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GENERAL ASSEMBLY VOTES TO GRANT JEWISH AGENCY HEARING BEFORE U.N. POLITICAL COMMITTEE

FLUSHING MEADOWS, May 5. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today won its first victory at the United Nations special session on Palestine, when the General Assembly voted 45 to 7 for a resolution instructing the Political Committee to grant a hearing to the Jewish Agency.

The resolution also authorized the committee to grant hearings, if it so desired, to other groups representing the population of Palestine, such as the Arab Higher Committee, which today applied for a hearing. The only delegations voting against the resolution were the five Arab states, Turkey and Afghanistan. India, Iran and Siam abstained.

The resolution was presented jointly by the delegations of Chile, Argentina, Belorussia, Yugoslavia and Uruguay. Earlier in the day, each of these delegations had submitted separate resolutions. However, during the luncheon recess the five conferred at the suggestion of Assembly President Dr. Aranha and agreed to merge their resolutions into one, which reads as follows:

The General Assembly resolves: 1. That the First (political) Committee grant a hearing to the Jewish Agency for Palestine on the question before the committee; 2. To send to that same committee for its decision those other communications of a similar character from the Palestinian population which have been received by this special session of the General Assembly or may later on be submitted to it."

The Polish-Czech resolution calling for admission of the Jewish Agency to the General Assembly to express its views was voted down 39 to 8. Only Poland, Byelorussia, Czechoslovakia, the Ukraine, the U.S.S.R., South Africa and Chile voted for it.

Leaders of the Jewish Agency expressed gratification that they will finally have an opportunity to state their case before all 55 member states of the United Nations, which comprise the Political Committee. They conferred with Lester Pearson, Canadian chairman of that committee, who assured them that he would give them a fair hearing, even though he feels that discussions at the committee should be restricted to the procedure of constituting and instructing a U.N. fact-finding committee to prepare for consideration of the Palestine question at the regular session of the Assembly in September.

Agency Leaders Conferring on Form of Presentation of Zionist Plea

Within their own ranks, the Jewish Agency leaders were today discussing the nature of the presentation which they should make when the Political Committee convenes tomorrow at Lake Success. Some members of the Agency executive are inclined to restrict the presentation to the demand that the British Government be urged by the United Nations to carry out the provisions of the Palestine Mandate by revoking

the White Paper and opening the gates of Palestine to Jewish immigration until a final decision on the status of the country is reached.

Other members insisted that in the light of the demand for the independence of Palestine voiced by the delegations of the five Arab states at this session, the Agency must also request the establishment of a Jewish state.

A final decision will probably be taken when David Ben Gurion, who is expected here shortly from Palestine, arrives. As chairman of the Agency executive, he will be one of the principal members of the Agency delegation at the Political Committee.

The nature of the Agency presentation will be discussed tonight at a joint session of members of the American section of the executive and leaders of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Conference, World Jewish Congress and Agudas Israel.

Non-Zionist May Be Included in Agency Delegation; Proskauer Suggested

The question of whether the non-Zionist groups which are supporting the Agency, such as the American Jewish Committee and the Agudah, should be included in the Agency delegation as representing the non-Zionists is also expected to be discussed tonight. Some of the officials of the Agency expressed the belief that the appearance of Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, in behalf of the non-Zionists would tend to dispel the argument advanced by the American delegation that the Jewish Agency does not represent all the Jews.

A six-man delegation of the Palestine Arab Executive, which is headed by the ex-Mufti, today filed with the U.N. a formal request for a hearing. The request was based on the argument that the delegates of the member states of the Arab League, who spoke at length last week, do not represent the Arabs of Palestine who wish to voice their views themselves before the present session. Their petition will be dealt with by the Political Committee, which will probably decide to admit them, since the Assembly has instructed the same committee to admit the Jewish Agency.

Zionists Oppose Request of Palestine Arab Higher Committee for Hearing

The attitude of the Agency on admission of the Palestine Arabs is that they as well as the Jews of Palestine will be enabled to testify locally before the U.N. inquiry committee when it comes to the Holy Land, while the Agency--in contrast to the Palestine Arab executive--is not a local body of Palestine Jewry, but is an internationally recognized representative of the Jewish people on matters concerning Palestine.

According to information available here, most of the six members of the Palestine Arab delegation aided the Mufti in his pro-Axis activities during the war, carrying on anti-Allied activities in Iraq, Iran and other countries. The information, it was pointed out, comes from the files of the British intelligence service.

With the exception of the delegate of Syria, all speakers at today's plenary session advocated the admission of Jewish representatives to the Political Committee. Five resolutions to that effect were submitted by Byelorussia, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile and Yugoslavia. Each delegate urged the Assembly to instruct the Political Committee to hear the Jewish Agency and to defeat the original American resolution

accepted by the steering committee, which recommended that the Political Committee be empowered to decide whether to give a hearing to the Agency and to representatives of the Palestine Arabs.

The Byelorussian and Uruguayan resolutions were identical in stipulating that the Agency alone be heard. This implied that they did not support a hearing for the Palestine Arabs since their case had already been presented by delegates from the Arab countries.

The resolutions offered by Argentina and Chile recommended that the Political Committee admit the Agency, but decide on the admission of other groups which applied for a hearing. The Yugoslav resolution urged the Political Committee to hear the Agency as well as "other representatives of the Palestine population," meaning the Palestine Arab delegation.

The joint five-nation resolution was formally presented on behalf of the five countries by Dr. Alberto Gonzales Fernandez of Colombia who said that his delegation would support it. He appealed for unanimous approval of the resolution. Further support came from Dr. Guillermo Belt of Cuba who contended that all members of the Assembly were agreed on the fact that the Jews as well as the Arabs should be heard and the differences which remained concerned the procedural form such a hearing should take.

Dr. Umberto Palza of Bolivia also appealed for the resolution. The Syrian delegation opposed it, on the ground that it discriminated between the Jewish and Arab populations of Palestine in favor of the former. Approval of the resolution would, in fact, be a form of prejudgment of the case, he added.

U.S. Reverses Stand; Czech Says Jews' Suffering Earned Them A Hearing

The American delegation indicated early in the morning session that it would defend its own resolution. However, later a spokesman for the U.S. said that the delegation, although preferring its own resolution, would not oppose a compromise proposal.

Dr. Jan Papanek of Czechoslovakia, in supporting the Polish-Czech resolution, declared that the Jews have suffered more than any other race from Nazi activities and that the Assembly refuses to grant them a hearing, when "perhaps their future existence is being decided," it might "snuff out the light" of Jewish hope and aspiration "before it has achieved a steady glow."

BEN GURION DELAYS DEPARTURE FOR U.S.; AGENCY WANTS ACTIONS COMMITTEE TO MEET IN PARIS

JERUSALEM, May 5. (JTA) -- David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, who was scheduled to leave this morning for New York, postponed his departure pending a decision at Flushing Meadows as to whether Jews would be heard by the U.N. Political Committee.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the executive has cabled to members of the American Section of the Agency suggesting that the meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee, which was slated to be held in New York towards the end of this month, be convened instead in Paris.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi, broadcasting over its underground radio last night, said that the chief point at issue at the U.N. is not the formal question of what body is to hear the Jews, but what the Jews will say and what force they will marshal to back their demands. The broadcast warned that "we will be heard by actions as well as by political documents." It lauded the stand taken by Russia, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

U.S. POLICY AT U.N. "BEWILDERS" JEWISH AGENCY, SILVER SAYS; CITES POLISH, SOVIET AID

WASHINGTON, May 5. (JTA) — Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, told a press luncheon here today that the Jewish Agency was "bewildered at the spectacle of the U.S. spokesmen arguing why the Agency should not be present at United Nations discussions concerning the establishment of the Jewish National Home."

"We had assumed," he said, "on the basis of public pronouncements of our government, statements made by the Chief Executive and resolutions passed by Congress as recently as 15 months ago," and upon the basis of public opinion polls showing the American public to be friendly to the idea of establishing the Jewish national home "that our government would have taken the leadership in this matter as she has done in other international matters." Instead of the United States, Silver said, "our spokesmen seem to be Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Chile."

Dr. Silver asked that the refugee problem in Europe and the question of the establishment of the Jewish national home not be confused. It would be wonderful, he said, if the United States would open its doors to Jewish and other immigration, but he criticized those who "drag a red herring across the trail" by demanding to know why Britain should allow free Jewish immigration into Palestine when the United States does not allow Jewish immigration to this country. The United States, he pointed out, "has never been the Jewish national home" while Britain was committed under the Palestine Mandate to keeping the doors of Palestine open to free Jewish immigration.

Commenting on the Truman Doctrine, Silver said that it would be "a great mistake to conclude that the need for stopping Communist penetration into the Middle East...has to be accomplished by the sacrifice of the Jewish national home." It would be a fallacy, he said, to appease the Arabs in the hopes that they would become a bulwark against Russian influence in the Middle East because "the Arab rulers fear Communism and Russia far more than they fear the Jewish national home."

U.S. IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER SAYS MOST DP'S IN EUROPE DO NOT WISH TO COME TO AMERICA

WASHINGTON, May 5. (JTA) — United States Immigration and Naturalization Commissioner Ugo Carusi has told a House committee that he learned on a trip to Europe last year that most displaced persons in the American zone of Germany have no desire to come to the United States.

Carusi's testimony was contained in a report released today by the Sub-Committee on Appropriations which considered the Justice Department Appropriation Bill.

Some displaced persons, Carusi told the Committee, do not want to go to another strange land where they know no one and cannot speak the language, others have heard there is racial bias and hatred here, and some regard this as "a country of crime."

He also recommended that Ellis Island be closed and its activities transferred to the Immigration Service office building in New York City in order to save the government \$300,000 a year.

Expect 3,000 DP's to Enter Canada Soon Under New Immigration Policy

MONTREAL, May 5. (JTA) — Two to three thousand displaced persons who have relatives in Canada are expected to be permitted to immigrate here within a short time under the recently liberalized immigration policy announced by the government, it was estimated today.

SLEEPING MAN-HUNT ON IN PALESTINE FOLLOWING JAIL BREAK BY 231; 15 JEWS KILLED

JERUSALEM, May 5. (JTA) -- The most extensive manhunt in the history of modern Palestine was under way early today following yesterday's Irgun-engineered mass jail break from Acre prison during which 15 Jews were killed and 216 persons escaped.

British troops--mainly paratroopers and Arab Legionnaires--poured into the Galilee area from the south while other reinforcements came in from the northern border and the north coastal area to cordon off a number of Jewish settlements and to search the Galilee hills for the escaped prisoners.

The dead Jews included four escaped prisoners, two attackers, and five Jews ~~whom~~ the military authorities maintain were involved in the attack, but who were described by Jewish sources as being innocent members of a nearby settlement who were shot down by British paratroopers. Ten wounded attackers and 16 uninjured raiders were captured.

Jewish Agency Deplores Raid As "Irresponsible And Suicidal"

A spokesman for the Jewish Agency released a strongly worded statement terming the action "irresponsible and suicidal." The statement pointed out that an excessive number of Jews were killed and the only purpose the raid served was to release nearly 200 Arab prisoners, "many of whom were guilty of shedding Jewish blood." The spokesman said that he hoped the government would not retaliate against the entire Jewish community for the actions of a "group of desperadoes."

Acre was under curfew and completely cordoned off last night a number of hours after the jail break and the Jewish community of Safad was surrounded while troops under orders to "take no chances" were screening every Jewish man and boy. Upper and Lower Galilee were cut off from the rest of Palestine and all communication facilities were in the hands of the military. Planes circled overhead, seeking to spot the escapees.

Among the Jewish communities being searched were the settlements of Naharia, Shavei Zion, Kfar Masaryk, Mishmar Hayam, and Ein Hamifratz. Jewish observers point out that the last two colonies were established by Jews of left-wing sentiments who are not apt to have taken any part in the Irgun's bloody raid.

Rumored Arab Underground Cooperated with Irgun in Planning Jail Break

The success of the attack has given rise to a number of theories about the possibility of cooperation between the Irgunists and Arab underground groups. Observers point out that the city's population made no attempt to hamper the attackers as they took over strategic areas and buildings near the prison. In addition, it was noted that both Jewish and Arab escapees were loaded into the same trucks and driven away by the Irgunists. The Arab press attempts to deny this theory by citing the fact that several Arabs informed the police of the Irgun invasion.

Three of the prisoners who died during their break for freedom were former members of the underground. Itzhak Ashbel was recently sentenced to death, but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, for participating in an attack on the Sarafand army base. Chayim Brenner, reputed to have been the Jerusalem commander of the Irgun, had been imprisoned in an Eritrean camp for a number of years and was recently returned to Palestine and given a life sentence. Shimon Amrani was serving

ten-year sentence for his part in an attack on the C.I.D. building in Jerusalem. The fourth dead prisoner was Shimon Woliner.

Although the authorities are extremely chary of releasing the statistics on the number of prisoners who have been recaptured, it is believed that they do not exceed 15 or 20. It is also reported that a number of Arab escapees have surrendered.

Raiders Travelled in Camouflaged Military Convoy; Used Field Telephones

A number of witnesses assert that the size of the attacking force was in itself a major reason for the complete surprise with which the raiders were able to carry out their operation. The Arab witnesses recounted that they had seen a long line of military vehicles led by two jeeps and followed by a number of British army trucks in which were what appeared to be British soldiers. In the rear came several ambulances also with military markings.

Although the number of attackers is a matter of conjecture--some estimates place the number as high as 100--it was reported that they operated in three platoons. They apparently had their own field telephones and other means of communication and operated out of a smoothly established "field headquarters."

The first escapees were a large number of Arab and Jewish prisoners who were playing soccer in the jail courtyard. The prisoners apparently made for the Galilee Hills. A bridge was blown up at one of the entrances to Acre to keep reinforcements out and a number of minor explosions were set off in the town during the raid.

Before British reinforcements entered they had to clear a large number of mines off the roads and at least one military vehicle was blown up. The attackers lost a jeep and a truck. In one of the jeeps were two dead men, one dressed in the uniform of the Royal Engineers similar to which the leader of the attacking jeep party is said to have worn.

The curfew was lifted today in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem. The curfew had been in effect from March when the district was placed under martial law. Although military control was lifted, the curfew survived.

Egypt Widens Hunt for Terrorists at Bidding of Palestine Govt.

CAIRO, May 5. (JTA) -- The hunt for alleged Jewish terrorists in Egypt has been intensified following a report to the Cairo police chief from Palestine security officials that 18 "dangerous terrorists" were hiding in the Egyptian capital. Photographs and descriptions of the wanted men were furnished by the Palestine authorities, but as yet none have been apprehended.

BRITAIN PROTESTED TO EGYPT ON EX-MUFTI'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, MINISTER REVEALS

LONDON, May 5. (JTA) -- The British Government has made frequent representations to Egypt protesting the continued political activities of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Hector McNeil, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, today announced in Commons. However, he refused to make any commitment that the government would bar the former Mufti from Palestine under all circumstances.

He also refused to divulge the government's plans to head off visaless Jewish migration from Europe, asserting that to release such information would lessen the effectiveness of the action. An M.P. asked why the government bothered requesting cooperation from such nations as Italy, while it took few steps to prevent UNRRA officials from encouraging immigration to Palestine. McNeil refused to accept the questioner's assumption concerning UNRRA personnel and replied with a statement that the government was maintaining close contact with the Italian Government.

POLEISH JEWS IN LOWER SILESIA APPEAL TO DISPLACED JEWS IN AUSTRIAN CAMPS TO RETURN HOME

VIENNA, May 5. (JTA) -- A public appeal to the displaced Polish Jews in the British and American zones of Austria to return to Poland has been made by the Jewish Committee of Wroclaw, in Lower Silesia.

The appeal points out to the Jews that it is not necessary for them to remain in "shameful" camps and asserts that many of the refugees would not have left Poland had not "reactionary elements" created a panic to make "political capital out of their misfortune." The Wroclaw committee also urged the closing of all DP camps.

Reviewing the situation which returning Jews will find in Poland, the appeal says that there are some 400 Jewish institutions in Lower Silesia, including 23 Jewish schools and 40 orphanages. It also says that the Jews will have an opportunity to rebuild their national, cultural and economic life in Poland and promises that there will be sufficient communal assistance to permit repatriates to readjust themselves.

A Ukrainian who posed as a victim of Nazi persecution has been arrested in Linz following a complaint by 25 Jewish residents of a DP camp there, who recognized him as a commander of a pro-Nazi Ukrainian militia unit which massacred Jews in the Polish town of Mosty Wielkie, near Lwow. The Ukrainian, a Dr. Wassil Stronicki, became the burgomaster of Mosty Wielkie after it was overrun by the Germans. He organized a militia unit and supervised the burning alive of several hundred Jews in the local synagogue.

Stronicki subsequently came into disfavor when he accused the German military commander of the town of being too lenient to Jews, and was sent to a concentration camp, from which he was freed by the U.S. Army. At the time of his arrest last week he was a member of the Ukrainian DP Committee in Linz.

VICE-PREMIER OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA SAYS ANTI-SEMITISM IS NO LONGER A PROBLEM IN COUNTRY

LONDON, May 5. (JTA) -- While admitting that there are still some evidences of anti-Jewish sentiments in Czechoslovakia, Vice-Premier Zdenek Fierlinger today told a press conference that anti-Semitism is no longer a serious problem in the country.

He said that some of the anti-Jewish sentiment was due to resentment on the part of the Czechs against anyone who speaks German. Some of the Czechs who were forced to return property stolen from Jews are also resentful, he declared. Referring to the few incidents during which workers struck against Jewish factory owners, Fierlinger said the workers struck against the proprietors as employers, not as Jews.

Reviewing the situation in Slovakia where there have been more anti-Jewish incidents than in Bohemia and Moravia, the Vice-Premier said that followers of the late Josef Tiso were attempting to spread anti-Semitism but were not succeeding. He predicted the early disappearance of all aspects of anti-Semitism in the province.

Czech Workers Bar Return of Factory to Jewish Owner

PRAGUE, May 5. (JTA) -- Restitution to the Jewish-owned firm of Graetzer, Moric and Sons of a factory in the town of Mohelnice taken from them by the Nazis was forcibly resisted by the factory's employees, it was reported here today. The Graetzer family emigrated to Palestine during the Nazi occupation and several members served in the Czech Army with distinction. The Moravian National Committee ordered the factory returned, but the employees, encouraged by the government-appointed factory administration, refused to allow the owners to take possession.

ARGENTINA ISSUING VERY FEW VISAS TO JEWS, DESPITE OFFICIAL DENIAL OF ORDER TO CONSULS

Buenos Aires, May 5. (JTA) -- Although the head of the visa section of the Foreign Ministry has vigorously denied that Argentine consuls abroad have been instructed not to issue visas to Jews, evidence available here would seem to indicate that although there is no hard and fast rule, the consuls have been advised not to grant visas to Jews, except in cases meriting special consideration.

Those chiefly affected by the government's move are immigrants from Europe who need transit visas for Argentina in order to reach Chile, Paraguay and Bolivia, and Jews from other South American countries who wish to reach Uruguay. The recent cancellation of the scheduled HIAS South American conference, which was slated to be held in Montevideo, is an example of the effect of the ruling.

SUB-COMMITTEE BEGINS DELIBERATIONS ON IVES BILL FOR PERMANENT FEDERAL F.E.P.C.

Washington, May 5. (JTA) -- A five-man sub-committee of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee has been appointed to consider the Ives Bill to outlaw discrimination in employment. At the first meeting of the sub-committee this morning, June 11 was chosen as a tentative date for the first open hearing on the measure.

Members of the sub-committee include Senators Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri, chairman, H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey and Irving M. Ives of New York, all Republicans, and Democratic Senators James E. Murray of Montana and Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana.

The Ives Bill, calling for the creation of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission, was introduced in the Senate by Ives and seven other senators, both Republicans and Democrats, and in the House by Mrs. Mary T. Norton, Democrat of New Jersey and James G. Fulton, Republican of Pennsylvania.

U.S. DELEGATION CHARGED WITH MISREPRESENTING DESIRES OF AMERICANS IN BARRING JEWS FROM U.N.

Boston, May 5. (JTA) -- Ira A. Hirschmann, former UNRRA and War Refugee Board aide, charged at a dinner meeting of the New England region of the Jewish National Fund last night that the U.S. delegation at the United Nations Assembly is misrepresenting the American people's desire to aid the "lost people of Europe." Mr. Hirschmann declared that it was ironic that the Polish government, which has been accused of not being democratically elected, fights for admission of Jews to the U.N. councils, while America is opposed.

The meeting, which was attended by 1,500 persons, adopted a resolution for wiring to President Truman and the State Department, decrying the British blockade of Palestine and the repression of civil liberties in the Holy Land, and urging the U.S. Government to secure representation for the Jewish Agency at the U.N., and an interim policy which would permit increased Jewish immigration in the period that the U.N. is investigating the entire problem.

J.D.C. HEALTH EXPERT LEAVES TODAY TO ATTEND EUROPE-WIDE MEDICAL PARLEY IN PARIS

New York, May 5. (JTA) -- Dr. J.J. Golub, director of the Hospital for Joint Diseases and chairman of the Committee on Health of the Joint Distribution Committee will sail for Europe tomorrow on the Mauretania to attend a special conference of J.D.C. medical chiefs in Paris, it was announced today. Following the conference Dr. Golub, who will be accompanied by Robert Pilpel, secretary of the health committee, will inspect J.D.C. medical facilities and public health programs in the displaced persons' camps of Germany and Austria as well as in Italy, Czechoslovakia, Poland and France.