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AMERICAN CREW OF REFUGEE SHIP TO BE TRIED TODAY; 597 PASSENGERS DEPORTED TO CYPRUS

JERUSALEM, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Eighteen American crew members of the immigrant ship Ben Hecht are to be arraigned in Magistrates Court in Haifa tomorrow on charges of aiding and abetting illegal immigration, while 597 of the vessel's passengers were tonight en route to Cyprus aboard two British deportation ships. Two U.S. newspapermen who travelled on the Ben Hecht may be charged with illegal entry.

The ship, also known as the Abril, was captured last night a few hours before terrorist attacks in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Jaffa precipitated violent battles between troops and Jewish extremists in the areas under martial law. According to the latest casualty figures, four Jews, one British soldier and one policeman were killed last night and 15 Jews injured, three of them seriously. One of the dead was an 18-year-old girl, Shoshana Rachimoff, who was struck by a bullet while walking in the street in Tel Aviv. This afternoon, Esther Tashua, 18, and Yechiel Bopani were seriously wounded by a patrol which fired on a crowd in Tel Aviv.

Hassia Mizrachi, 45, a Jewish policewoman attached to the police station at Rehovoth, was killed last night by four masked men. It is believed that she was working for the British Intelligence and had been responsible for the capture of several terrorist suspects. Previously four attempts on her life had been made.

Agency Meeting Postponed When Silver, Others Fail to Arrive

Meanwhile, the Jewish Agency meeting scheduled for tomorrow morning has been postponed until Wednesday because Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and other members have not yet arrived here. When the Agency members who flew here by special plane from New York arrived at 2 a.m. this morning, they were barred from leaving the aerodrome until daylight. Goldie Meirson, chief of the Agency's political department here, who went to Lydda Airport to greet them, was not allowed to see them. The arrivals included Moshe Shertok, Dr. Moshe Shohat, Mrs. Rose Halperin, Daniel Frisch, Mrs. Herman Shulman and Joseph Schechtman.

The Haganah radio, Voice of Israel, commenting tonight on the week of martial law said that it has proved "the complete bankruptcy of the Palestine police and troops, who have not succeeded in crushing terrorism." It added that "only the Yishuv itself is able to combat terrorism, without the cooperation of the British, but the British have chosen instead to destroy the Yishuv's economy by imposing martial law."

The 599 refugees who arrived on the Ben Hecht carried "passports" issued by the Hebrew Committee of Liberation. They were signed by Eri Jabotinsky, son of the late Revisionist leader Vladimir Jabotinsky, and dated Feb. 20. Two of the arrivals, a husband and wife, were allowed to remain here because the woman is expecting a child. The ship, whose whereabouts had provoked a series of wild rumors for the past three weeks, displaced 800 tons and was the cleanest and most seaworthy of any of the blockade runners that have arrived in recent months.

(The Tyre Shipping Company of New York, which is listed as owner of the

Ben Hecht, said today in a statement issued through the American League for a Free Palestine, that it would take all possible steps to recover the ship and protect the crew members. In an accompanying statement, the League said that the vessel had been chartered from the Tyre Co. by the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation. It declared that the crew members were volunteers, serving without pay, and had sailed from New York aboard the Ben Hecht, then called the Abril, on Dec. 27, 1946.)

Tension Still High in Tel Aviv After Night of Violence

Although the situation in the martial law areas had quieted down today, tension still ran high in Tel Aviv as a result of last night's events. It was announced that three of the four Jews killed died during an attack on a police station in Sarona, while the fourth was shot dead by a military patrol around dawn this morning. Two others, Marthel Mayer, 58, and Ben Zion Shtekelis, 65, died of heart attack during the street battle around Citrus House, British military headquarters, which was the chief target of the attacks.

A military camp in Haifa was also attacked during the night and three guards injured. The attackers escaped without injury. A group of masked men invaded a jewelry shop in Haifa this afternoon and escaped with \$10,000.

Troops yesterday interrupted Sabbath services in several synagogues in the Meah Shearim quarter of Jerusalem in their hunt for extremists and arms caches.

The general manager of the Palestine railway system has announced the official closing of the port of Tel Aviv. Cargoes destined for that city will be discharged at other ports and stored there until permission is obtained to send them to Tel Aviv. Goods now en route to the city will be permitted to enter if they fall within specified categories. Storage charges will continue to accumulate on all goods destined for the controlled areas but which have been discharged elsewhere.

The Arab press has been scoffing at the British actions in Palestine. They refer to the restrictive regulations as "childish stratagems," demanding stronger measures. The Arab advice to the British Army is: "Whenever martial law is imposed, it must be accompanied by severe restraint of freedom, large-scale military activities and violent pressure on public activities."

Emergency Medical Facilities Arranged in Advance of Martial Law Edict

NEW YORK, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Hadassah emergency medical services now in operation in the areas of Palestine under martial law had been arranged in advance of the military rule edict in order to guarantee the uninterrupted functioning of hospital and medical facilities. Dr. Haim Yaseky, director of the Hadassah Medical Organization, told 100 members of the national board of the organization meeting at the Park Central Hotel here. He said that all personnel had been alerted to go into action at an hour's notice and emergency electrical power, food supplies, drugs and blood banks set up.

Zionists see the transfer of the Palestine problem to the United Nations as a challenge to the conscience of the world and should the question be placed on the U.N. agenda, expect that body to implement the promises made to the Jewish people by the League of Nations. Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, national president of Hadassah, said last night.

She condemned terrorism, but said that the British had provoked the Jews to violence and that the leaders of the Jewish community could not control the situation as long as immigration was restricted.

CZECH GOVT. CONFISCATES PROPERTY RESTORED TO JEWISH OWNER AFTER WORKERS STRIKE

PRAGUE, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- A factory which had been restored to Emil Bear, a Czech Jew who fled the Nazis during the war, was taken over by the government during the week-end following a strike by workers in the entire Warnsdorf district of Bohemia, where the plant is situated. The strikers insisted that Bear had engaged before the war in "Germanization" of Czech industry.

The industrialist, who was attacked in the streets and was taken into "protective custody," has been released. His lawyers apartment was stormed by a mob. It is reported that Bear was summoned to the local government office and given ten minutes to sell his property to the government.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Jewish Communities here, both Bear's arrest and the confiscation of his property were protested.

Five hundred Polish Jewish orphans left for France this week-end to begin training as chalutzim. The children were accompanied by an escort provided by the Joint Distribution Committee.

Nazi Leader Testifies Slovak Officials Grabbed Jewish Property

BRATISLAVA, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- H.H. Wszelczeny, ex-Gestapo leader and Nazi advisor on Jewish affairs to the puppet Slovak Government, disclosed yesterday at the war crimes trial of Josef Tiso, former head of the Slovak Government, that a major share of the property seized from Jews was distributed to the families and friends of officials of the government.

He also testified that as early as 1942 the Slovak officials offered Slovak Jews to the Nazis as slave laborers. He stated that when the Germans demanded the deportation of all Jews over the age of 18, the Slovak officials insisted upon extending the category to all over the age of 16.

HUNGARIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AUTHORIZES USE OF JEWISH HISTORY TEXT IN SCHOOLS

BUDAPEST, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- The Ministry of Education has authorized the use of a recently published history of the Jews as a textbook in Hungarian schools, it was announced here. The book, entitled "A History of the Jews from the Babylonian Captivity to the Present," was published by the Budapest Jewish Community.

The Jewish publication, Uj Elet, has protested the continued use of textbooks in Hungarian universities which contain anti-Semitic and fascist propaganda. It asserts that some of the texts attack the Jews for their "anti-nationalistic attitude."

A joint conference of representatives of the Jewish Teachers Association and the educational department of the Society of Hungarian Jews was held here this week to discuss problems of Jewish youth and Jewish schools. The conference announced an essay contest on the subject of Jewish education.

Jews in Major Polish Cities Protest Imposition of Martial Law on Palestine Jewry

WARSAW, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jews attended mass meetings today in Warsaw, Lodz and Katowice in protest against the imposition of martial law upon nearly half the Jews in Palestine.

The Central Jewish Committee, at a meeting celebrating the second anniversary of its establishment, sent greetings to the Palestine Jewish Community and decided to organize today's demonstrations. Widespread indignation was expressed at Jewish circles here when the news of martial law in Palestine was received.

SCOTLAND YARD UNCOVERS UNDERGROUND ANTI-JEWISH GANG; LED BY FORMER MOSLEYITE

LONDON, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- The existence of a well-organized gang of young storm troopers whose object is to terrorize the Jewish population of London and who operate under the leadership of a former associate of Sir Oswald Mosley has been uncovered by Scotland Yard, the Sunday Express reports.

According to the Express, a special squad of detectives operating under Scotland Yard's directions has been investigating the activities of semi-secret anti-Jewish organizations following recent attacks on synagogues and the proclamation of a "war on Jews" by a former associate of Sir Oswald Mosley, Victor Burgess. Burgess was recently released from prison where he was interned during the war years.

The detectives have established that the center of anti-Jewish activities is situated in the Edgware and Burnt Oak districts, where the population is nearly fifty percent Jewish. Anti-Jewish incidents in this area have become so frequent that Jewish veterans have set a twenty-four hour guard around local synagogues. Jewish residents have been threatened and entire streets plastered with anti-Jewish stickers and posters bearing slogans such as "Jews must go," or "War on the Jews."

The Scotland Yard men discovered that most of the anti-Jewish activities were the work of a gang of young storm troopers known as the "North-West Task Group for Racial Defence." A twenty-two-year-old former public school teacher is the acknowledged leader of the gang, which comprises, in addition to non-paying members, over fifty regular members paying weekly dues amounting to six pence (ten cents) per person.

The aim of the organization, as stated in membership cards given dues-payers, is to "operate against forces of Jewry in the life of Great Britain and to oppose participation of any Jew in British public life." The gang has adopted a motto of the Nazi underground which is printed on the membership cards in German: "Wir kommen wieder," meaning "We shall return."

Most of the information on the activities of the Burnt Oak group was obtained from a 17-year-old youth who joined the group, but left it after he had found out "what it was all about." He told the Scotland Yard men that the group usually met at night, in coffee shops, where speakers attacked Jews. Rallies were also held at Hyde Park and elsewhere.

CANADIAN JEWS PROTEST STATEMENT ATTRIBUTING VICE IN MONTREAL TO JEWS, OTHER MINORITIES

MONTREAL, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress issued a protest during the week-end against a statement in the provincial legislature by former Prime Minister Adélard Godbout of Quebec Province, who asserted that the Jews and other immigrant groups are responsible for vice in Montreal.

"We strongly protest your slur on the Jews and other racial minorities whom you charge with being solely responsible for vice conditions in this province," the Congress stated. Challenging the accuracy of Godbout's statement, it asserted that a "careful examination of the court, police and other official records will quickly contradict it." Labelling the charge "mischievous and untruthful," the Congress demanded an immediate public retraction.

RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR DECREES ANTI-SEMITIC OPPOSITION TO LILLIENTHAL NOMINATION

HARTFORD, Conn., Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Manifestation of anti-Semitic opposition to the confirmation of David E. Lillienthal as U.S. Atomic Energy chairman was likened to the Senate opposition thirty years ago against confirmation of Louis D. Brandeis as a Supreme Court justice by Governor John O. Pastore of Rhode Island speaking before the two-day New England regional convention of the Jewish War Veterans.

Such intolerance, said Governor Pastore, provides the "sparks of a conflagration that can destroy civilization." The charge made against Lillienthal that he is a Jew, he added, "is a new whisper with an old accent." The governor said that men of good will cannot be "silent" at such a time if "the American hopes of freedom are to be held out to oppressed peoples everywhere."

ABOUT 5,500 JEWS RESIDE IN FAMINE-STRICKEN AREAS OF RUMANIA. JDC INFORMS RED CROSS

BUCHAREST, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Only about 5,500 Jews reside in the famine-stricken Moldavian area, the Joint Distribution Committee today informed the Red Cross. The latter organization had contacted the JDC to inquire concerning Jewish needs in Moldavia before it began distribution of the first 4,500 tons of food ordered sent here by President Truman. Most Jews were ousted from the rural areas of Moldavia, where most of the relief will go, by the pro-Nazi Antonescu regime.

The J.D.C. announced today that it will extend assistance to the OSE, Jewish health society, to enable the latter group to care for more young people and to extend its tuberculosis treatment program in Rumania.

Under the new plan, the OSE will care for boys up to the age of 14 and girls up to the age of 20. Previously care ended at 12 and 15 years, respectively. New dispensaries will be established for Jewish children, 60 percent of whom are afflicted with tuberculosis, and for adults and present centers will be enlarged. A special program has been worked out for the Transylvanian and Moldavian areas, where the famine has led to an increased incidence of disease.

The OSE has disclosed that during the past year it operated 27 branches which maintained a total of 63 centers, including ten children's homes, 24 medical centers, 17 food canteens, nine day homes and three communal baths.

PALESTINE JEWS SEND FOUR DELEGATES TO PAN-ASIATIC CONFERENCE IN DELHI

JERUSALEM, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- The Jews of Palestine will be represented by four delegates at the Pan-Asiatic Congress in New Delhi, India, it was decided jointly by the executives of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Council. The four are: Prof. Hugo Bergman, Dr. Emanuel Olschwanger, Itzhak Shimon and Mrs. S.M. Borah-yahu.

DR. JUDAH L. MAGNES SUFFERING FROM BRONCHIAL PNEUMONIA; ENTERS HADASSAH HOSPITAL

JERUSALEM, Mar. 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, entered an Hadassah hospital yesterday suffering from bronchial pneumonia. His condition was reported "improved" today.