

Wednesday, April 16, 1947

JTA

*Daily News Bulletin*PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY  
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.JEWISH AGENCY CALLS ON U.N. SESSION FOR INTERIM DECISION ON PALESTINE IMMIGRATION

LAKE SUCCESS, April 15. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine today called upon the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forthcoming special session to issue an interim decision which would immediately open Palestine to Jewish immigration.

Pointing out that further delay may mean catastrophe for Jews who have now waited two years for liberation and reconstruction, the Agency declared that such an interim order is "dictated by every consideration of humanity and international law.

"It would, moreover, serve as an immediate test of the significance of the forthcoming session. It would make it clear that no power can manipulate the General Assembly of the United Nations for the purposes of dilatory maneuver, accepting or rejecting its findings as it pleases."

The Agency's position was outlined in a statement issued following a meeting of the American section of its executive in New York today. The statement pointed out that "the Jewish people approach the forthcoming U.N. session under a great disadvantage. Great Britain and the Arab world are formally represented in the U.N. and in a position to influence the decision. The party most vitally concerned has no voice, no vote, no advocate. But the Jewish people feel confident that they have both law and equity on their side. And they turn to the United Nations, appealing for a judgment which, expressive of the world's goodwill and sense of justice, will bring an end to suffering and restore to them the rights, status and dignity of a free people."

Jews Expect U.N. to Maintain Integrity of Palestine Mandate, Agency Says

Declaring that "after two years of delay" the future of the Jewish people in Palestine is at last on the international agenda, the Jewish Agency statement stressed that "in a previous international decision, the historic connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and their right to reconstitute their national homeland there were recognized by the League of Nations," when in 1922 it approved the Palestine Mandate.

"One of the last acts of that body was the rejection, by its Permanent Mandates Commission, as inconsistent with the Mandate, of the restrictions imposed by the Palestine White Paper, just before the outbreak of war in 1939." The statement said: "Great Britain's violation of the Mandate was allowed to continue without authoritative international challenge only because the League ceased to function and there was no international forum to which the Jewish people could turn for redress.

"Most of the nations now in the United Nations, as members of the League, were parties to the covenant with the Jewish people. The Jewish people look to the United Nations, as trustee of the world's conscience, to maintain the integrity of that undertaking," it emphasized.

"Events of the last 25 years, and in particular the experience of the last war, have proved the justice and the urgent necessity of fulfilling the high purpose

the Mandate," the Agency statement continued. "The growth of the Jewish National home has vindicated the vision of 1922. The tragic fate of the Jews of Europe, 600,000 of whom were destroyed by Hitler's savagery, has accentuated the urgency of action to enable the destitute and dispossessed survivors to rebuild their lives in the land of their choice.

#### Asks Invalidation of White Paper Pending Solution of Problem

"It is almost two years since the war ended in Europe. It was hoped that long before this, the Jews would have been helped back to a normal life. But every obstacle has been placed in their way. The reopening of Palestine to large-scale Jewish immigration has been cruelly and indefensibly delayed. In makeshift camps in Germany and Austria, in internment camps in Cyprus, behind barbed wire in Palestine itself, the Jews count off wasted days, waiting for liberation and reconstruction.

"These people are on the brink of despair. Further delay may mean a new catastrophe for a people that suffered as no other in the war. It is imperative that the General Assembly act quickly and firmly. Pending an inquiry into the problem of a long-term solution of the Palestine problem, the General Assembly could well exercise its great moral and political authority to invalidate the illegal provisions of the White Paper.

"The General Assembly should call upon the Mandatory Power to conform in the interim period to the plain letter of the Palestine Mandate, to reopen Palestine to Jewish immigration on a scale commensurate with present needs and to remove the existing measures of racial discrimination which restrict Jewish settlement on the land and which are repugnant to the principles of the United Nations Charter," the Jewish Agency statement said.

#### Arabs Will Demand U.N. Supervise a Plebiscite in Palestine

Faris el Khoury, Syrian delegate to the U.N. Security Council and spokesman for the Arab League, today said here that the Arab members of the United Nations will demand at the special session that the United Nations supervise a plebiscite in Palestine for the purpose of establishing "a democratic form of government" there. He added that the Arab delegations will also demand that all Jewish immigration to Palestine be halted between now and the plebiscite.

The Syrian delegation also announced that Syria will demand representation on the fact-finding committee which the special session is expected to appoint. He stated that the basic Arab demand at the session will be the early establishment of Palestine as an independent state.

#### Truman Nominates United States Delegates to Session on Palestine

WASHINGTON, April 15. (JTA) -- President Truman today nominated Warren R. Austin as American delegate to the special session of the United Nations on Palestine, and Herschel V. Johnson as alternate. Austin is the United States representative on the Security Council and Johnson is his alternate. The nominations will go to the Senate for confirmation.

From London it was reported today that Harold Beeley, chief Foreign Office expert on Palestine, and John Martin, Assistant Under-Secretary in the Colonial Office's Middle East Department, will go to Lake Success to strengthen the British delegation at the Palestine session.

PALESTINE JEWS STRIKE IN SYMPATHY WITH "HERZL" REFUGEES; TWO VICTIMS BURIED IN HAIFA

HAIFA, April 15. (JTA) -- Jews throughout Palestine tonight went on a strike from 6 p.m. to midnight proclaimed by the Jewish National Council in sympathy with the 2,500 visaless Jewish immigrants apprehended aboard the blockade runner *Theodor Herzl* Sunday night. Earlier, the entire Jewish population of Haifa stopped work for two hours during the funeral of two Jews killed when a British naval party forced its way aboard the vessel.

The victims were Ahron David Bayerman, 24, of Czechoslovakia, and Pinchas Weiss, 23, of Hungary. Bayerman was killed when he was struck squarely by an exploding tear gas bomb, while Weiss was shot during the general melee when the immigrants attempted to hurl the British off the vessel.

After the vessel was brought into port this morning, the flag draped bodies were lowered over the side while the refugees recited the prayer for the dead. An immigrant guard of honor carried the bodies on their shoulders down the dock where they were handed over to representatives of a burial society. They were interred in a cemetery near the victims of the Struma disaster and others who died attempting to enter Palestine. The wives of both the men, who also arrived on the *Herzl*, attended the funeral.

When the immigrant vessel was towed into the harbor a large blue-and-white steamer was flying from its mast. Inscribed on it was: "The Germans exterminated our children and families. You English will not kill our hopes."

About 1,200 of the immigrants were transhipped to three deportation vessels and departed to Cyprus tonight. The remainder will be transhipped tomorrow.

GRUNER NOT EXECUTED; MEMBERS OF BRITISH CABINET CONFER ON APPEALS TO SAVE HIM

JERUSALEM, April 15, (JTA) -- Dov Gruner was still alive today, according to his attorney, Max Seligman, who said that he planned to visit the condemned man in Acre prison tomorrow. Rumors were rife throughout Palestine and London yesterday that he would be hanged this morning, despite the fact that an appeal to save his life had been filed with the Privy Council.

From London it was reported today that War Minister Frank Bellinger and Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones met last night to consider various appeals for a stay in execution.

RUDOLF HOESS, "GREATEST MASS MURDERER IN HISTORY," HANGED ON HIS GALLOWS AT OSWIECIM

WARSAW, April 15. (JTA) -- Rudolf Hoess, former commandant of the Oswiecim death camp, who has been described as the "greatest mass murderer in history," was today hanged on the only gallows left standing in the camp.

Hoess was condemned by the highest Polish military tribunal April 2, following his conviction on charges of having murdered millions of persons, most of whom were Jews.

JOSEF TISO SENTENCED TO HANG; WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEPORTATION OF SLOVAK JEWS

BRATISLAVA, April 15. (JTA) -- Josef Tiso, former president of the pro-Nazi puppet Slovakian Government, was today sentenced to hang. He was convicted of a number of charges including responsibility for the deportation of thousands of Slovakian Jews to Nazi death camps and for the passage of anti-Jewish laws.

HUNGARIAN APPELLATE COURT ACQUITS RABBI ACCUSED OF COOPERATING WITH GESTAPO

BUDAPEST, April 15. (JTA) -- Rabbi Bela Berend, convicted on charges of cooperating with the Gestapo last Nov. 23 and sentenced to ten years imprisonment, was today acquitted by an appellate court. Both the People's Court which originally convicted him and the higher court took into account his plea that he had cooperated with the Nazis in order to aid Jews.

The bodies of 212 Jewish victims of a Nazi massacre in a concentration camp near the village of Pusztavam were reburied at a mass funeral arranged by the Organization of Jewish Labor Veterans and the Hungarian Anti-Fascist Union. The massacre took place on Oct. 16, 1944 when the Nazis believed that Admiral Horthy had succeeded in obtaining an armistice agreement from the Red Army. None of the perpetrators of the outrage have yet been apprehended.

A representative of the Anti-Fascist Union said that of 8,000 Jewish bodies exhumed from mass graves, these 200-odd were in the worst condition. Apparently the Nazis had forced the Jews to dig their own graves and then had beaten them so badly that most of the skulls of the victims were found to be bashed in. Then they were shot.

JEWS IN BRITISH ZONE ASK MILITARY PROTECTION AGAINST NAZI UNDERGROUND GROUPS

HAMBURG, April 15. (JTA) -- Protesting the repeated desecration of Jewish cemeteries in the British zone of Germany, officials of the Central Jewish Committee and the Council of Jewish Communities of the British zone today urged the British military government to take action against what they termed a "revival of Nazi underground organizations."

The most recent incident occurred at Lubeck where a large group of Germans invaded one of the few Jewish cemeteries that still remain in Germany and overturned 50 tombstones. Although the German police were immediately informed about the incident, none of the perpetrators were caught. The incident follows by only a few weeks a similar one in Hanover.

JEWS STUDENT SEVERELY INJURED AT RUMANIAN UNIVERSITY; ATTACKED BY ANTI-SEMITES

BUCHAREST, April 15. (JTA) -- A Jewish student at the University of Cluj was severely injured today when assaulted by seven anti-Semitic students. Police are reported to have identified the assailants.

Jewish circles here are concerned with anti-Semitic demonstrations which have taken place during the performance of a play "The Syringe" by Tudor Arghezi, winner of last year's national poetry prize. The play features two villains with Jewish names.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ASKED TO ACT AGAINST PUBLICATION OF FALSE REPORTS ABOUT JEWS

VIENNA, April 15. (JTA) -- Dr. Alfred Mandel, head of the Jewish community of Bad Ischl, Austria, has urged Chancellor Leopold Figl to take measures against the Austrian press carrying fallacious news reports discrediting Jews.

Citing several examples of news stories which carried inaccurate allegations against Jews in the Bad Ischl area, Dr. Mandel's letter said that such items "tend to create unrest among the population" and give the "impression abroad that anti-Semitism is increasing in Austria."



J.A. LAUNCHES \$65,000,000 DRIVE IN N.Y.; JUSTICE JACKSON WARNS OF GERMAN ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, April 15. (JTA) -- Deploing the fact that "we have become today world of closed frontiers, a world fearful of the stranger and hostile to the immigrant," Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson told 1,500 Jewish leaders tonight at "anti-Semitism did not surrender in Germany," that "it is not confined to the German side of the lines" and that "it afflicts those who live elsewhere in the world." He spoke at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel at which the unprecedented \$5,000,000 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York was launched.

Emphasizing that anti-Semitism in Germany "was not a creation of the Nazi opportunists" but was part of the philosophical currency of this generation of Germans, Justice Jackson warned that within a generation Germany may again become a danger to the world. "To the extent that the crimes disclosed at Nuremberg are logical products of Germanic culture, rather than merely of Nazi perversion, we must look for them to survive the collapse of the Hitler regime," he stated. He added that "nothing in the Nuremberg record encourages an expectation of voluntary political reformation in Germany which will make her a safe country for minorities and a peaceful neighbor."

Touching upon the problem of the displaced persons in Europe, Justice Jackson said: "They are hated aliens in the land where we now find them and they have become unwelcome aliens in the lands from which they were taken. And there they are, huddled into camps where they cannot stay permanently, with no means to go elsewhere and no place open to them if they had means to go. Adequate justice to these surviving people can never be done; but to keep them existing in suspense is a form of mental torture almost as harrowing as that which the Nazis inflicted."

Jews Suffer Most from Fear-Ridden World, Jackson Says

The world, he continued, has never been more fear-ridden than it is today, at the end of a war for freedom from fear. No longer can people migrate freely and start life anew in other lands, he added, pointing out that human beings, no matter how ready they are to be self-supporting, are wanted nowhere in the world. Their very willingness to support themselves through their own labor threatens competition which makes them unwelcome in many lands, he asserted.

"On no one do these things weigh more heavily than on the Jewish people," he emphasized. "The record of their persecution, enslavement, murder and extermination is the blackest chapter in modern times. You know that anti-Semitism did not surrender in Germany; it is still virulent and ready, when it dares, to pursue the remnants of Jewry left there. You know, too, that anti-Semitism is not confined to the German side of the lines and that it afflicts those who live elsewhere in the world. I doubt if anywhere at any time a better protection for minorities has ever been found than in our constitutional Bill of Rights, whatever inadequacies it may have or how ever faulty its application."

Herbert H. Lehman, who presided at the dinner, emphasized that the Jews of Europe look to the world for justice, but they look to American Jewry for the means to rebuild their lives. He called for maximum aid to the United Jewish Appeal. "We embark now upon the great work of reconstruction designed to rebuild the shattered structure of Jewish life abroad and to prepare a welcome for the many thousands, who, weary of oppression and tyranny look for a haven in Palestine and upon our own democratic shores," the former Governor of New York said. Other speakers included Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and Louis Nizer.

JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS APPROVE PLAN FOR "ON SPOT" SURVEY OF OVERSEAS NEEDS

UTICA, N.Y., April 15. (JTA) -- The recommendation of the board of directors of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds that an "on-the-spot" survey of overseas needs be initiated was endorsed at a two-day meeting of regional leaders of the Council held here under the chairmanship of Alexander E. Holstein of Syracuse.

The New York State Regional executive group elected Maurice Tabor, former president of the Buffalo Jewish Federation, representative of the Jewish communities in this region on the reorganized governing body of the national United Jewish Appeal. Most of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of the problems and responsibilities facing Jewish communities in attempting to meet tremendous overseas needs, and extending national and local services and programs.

Arnold Gurin, director of the Council's Budget Research Department, reported that a sampling of about 50 cities shows a rise, since 1939, of over 700 percent in allocations to overseas agencies, 200 percent to national agencies and 50 percent for local programs. The latter does not include capital fund raising. He predicted that campaign results this year will be considerably better than in 1946, but that tremendous effort would be required on the part of leaders.

AGREEMENT COORDINATING JEWISH RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA APPROVED BY CENTRAL BODY

BUENOS AIRES, April 15. (JTA) -- David Groisman, Argentine Jewish leader, was unanimously elected president of the new Jewish relief organization formed as a result of an agreement between two competing Jewish relief groups, the Central Committee and the Junta de Ayuda. It was through his efforts that the two groups, after years of conflict, finally decided to coordinate their activities.

The DAIA, central representative body of Argentine Jewry, at a meeting during the week-end ratified the agreement between the two relief organizations. Leaders of the DAIA also stressed that they have not abandoned their efforts to secure permission for the use of the Yiddish language at public meetings. A recent order requiring that organizations conducting meetings in languages other than Spanish must apply for a special permit for each meeting cannot be contested by the DAIA in view of the fact that the measure affects not only Jews but all other foreign language groups in the country.

CANADA WELCOMES FIRST GROUP OF DISPLACED JEWS TO ARRIVE FROM EUROPE

MONTREAL, April 15. (JTA) -- The first group of Jewish DP's who were given permission to enter Canada was welcomed at the local railway station amid tearful scenes. Some of the refugees bore the tell-tale serial numbers of concentration camps and a few bore the marks of torture.

JEWISH BOOK MONTH OBSERVANCE SET FOR NOVEMBER; SPONSORED BY JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NEW YORK, April 15. (JTA) -- Jewish Book Month, organized by the Jewish Book Council of America under the sponsorship of the National Jewish Welfare Board, will be observed in 1947 from November 7 to December 7, Solomon Grayzel, Council president, announced today.

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