

Vol. XIV No. 93 (29th Year)

Tuesday, April 22, 1947

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

FLASH

FLASH

TWO DOOMED YOUTHS COMMIT SUICIDE SHORTLY BEFORE SCHEDULED EXECUTION

JERUSALEM, April 22 (JTA)--Moshe Barazani and Meir Feinstein, the two Jewish youths who were to be hanged early this morning, committed suicide in their cells in the Acre prison shortly before the execution, it was officially announced late after midnight.

Tuesday, April 22, 1947

TA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

TWO MORE JEWS REPORTED SEATED TO BE HANGED IF CLEMENCY PLEA FAILS

JERUSALEM, April 21. (JTA) -- Moshe Barazani and Mair Feinstein were to be hanged in the early hours of Tuesday morning, it was reported here shortly after midnight tonight. Another report said that the two had signed appeals for clemency. (An unconfirmed rumor said that they had committed suicide in their cells.)

Barazani, who is 21, was found with a hand grenade in his possession in the martial law area of Jerusalem last month. Feinstein, who the authorities say is 23, but whose parents claim he is only 17, was convicted of having participated in an attack on the Jerusalem central rail station last October.

Reports are circulating that British troops have received instructions that in case of large-scale reprisals by the Jewish underground following the executions, they are not to await instructions, but are to take steps to restore order at their own initiative. If such an order has been issued, widespread bloodshed can be expected.

It was learned tonight that a special session of the Assefath Hanivcharim, the Jewish National Assembly, will be held on May 7 or 8 to consider the tense situation in the country. (See earlier story on Page 2.)

U.N. GETS EGYPTIAN BID FOR ACTION BY SPECIAL SESSION TO TERMINATE PALESTINE MANDATE

LAKE SUCCESS, April 21. (JTA) -- The U.N. Secretariat today received a formal request from the Egyptian Government asking that the agenda of the special U.N. General Assembly on Palestine be extended to include an additional item demanding the termination of the Palestine Mandate and the proclamation of Palestine as an independent state.

Officials of the United Nations told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that all member nations of the U.N. will be notified by cable of the request of the Egyptian Government which will become a part of the agenda only if it is approved by two-thirds of the fifty-five member governments. In the meantime, the requested item will be put on the provisional agenda.

The Egyptian move is aimed at securing a full-dress debate on the Palestine issue. The United States and Britain are known to oppose such action. The communication of the Egyptian Government was delivered to U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie by the Egyptian Ambassador to the United States, who emphasized that the request was made "in conformity of Article 18 of the provisional rules of procedure of the General Assembly."

Article 18 of the General Assembly's provisional rules of procedure reads: "Any member of the United Nations may, at least four days before the date fixed for the opening of a special session, request the inclusion of additional items in the agenda. Such items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be communicated to members of the United Nations as soon as possible."

NEW ATTACKS IN JERUSALEM BRING REIMPOSITION OF CURFEW; MILITARY VEHICLES BOMBED

JERUSALEM, April 21. (JTA) -- Jerusalem was under curfew again tonight, after having been curfewless for three and one-half days. The new restrictions went into effect at 10 p.m. tonight "until further notice," following an attack earlier in the day on two military jeeps and other army vehicles.

The official version of the attack on the jeeps says that bombs were flung at them by persons who hid behind walls bordering the street. Simultaneously, other attackers opened up with automatic fire. The occupants of the jeeps left the vehicles and sought cover. There were no military casualties, but one of the attackers is believed to have been wounded. Three persons were detained for questioning. According to an unofficial source, the wounded man was an innocent passer-by who was shot when the frightened soldiers fired at random.

Police hunting for the persons responsible for the attack turned up a secret printing plant in the Buhara quarter of the city. The plant had been used to print forged identity cards which enabled extremists to penetrate the fortified British security zones. A small quantity of arms was found in adjoining buildings. Four suspects were arrested.

Other incidents which occurred today included the wounding of the driver of a military truck north of Hadera and the blasting of another truck by a landmine on the Ramleh-Aqir road, 30 miles from Jerusalem. During the night a huge truck containing landmines was abandoned near Petach Tikvah when its occupants were challenged by a military patrol.

Earlier, ten soldiers were wounded in a series of attacks which centered around the Nathanya-Tel Aviv area. A motion picture theatre at a British leave camp was bombed, wounding six, and four others were injured when the truck in which they were being rushed to the scene of the blast hit a landmine. There were several other minor incidents, including an attack on a military camp near Rehovoth.

The authorities revealed today that the two prisoners transferred from the Jerusalem prison to Acre, presumably in preparation for their execution were a Jew and an Arab charged with killing their respective brothers-in-law. It had been thought that the prisoners might be Moshe Barazani and Meir Feinstein, whose death sentences were confirmed last week.

It is learned that representatives of the underground groups met with the Bulgarian parliamentary mission which is touring Palestine and submitted a memorandum outlining their position. The mission was asked to convey the report to Bulgarian Premier Georgi Dimitrov.

CYPRUS HUNGER STRIKE CONTINUES; INTERNEES BAR BRITISH FROM CAMPS, ASK FULL QUOTA

JERUSALEM, April 21. (JTA) -- The hunger strike called by the occupants of the Cyprus camps, including 500 children, was continuing today. A government communique said "the situation is quiet. The hunger strike continues." Correspondents who asked permission to enter the camps were told "not today."

Goldie Meirson, chief of the political department of the Jerusalem section of the Jewish Agency, announced that she has received a cable from an emergency committee representing the refugees in which they declare that the "situation in the camps is explosive" and that "there is no contact with the British who are not allowed to enter the camp." The internees are demanding the full April immigration quota and punishment of the troops who fired on a peaceful demonstration Friday, killing one man and wounding several others.

PALESTINE EXECUTIONS ASCAILED AT THREE MEETINGS IN N.Y.; ASK BOYCOTT OF BRITISH GOODS

NEW YORK, April 21. (JTA) -- The execution last week of Dov Gruner and three other Igunists was condemned tonight at several meetings here.

Mrs. Helen Friedman, Gruner's sister, addressing a meeting in Manhattan Center called by the United Zionist-Revisionists, reported that she had been barred from seeing high British officials to appeal for mercy for her brother. The meeting also heard Meir Grossman, president of the United Zionist-Revisionists, Dr. Joseph Schechter, chairman of the World Council of the Revisionists and several others. Mr. Schechter called for a world-wide boycott of British goods, declaring that while he was in Palestine last month the boycott had been endorsed by Irgun leader Menahem Beigin.

Senators Homer Capehart, Republican of Indiana, and J. Howard McGrath, Democrat of Rhode Island, were the principal speakers at a meeting in the City Center arranged by the Political Action Committee for Palestine. Sen. Capehart said the rights of the Jewish people must not be sacrificed for the sake of good Anglo-American relations. Sen. McGrath declared that "you cannot suppress a people's thirst for freedom with the blood of martyrs." Other speakers included Rabbi Baruch Korff and Joseph Clark Baldwin. Messages of support were received from several Congressmen.

At a dinner meeting called by the American League for a Free Palestine, in honor of 20 crew members of the blockade runner Ben Hecht, the League announced the launching of a nation-wide \$7,500,000 drive to aid the underground in Palestine, to "repatriate" European Jews to the Holy Land and to finance the projected Hebrew Government-in-Exile, which the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation is attempting to organize. One million dollars will be sought by July 4, to be allocated to the resistance movement.

5,000 JEWS, ITALIANS PROTEST PALESTINE EXECUTIONS; CHIEF RABBI LEADS MEMORIAL SERVICES

ROME, April 21. (JTA) -- Five thousand Jews and Italians held a public demonstration in Bari to condemn the hanging of Dov Gruner and three other Palestine Jews. An effigy of Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin was burned.

In all refugee camps a deep feeling of resentment is noticeable. Memorial services were held in synagogues throughout the country, and here Chief Rabbi David Prato led the prayer for the dead.

JEWISH VETERANS HOLD MEMORIAL MEETING FOR DOV GRUNER IN LONDON'S HYDE PARK

LONDON, April 21. (JTA) -- A large crowd attended an open air meeting in Hyde Park in memory of Dov Gruner and the three other Jews executed in Palestine, which was held yesterday by the Jewish Legion, a British veteran's organization.

Members of the audience bowed their heads in a silent tribute to the four Jews. Later, speakers denounced Britain's policy in Palestine. There was no heckling throughout the meeting, which is almost without precedent in Hyde Park.

CAIRO JEWISH COMMUNITY CONCERNED AT NATIONALIST CHARGE OF ANTI-ARAB ACTIVITIES

CAIRO, April 21. (JTA) -- Deep concern prevails in the Jewish Community Council here and in the community in general as a result of a charge by Egyptian nationalists that Salvator Ciurel, president of the Council, is head of a "secret propaganda" circle in Egypt. The charge, published in a Wafdist newspaper, alleges that Ciurel and his brother Clement, well known business men in Cairo, are behind "large-scale Zionist and anti-Arab activities."

NEW LAW TO RESTORE CITIZENSHIP TO ALL 1920 RESIDENTS OF RUMANIAN TERRITORY

BUCHAREST, April 21..(JTA) -- Residents of territory which was Rumanian in 1920 will receive full citizenship rights under a new law which is scheduled to be adopted by Parliament shortly, the Rumanian press revealed today. Under this provision all Jewish repatriates and those rendered stateless by racial legislation will automatically regain their citizenship status.

Dr. Konrad Bethy of Oradea Mare was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and fined for making anti-Semitic remarks, it was learned here. This is the first time that anybody has been punished for violating the 1945 Statute of Nationalities which forbids anti-racial incitement.

10,000 JEWS MARCH IN WARSAW COMMEMORATION OF JEWS WHO DIED DURING GHETTO UPRISING

WARSAW, April 21. (JTA) -- Five thousand Jews yesterday marched through the streets of Warsaw in solemn commemoration of the Jewish martyrs who died in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising of 1943.

Youths in the uniforms of various Jewish organizations, Jewish soldiers and former partisans in the Polish and Soviet forces and children from Jewish orphanages marched behind hundreds of massed Polish and Jewish flags to the site of the razed ghetto. They also carried many banners and wreaths. A delegation of Zionists carried boxes of soil and ashes from the mass graves at Oswiecim, Majdanek and Treblinka.

While a band played funeral music, various delegations laid wreaths at a monument in the ghetto which was erected in memory of the Jewish dead. A special detachment of the Polish Army participated in the ceremony which was witnessed by some 10,000 persons. Speakers, who included Mark Edelman, Stefan Grajek and Hersch Smollar, leaders of the uprising, pointed out that "the first German blood to be shed in Europe" during World War II "was on this spot four years ago when Jewish fighters took up arms against the Nazis."

The names of two of the main streets of the ghetto were changed to honor the embattled Jews. Nalewski Street was renamed the Street of the Ghetto Heroes, while Genesha Street was changed to Mordechai Anielewicz Street, in honor of the leader of the committee which planned and executed the revolt. Special posts were erected to support the new street signs, because there is still no building or street posts in the area.

Several days ago unidentified fascists poured ink on the commemorative headstone, but this was washed off before the ceremony. Otherwise, the ceremony went off quietly and apparently made a deep impression on the citizens of the city who lined the streets through which the Jews marched.

FIVE MASS GRAVES IN AUSTRIA WITH 500 BODIES OF JEWS DISCOVERED ON ROUTE TO MAUTHAUSEN

VIENNA, April 21. (JTA) -- Five new mass graves containing the bodies of some 500 Jews have been discovered in the American zone of Austria, it was reported here today.

Three hundred corpses were found in a single grave at Weisskirchen near Wels. They were Hungarian Jews who had been shot by guards while en route to Western Austria. Bodies were found on the road from Budapest to the Mauthausen death camp. The search for the bodies was undertaken by the Austrian Committee of Former Concentration Camp Prisoners at Linz.

AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS ASK CONGRESS TO STRENGTHEN IMMIGRATION AND DEPORTATION LAWS

WASHINGTON, April 21. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that the American Legion is opposed to any relaxation of the existing immigration laws, Col. Thomas Taylor, the Legion's legislative director, today told the House Sub-Committee on Immigration that there were thousands of "so-called refugees" in Europe "conniving and waiting and scheming to get into this country."

"Instead of finding some way to get them in, can't we find out some American way to get such people out of here," he said, urging Congress "to strengthen the immigration and deportation laws." He spoke at a hearing on the Fellows Bill to permit the Attorney General to suspend deportation of aliens "of good moral character" who had lived in the United States for five years or more. James O'Neill, another officer of the American Legion, also testified in opposition to the bill.

John K. Scott, assistant legislative director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said his group considered the bill "repugnant to our national immigration policy because it represents a marked whittling down of our immigration structure."

CONFERENCE OF JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS ASKS ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO U.S., PALESTINE

NEW ORLEANS, April 21. (JTA) -- Action on major issues in Jewish life was taken by 200 community leaders from ten states attending the 12th annual conference of the Southeastern Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds which took place during the week-end here. The conference sessions considered the role of American Jewry in meeting local, national and world obligations; progressive trends in American Jewish community organization with broader scope and greater participation; and varied campaign techniques required to raise the record sums in their record breaking spring drives.

Concerning the surviving Jews of Europe, the conference adopted resolutions urging the United States to admit the maximum number of European refugees to this country by using the unfilled quotas of past years and appealing to the humanitarian and peace loving nations of the world "to act through all available channels, including the United Nations Assembly," so that the largest possible number of Jewish refugees be admitted immediately to Palestine.

The Conference called attention to the fundamental role of strong local community organization in carrying out responsibilities of American Jewry, and the important part played by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds for the cooperation of communities with the request that this program be continued vigorously.

The delegates expressed gratification with the progress toward community participation in the program and policies of the United Jewish Appeal and requested the Council's administration to continue their efforts to extend this partnership between the Welfare Funds and the UJA through greater community participation in the UJA's administration. The Conference called upon the Council to work out coordination and combination of fund raising and program of agencies operating in the same or related fields.

During the business sessions the delegates reelected Isaac S. Holler of New Orleans, president and as delegate representing the Jewish communities of this region on the reorganized governing body of the national United Jewish Appeal. Marr J. Barod of Memphis and James L. Perlmutt of Birmingham were elected vice presidents. An executive committee representing all 36 member communities in the region was also elected. Speakers included Prof. William Haber of the University of Michigan; Stanley C. Weiss of Miami, national president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds; Philip Bernstein of New York, associate director of the CJFWE. Donald Oberdorfer of Atlanta and Myron J. Rothschild of Montgomery, past presidents of the South-eastern region, also spoke.