel which

had put out from the settlement last night. After interrogating the nine-man crew of the fishing boat, the naval authorities decided that they had no connection with La Negev, and the cordon was removed. It was the third time that the village had been raided in the last six months.

Another group of 750 Cyprus internees left today for Palestine under the regular monthly immigration schedule. They are expected here tomorrow. On Tuesday 350 more deportees from the group of 800 which was shipwrecked on the tiny Dodecanese island of Sirini will embark for Haifa. The last transport will unite the men of the shipwrecked group with their women and children who preceded them to Palestine last month. Twenty-one men who were injured when the ship was wrecked arrived today.

JEWISH AGENCY MEMBERS MEETING TO DRAFT REPLY TO BRITISH PLAN; REJECTION SEEN CERTAIN

LONDON, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The executive members of the Jewish Agency met here tonight to draft a reply to the British Government's new plan for Palestine, submitted to them on Friday by Foreign Minister Bevin.

The Agency's formal answer will be presented to the government tomorrow, when the Jewish negotiators meet again with Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones, but it is certain that the scheme will be rejected.

Agency circles declared that the plan was no better, and in some respects worse than the Morrison federalization scheme. They cited the fact that under the new scheme immigration of 100,000 Jews to Palestine would be spread over a period of two years, while the question of statehood would be left in abeyance. They also pointed out that each zone will be handed over to the Jews or Arabs on the basis of the present population majority, thus barring the Jews from the Negev where there is an Arab majority at present.

They stated further that since the High Commissioner's advisory council will not be composed along racial lines, the Arabs will have a majority on the basis of the present population distribution in the various social and economic groupings. This will leave control of Jewish immigration in the hands of an Arab majority. Finally, they say, the frontiers between the respective areas have not been set, with the apparent hope on the part of the British that it will set the Jews and Arabs bargaining against each other to the benefit of the British.

These circles, however, do not expect the Agency to break off discussions because, they declare, it is vital for the Zionists to maintain contact with the British at this critical time. There is no certainty about the Arab position, because the Palestine delegation has expressed its impatience at the continuation of a conference which does not grant them what they want. Friday night Bevin tried to get the Arabs to agree to continue the conference. It is understood that the Arabs objected, attacking particularly the provisions of the plan which provide greater Jewish immigration.

REVISIONISTS URGE JEWISH AGENCY TO TRANSFER HEADQUARTERS TO NON-BRITISH TERRITORY

PARIS, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency was urged to transfer its headquarters from Palestine and Britain to remove them from British control in a statement issued here during the week-end by the headquarters of the World Revisionist Party. The statement also called for a Jewish government-in-exile.

Rumors are circulating here that the Agency is considering moving to Paris to prevent possible British repressive measures against its members.

EMIGRATION FACILITIES MUST BE PROVIDED FOR 250,000 DISPLACED JEWS, SAYS JDC DIRECTOR

PARIS, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Disclosing that the number of children born in the Jewish DP camps in Germany and Austria since the end of the war exceeded the number of persons who have emigrated, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee, said last night that provision must be made for the immigration to Palestine and elsewhere of 250,000 Jews.

Speaking at a press conference following the closing of a week-long conference here of JDC representatives from 17 countries, Dr. Schwartz stressed that when UNRRA ceases operations at the end of June, the JDC will be forced to assume heavier burdens, particularly in the interim period between the liquidation of UNRRA and the beginning of operations by the projected International Refugee Organization.

The JDC director said that 60 percent of the Jewish population in Europe was directly supported by his organization, but that an effort is now being made to gradually replace relief by reconstruction. He emphasized the importance of swift restitution of Jewish property seized by the Nazis, and demanded that legislation to accomplish this should not only be enacted but implemented.

According to Dr. Schwartz, Jewish relief and reconstruction work should be planned for a three-year emergency period. The plan should be worked out in close cooperation with the governments concerned, and he expressed the hope that the United States military authorities in Germany would help implement the policy of restitution of Jewish property.

Leo Schwarz, JDC representative in Germany, reported that 130,000 Jewish DP's in Germany out of a total of 167,000 lived in camps. Their morale was rapidly deteriorating as the prospects for early liberation dimmed, he warned. Joseph Silber, who directs JDC work in Austria, charged the Austrian government with showing little good-will towards Jews, and warned that "all Jews must quit Austria before the occupation army is withdrawn." Jacob Trobe, the JDC director in Italy, declared that the poverty of the Italian population and the presence of 2,000,000 unemployed ruled out the possibility of gainful occupation for refugee Jews.

JEWS IN AUSTRIA NOT TREATED FAIRLY, GREENLEIGH REPORTS; SAYS ANTI-SEMITISM RAMPANT

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Denouncing pro-Austrian propaganda in the United States purporting to create the impression that Jews in Austria are being fairly treated, Arthur D. Greenleigh, who has just returned from a mission to that country for the American Jewish Committee, issued a statement today in which he made the following charges:

"1. S.S. officers and other Nazis are still occupying apartments in Vienna belonging to Jews while the former owners are homeless and obliged to live in displaced persons camps. 2. Nothing tangible has been done to return Jewish properties and other assets to the few Jews who survived the Nazi terror and have returned to Vienna. 3. Anti-Semitism is rampant in Austria, with a recent bloody anti-Semitic riot at the University of Vienna taking on the aspect of a full-fledged exhibition in the best Nazi tradition with parades through the city, placards and beatings of innocent people."

"Government functionaries," Mr. Greenleigh said, "are openly hostile to Jews. Threats are increasing against the few Jews who are trickling back to Austria and attempting to reestablish their place in the community life. The adviser on Jewish affairs to the Austrian Government, a Dr. Ludwig, is a notorious anti-Semite."

FOUR ITALIANS WHO BETRAYED JEWS TO GESTAPO SENTENCED TO JAIL BY ROME COURT

ROME, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Four Italians were yesterday sentenced to prison terms ranging from 12 to 30 years and two were acquitted after a 18-day trial of a six-man gang which had surrendered Jews to the Gestapo during the Fascist regime.

The two leaders of the gang, Ceccerelli and Consoli, were given 30-year terms, while their aides, Raucci and Falicari, were sentenced to 14 years and 12 years, respectively.

RUMANIAN JEWS ASK U.S. GOVERNMENT TO AID DROUGHT-STRICKEN DISTRICTS; RELIEF ARRIVES

BUCHAREST, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- An appeal for immediate aid from America for drought-stricken areas in Rumania was submitted to Burton Berry, U.S. political representative here by William Filderman, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities.

The American freighters, Wellesley Victory and Albert Victory, arrived here during the week-end with a cargo of food, clothing, shoes and medicaments for Jewish welfare institutions operated by the Union of Rumanian Jews, which is headed by Dr. Filderman. The supplies were sent by the World Jewish Congress.

Five-hundred tons of timber left Constanza for Haifa yesterday in the first Rumanian export vessel to leave here since the end of the war. Palestine was one of the country's chief markets before 1939.

NEARLY 1,000 JEWISH REFUGEES SAIL FROM MARSEILLES FOR RESETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA

PARIS, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Nearly 1,000 Jewish refugees from Poland, Austria and Hungary sailed yesterday from Marseilles for resettlement in Australia.

Some 390 Jews were aboard the vessel when it arrived in Marseilles from Amsterdam. An additional 565 who had arrived on a special train earlier during the day boarded the Dutch ship, Johan De Witt. Over 450 of the immigrants are being sponsored by HIAS which expects about 2,000 immigrants to leave Europe this month.

FIRST GROUP OF JEWS RETURNING FROM PALESTINE TO AUSTRIA ARRIVES IN ITALY

ROME, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The first group of Jews returning to Austria from Palestine arrived in Genoa during the week-end. There were 35 persons in the group.

They were held up a short time in Genoa because they entered without having first obtained transit visas. When permission to cross Italy was granted, the 35 began the last leg of their journey--under military escort.

FORMER BRITISH OFFICER SENTENCED FOR ATTEMPT TO SET FIRE TO SYNAGOGUE

LONDON, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- A Bristol court yesterday placed on probation for three years a former British Army officer, Ivor Worth, found guilty of an attempt to set fire to a synagogue there. Worth declared that England was "at war with Jewry" and he "felt it was time we hit back."

60,000 PROTESTANT CHURCHES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY OBSERVE "RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY"

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- Race Relations Sunday was observed today in more than 60,000 Protestant Churches in 44 states. It was sponsored by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, which has been arranging similar annual observances since 1922.

U.S. RECOGNITION OF "PROVISIONAL HEBREW GOVERNMENT" ASKED BY HEBREW LIBERATION PARLEY

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- American recognition of a "Provisional Government of the Hebrew Republic of Palestine" and action by the U.S. to secure admission of this government into the United Nations was urged today by the concluding session of the two-day Conference on Hebrew Liberation sponsored by the American League for a Free Palestine.

The meeting also asked the U.S. delegates at the U.N. to secure an investigation of the "crimes" committed against Jews by the British administration in Palestine and suggested that Congress instruct the Executive Department of the government to protest to Britain against the alleged violation of the provisions of the Palestine Mandate and of the Anglo-American Convention on Palestine, signed in 1924. Congress was also urged to investigate the State Department's activities in the Near East.

The U.S. Government was asked "to see to it that the subsidizing of feudal oppressors of the Near East is discontinued by private American interests, such as oil interests," to prevent the British from using lend-lease armament to suppress liberation movements in the Near East and to disavow the Arab League "both on the diplomatic level and at the U.N." The conference backed the "aspirations for national freedom" of the Assyrians, Lebanese and the Kurds and expressed the hope that "a close association of free peoples of the Middle East, including the Hebrews, Lebanese and Assyrians," will be achieved.

The delegates voiced opposition to partition of Palestine and pledged to combat any British efforts to secure U.S. approval of partition.

A vigorous debate developed at the conference when a motion was made to adopt a resolution calling for the raising of a "Palestine Resistance Fund" to "provide the Hebrew Army with guns and munitions of war." Many delegates opposed the resolution, stating that it would involve violation of U.S. laws. (The debate was continuing when the Bulletin went to press.)

Other resolutions scheduled for passage included one calling for a boycott of British goods to protest the events in Palestine and another proposing a \$7,500,000 budget for 1947. Five million dollars of this sum would go for repatriation and relief of Jews in Europe, \$1,500,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a provisional Hebrew Government and \$1,000,000 to finance the activities of the American League for a Free Palestine.

Speaking at a dinner in connection with the conference, last night, former Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes demanded increased immigration into the United States and free immigration of Jews into Palestine. Immigration into Palestine, he added, should be under Anglo-American protection. The type of government Palestine should have should be left to the Jews and Arabs to decide without outside interference, Mr. Ickes declared.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS BEST SOLUTION FOR PALESTINE, SAYS AYDELOTTE

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA) -- The recommendations made by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine still represent the fairest and most feasible solution of the Palestine problem, Dr. Frank Aydelotte, director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University and a member of the commission, said today.

Addressing an audience at Temple Emanu-El, Dr. Aydelotte expressed doubts that Jews and Arabs could agree at present on a government for Palestine, and said that there should, therefore, be created a U.N. trusteeship which would protect the interests of all the inhabitants. He also supported the immigration of 100,000 Jews and the removal of land sales restrictions.