

Wednesday, May 7, 1947

# JTA

## LAST MINUTE NEWS

### Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY  
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#### U.S. MOVE TO BAR JEWS AND ARABS FROM DISCUSSING "SUBSTANCE" OF ISSUE BEATEN AT U.N.

LAKE SUCCESS, May 6. (JTA) -- An attempt by the American delegation to bar Jews and Arabs from discussing the "substance" of the Palestine question before the Political Committee was defeated tonight when a U.S. resolution, as amended by France, was defeated 23 to 19. The Soviet bloc, a large section of the Latin-American delegations, China and India voted against the resolution.

After conclusion of the committee session, the U.S. delegation distributed the text of a resolution on the composition and terms of reference of the fact-finding body which it will submit to the committee.

The members of the probe group suggested by the U.S. are: Canada, Czechoslovakia, Iran, Netherlands, Peru, Sweden and Uruguay.

The terms of reference of the committee, under the U.S. resolution, would be as follows:

"To assemble, analyze and collate all pertinent data on the Palestine question; to receive testimony from interested governments, from such non-government organizations and individuals as the committee, in its discretion, may deem appropriate; to study the various issues which are involved and submit to the next regular session of the General Assembly such proposals for the solution of the problem of Palestine as it may determine to be useful for effective consideration of the problem by the General Assembly.

"To authorize the committee, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to assuring adequate administrative services, to sit wherever it may consider necessary or desirable for fulfillment of its functions." The resolution also asks the Mandatory and other governments to give the committee any information it requires.

#### Argentina Wants 11-Man Inquiry Committee Including Big Five

The Argentine delegation also made public the text of its recommendations on the fact-finding committee. It wants an 11-man committee consisting of the Big Five, one of the Arab states, three states from the American continent other than the U.S., one from among Australia, New Zealand or the Philippine Republic, and one from the states on the African continent -- if Egypt is not chosen by lot to represent the Arab states -- or one from the continent of Asia, if Egypt is the Arab representative.

The terms of reference recommended by the Argentine delegation were as follows: "The investigating committee shall have the widest powers both to record facts and to make recommendations. It shall hear the United Kingdom as the Mandatory Power and also one representative of the Arabs resident in Palestine, one representative of the Jews resident in Palestine and one representative of the Jewish Agency. The investigating committee shall conclude its work no later than September 1."

(See earlier story on following pages)

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JEWISH AGENCY WILL PROBABLY NOT BE HEARD BY U.N. POLITICAL COMMITTEE BEFORE TOMORROW

LAKE SUCCESS, May 6. (JTA) -- Jewish Agency leaders predicted tonight that their delegation will probably not appear before the U.N. Political Committee before Thursday, since discussions among executive members here and in Palestine and London on the composition of the Zionist representation are not expected to be completed before late tomorrow.

Dr. Oswaldo Aranha, the President of the Assembly, today cabled the Jewish Agency headquarters in Jerusalem, formally inviting it to send a delegation to the Political Committee to express the views of the Agency on the "constituting and instructing" of the special fact-finding committee which the Assembly will set up.

Palestine Arab Higher Committee Given Equal Status

The Political Committee, after an all-day discussion on how to give equal status to the Agency and the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, adopted a joint United States-Argentine resolution, amended by the delegate from India, recommending that the Political Committee grant hearings "to the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Arab Higher Committee" thus placing both organizations in the same category despite the fact that the Agency is an internationally recognized body under the Palestine Mandate and the Higher Committee is not.

The joint resolution was adopted following the withdrawal by the Palestine Arabs of their request for a hearing before the U.N. in protest against the Assembly's decision last night that the Political Committee invite the Jewish Agency, while the request of the Palestine Arabs be referred to the Committee for decision.

"This is not in keeping with the position and rights of the Arabs of Palestine, nor with the principles of justice and democracy," a communication from the Palestine Arabs said in notifying the U.N. Secretariat of the withdrawal of its request. It added that the Arab delegation wishes "to put it on record before the United Nations that the Arabs have never recognized and will never recognize the Palestine Mandate or any act or body deriving from it," and asked that the Secretariat convey this to the General Assembly. The text of the Arab letter was distributed to the 55 delegations.

Most Delegates Support Hearing for Arab Committee

The general sentiment of practically all the delegates of the 55 nations represented on the Political Committee was that the Arab Committee must be heard, even at the price of giving them the same status as the Agency. However, Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko suggested that the Political Committee be guided by the decision of the Assembly. He urged that the committee invite the Jewish Agency to participate in its deliberations immediately, while all other requests for a hearing be referred either to a sub-committee or be dealt with by the Political Committee as a whole.

Chairman Lester Pearson announced that the official invitation had already been dispatched to the Agency, but suggested that the appearance of the Agency delegation be deferred until the Agency submits a list of its delegates. Meanwhile, he stated,

any non-governmental group, if granted a hearing before the Political Committee, will be placed on equal footing with the Agency. He urged that a telegram be sent to the Palestine Arab delegation regretting the withdrawal of its request and asking the delegation to resubmit it.

The Egyptian delegate argued that last night's Assembly resolution barred any legal equality between the Agency and the Palestine Arab delegation. However, it is believed that the joint U.S.-Argentine resolution placing the two organizations in the same category will be acceptable to the Arab delegation.

#### Soviet Hits U.S. Attempt to Limit Testimony by Jews, Arabs to "Procedure"

An American resolution urging that the Jewish Agency as well as other Palestine organizations "representing a considerable element of the Palestine population" be permitted to offer their views only with regard to the terms of reference of the projected inquiry committee and not on the composition of the committee was strongly opposed by Mr. Gromyko, who also challenged another section of the American resolution which provided that non-governmental bodies appearing before the Political Committee not be permitted to express their views with regard to the substance of the Palestine problem.

The Soviet delegate insisted that the non-governmental delegations be given full freedom to express themselves on all aspects of the Palestine situation including the naming of the members of the inquiry committee, in which the Jewish Agency leaders are particularly interested, since they oppose the naming of Arab members to this committee.

As a result of the four-hour discussion on these points, the American delegation agreed to a resolution -- which was adopted unanimously -- urging that prior to any decision by the Political Committee on the formation of the inquiry commission, the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Arabs are to be heard regarding their views both on "constituting and instructing" this commission.

#### Requests for Hearings by Other Groups Will Go to Sub-Committee

Another resolution adopted by the Political Committee recommended that requests for hearings submitted by all other bodies except the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Arab delegation, be referred to a sub-committee composed of representatives of Colombia, Sweden, Poland, Britain, and Iran for examination and subsequent decision by the full committee.

This resolution was adopted following the withdrawal by the United States and Argentina of a joint proposal that Britain alone as Mandatory Power should inform the Political Committee which of the applicants for a hearing were eligible to appear before the Political Committee as organizations representing "a considerable element of the population of Palestine."

The delegates of Brazil, Norway and the USSR spoke against this proposal and urged that the right to pass on the petitions of Palestine groups for a hearing should not be vested in the hands of the British delegation alone. Earlier, British delegate Sir Alexander Cadogan told the Political Committee that none of the other Jewish organizations which applied for a hearing hold a position comparable to the Jewish Agency. "If we hear the Jewish Agency we will have a fair picture of what Palestine Jewry wants," he said.

The Agudas Israel organization today submitted a request to the U.N. for a hearing by the Political Committee, even though they formally agreed last week that

The Jewish Agency should be the only Jewish body to ask a voice at the U.N.

### Agudah In Plea for Hearing Denies Agency Represents It

In its communication to the U.N., signed by Jacob Rosenheim, world president, the Agudas Israel points out that it "is not and was never represented by the Jewish Agency, because deeply rooted differences of religious conviction separate historic Judaism from the modern purely national conceptions of Zionism." Emphasizing that it represents not only Orthodox religious Jewry in countries outside of Palestine, but also "tens of thousands of Orthodox Jews in Palestine who are not members of the Jewish Agency," the Agudah communication declares that "not to hear Agudas Israel would mean undue discrimination against traditional religious Judaism."

The Political Action Committee for Palestine, a group which supports the Irgun Zvai Leumi, issued a statement under the signature of its chairman, Baruch Korpel, declaring that the appearance of the Jewish Agency before the Political Committee is tacit recognition by the official Zionist organization that the proposed inquiry committee can have some validity. It reiterates its contention that a delegation headed by Menahem Beigin of the Irgun Zvai Leumi should have been seated in the Assembly, and says that the Political Action Committee will not accept an invitation to appear before the Political Committee, if such an invitation is extended to it.

The Political Committee decided to limit the period for submission of requests for hearings by non-governmental groups until Thursday midnight. It elected Henrik De Kaufmann of Denmark as its rapporteur and Luis Padilla Nervo of Mexico as vice-chairman.

### U.S. WILL NOT REVEAL PALESTINE POLICY UNTIL U.N. INQUIRY BODY REPORTS, MARSHALL SAYS

WASHINGTON, May 6. (JTA) -- It would be premature at this time for the United States to announce its policy on the Palestine issue, Secretary of State George C. Marshall said in a letter made public here today.

The letter was in answer to questions concerning this government's policy on Palestine and the U.N. posed by 30 Republican Congressmen two weeks ago. Marshall said that development of the U.S. policy at this stage would "limit the full utilization" of the recommendations and report of the fact-finding committee which the special U.N. session will set up.

He also stated that the U.S. Government had agreed to the special session following discussions with British representatives and U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie during which it was decided that the procedure for discussing the Palestine question should be of "unquestionable legality." Replying to a question concerning the U.S. position on a trusteeship for Palestine, Marshall pointed out that no decision could be made until the mandatory requested a change from a mandate to a trusteeship.

The establishment of a United Nations trusteeship for Palestine was advocated here last night by Senator Claude Pepper of Florida, at a meeting sponsored by the American Christian Palestine Committee, which was attended by more than 1,000 persons.

Sen. Pepper declared that the San Francisco organizing conference of the U.N. should have written into the Charter a provision giving the international body control of all mandates. The meeting, which was called to "secure action for Palestine," unanimously adopted a resolution urging the American Government to stand by its pledges in favor of a Jewish national home, and to press Britain to permit large-scale Jewish immigration to Palestine.

AGENCY MEETS IN JERUSALEM TO MAP U.N. STRATEGY; BEN GURION LEAVING TODAY FOR U.S.

JERUSALEM, May 6. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency executive met here for the third successive day for discussions on the United Nations session on Palestine. With appearance of the Agency guaranteed as a result of last night's action by the Assembly, the executive discussed the question of who is to represent the Agency and what demands are to be put forward.

The executive members have been in close telephonic communication with New York, and David Ben Gurion has conferred several times with Moshe Shertok. Ben Gurion is leaving for the United States tomorrow, and from all reports the possibility of Dr. Weizmann appearing at the U.N. to plead the Zionist cause is extremely remote.

According to rumors, however, the veteran Zionist leader would not be adverse to resuming active participation in Zionist political affairs. He has announced that he is beginning a tour of the country and has scheduled a speech for Nahalal, where he traditionally makes important political statements. Although no vote was taken at the current sessions of the executive on the question of Dr. Weizmann, it is clear that the majority are opposed to having him represent the Zionist movement at this stage of the game.

NONE OF 29 JEWS WHO ESCAPED FROM ACRE RECAPTURED; 16 ARAB PRISONERS APPREHENDED

JERUSALEM, May 6. (JTA) -- None of the 29 Jewish prisoners who escaped in Sunday's mass jail break from Acre prison have been captured as of this afternoon, it was officially announced. Thus far 16 of the 122 Arab prisoners who were delivered by the Irgun have been retaken. The manhunt continues to be pressed with great vigor.

Unconfirmed reports from Tel Aviv state that the leader of the Irgun was Sergeant Dov Bernard Cohen, who served with British Commando units in North Africa during the war and was mentioned in battle dispatches. He was reported to have been found dead in a jeep which the extremists abandoned. A report that the government will appoint a committee to inquire into the raid could not be confirmed.

I.R.O. OFFICIAL REPORTS 10,000 JEWISH REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI AWAITING EMIGRATION

LAUSANNE, May 6. (JTA) -- Arthur J. Altmeyer, executive secretary of the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization, today revealed that there were 10,000 Jewish refugees in Shanghai awaiting emigration. (See U.S.N.A. story on page 6.)

The Preparatory Commission has already begun a number of studies of the refugee problem in scattered areas of the world, although it is still greatly concerned with acquiring new signatory nations to the I.R.O. constitution. At least one more nation, providing about one percent of the first year's operating budget of over \$150,000,000, is needed to ratify the constitution before the organization can come into existence.

Meanwhile, representatives of Jewish voluntary relief agencies here are planning for future activities within the I.R.O. when it acquires legal form.

It was reported by the Commission that the Italian Government has adopted a liberal attitude towards the refugees and is expected to follow the principles laid down in the IRO Constitution. However, it was stressed that the problem of Jewish refugees who enter Italy en route to Palestine is a "thorny" one. There are now 22,000 Jewish DP's housed in UNRRA camps there, it was disclosed.

5/7/47

JEWISH PERSECUTEES IN GERMANY FACE LOSS OF PROPERTY UNDER U.S. ARMY ORDER

MUNICH, May 6. (JTA) -- Under a recent order by Gen. Lucius D. Clay, American Commander in Germany, Jewish persecutees are being ousted from apartments and businesses which they received after the liberation, in compensation for property stolen from them by the Nazis.

Gen. Clay's directive provides for the return of property from which Nazis were ousted after the collapse of Germany in cases where denazification courts clear the Germans. The denazification courts, now in the hands of Germans, and frequently accused of "leniency" toward ex-Nazis, have cleared thousands of "small offenders." In addition, German governmental agencies which have been handed the job of aiding persecutees, which the military government formerly handled, are notoriously lax and admittedly shot through with former Nazis and corrupt officials. No effort is made usually to provide substitute property for the persecutees.

One case in which a persecutee received compensation after his business was returned to a "cleared" Nazi was that of 67-year-old Hugo Jacob, who lost a movie theater and will have a new one given him by the military government. Jacob, who with his wife successfully evaded the Nazis throughout the Hitler regime, was notified last week that as a result of a decision of a German court the title of his business would revert to its former owner.

This information, coupled with the loss of his apartment under similar circumstances, caused the Jew to suffer a heart attack. His illness brought Jacob's case to the attention of the military government officials, but thousands of other persecutees will not be as fortunate in gaining a hearing and compensation for the second loss of property to the Nazis.

UNRRA TO CUT WAGES OF DP'S IN ITALY BY 50 PERCENT; ACTING ON ADVICE OF I.R.O.

ROME, May 6. (JTA) -- Acting on the advice of the preliminary administration of the International Refugee Organization which takes over responsibilities for refugees and displaced persons from UNRRA on July 1, UNRRA officials have announced a 50 percent cut in wages paid DP's for work done in Italian camps.

The announcement has given rise to dissatisfaction which may be the forerunner of serious disturbances because the refugees refuse to work without adequate pay. Apparently I.R.O. officials have laid down the principle that refugees will work in return for their food, clothing and shelter.

UNRRA also announced that commencing June 1, it will cease providing aid to DP's living outside the camps. This policy, too, is in accord with the wishes of the I.R.O. administration.

TRIAL OF 94 ROMANIANS CHARGED WITH PARTICIPATING IN JASSY POGROM POSTPONED

BUCHAREST, May 6. (JTA) -- The trial of 94 "small fry" accused of participation in the Jassy massacre of 1941, during which 14,000 Jews died, which was scheduled to open today has been postponed following Jewish protests. The 94 were formally charged with "breach of the peace."

A Jewish delegation, led by Eduard Manolescu, a Jewish deputy, called on Minister of Justice Lucretiu Patrascanu and pointed out that the parliament had classified the pogrom in the category of war crimes. They demanded that all participants be tried together in a special court set up for that purpose. Patrascanu promised to meet the delegation's demands.

CORPORATE AFFIDAVITS EXTENDED TO JEWISH REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI UNDER NEW RULING

NEW YORK, May 6. (JTA) -- Immediate increase in immigration to the United States of Jewish refugees stranded for many years in Shanghai was seen here today with the announcement by Edwin Rosenberg, president of United Service for New Americans, that the Government has authorized his agency to extend its "corporate affidavit" to the Chinese seaport.

The corporate affidavit of USNA has been used in the past year as the basis for granting U.S. visas to thousands of displaced persons in the American-occupied zones in Europe, who lacked American relatives and friends to vouch for them individually. Extension of the affidavit to Shanghai, where there are still 12,500 refugee Jews, was granted in a letter from T.B. Shoemaker, Acting Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, to Joseph E. Beck, executive director of USNA.

As a result of the Government's action, San Francisco, which has already become a "new port of hope" for many survivors of Nazi persecution finding haven in the United States, will now become one of the principal centers of refugee assistance and resettlement activity in the United States, Mr. Rosenberg said. USNA, he revealed, has sent a staff to the west coast, and has a program of reception, temporary shelter and maintenance, and resettlement services under way there in cooperation with the San Francisco Committee for Emigres and the local Section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Migration assistance is provided to the refugees in Shanghai by the Joint Distribution Committee, which arranges for visas and ocean travel. JDC has advanced ocean transportation for many unable to pay for it themselves.

JEWS ARRIVE IN MARSEILLES EN ROUTE TO PALESTINE FROM BRITISH ZONE OF GERMANY

PARIS, May 6. (JTA) -- A group of 260 Jews, the second to leave the British zone of Germany en route to Palestine since the institution of a British policy to include in the Palestine immigration quota displaced Jews from their zone, today arrived in Marseilles.

Part of the group immediately embarked on the S.S. Valona, which sailed late today. The remainder will leave Thursday aboard the S.S. Cominos. The special transport which brought the refugees to Marseilles was organized jointly by the Jewish Agency, HIAS, and the Joint Distribution Committee.

TRAINING BUREAU FOR JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE TO OFFER FIRST COURSE JULY 14

NEW YORK, May 6. (JTA) -- The Training Bureau for Jewish Communal Service will offer its first course on July 14, it was announced here today by George W. Gabinoff, interim executive secretary of the bureau.

The national Jewish agencies which launched the bureau are the Jewish Welfare Board, the council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, the Joint Distribution Committee, the National Community Relations Advisory Committee and the American Association for Jewish Education. Registration for the first course will close May 11.

BARUCH GETS ANNUAL AWARD OF NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

NEW YORK, May 6. (JTA) -- Bernard M. Baruch today received the annual award of the Metropolitan Conference of Temple Brotherhoods. The presentation, which was made by Mayor William O'Dwyer at City Hall, was in recognition of Mr. Baruch's "great and lasting contributions" to the "cause of humanity."

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