

Thursday, May 22, 1947

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

JEWISH AGENCY WILL ASK UNITED NATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH STATE

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency will demand the establishment of an independent Jewish State in Palestine at the United Nations General Assembly in September, it was revealed here today by Goldie Meirson, addressing the Jewish National Assembly.

Reporting on the political activities of the Agency, Mrs. Meirson, political chief of the Agency's Jerusalem section, said that the United Nations will also be urged to request Britain to abolish the White Paper and carry out the terms of the Mandate during the transition period until a Jewish State is established. The implementation of the Mandate is the sole justification and the legal ground for British rule in Palestine, she declared.

A spirited debate on the question of bi-nationalism developed following Mrs. Meirson's report. The discussion, which will be continued tomorrow, reflected the attitude of the various political parties to the stand taken by the Soviet Government at the U.N. Mrs. Meirson said that Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko's statement acknowledging the right of the Jews to statehood was of extreme importance from an international viewpoint.

Pleased With Gromyko's Attitude; Puzzled by U.S. Stand at U.N.

"We could never understand why a big powerful nation like the Soviet Union, which is building its country according to its own will, did not understand our needs and aspirations," Mrs. Meirson stated. "We, however, hope that this tragic misunderstanding has come to an end now." She praised the attitude taken at the U.N. by the representatives of Poland, Sweden, Norway and the Latin American countries, but said that she was puzzled by the stand taken by the delegation of the United States.

"I cannot imagine that the silence of the United States at this stage means forgetfulness of all pledges made by a number of presidents, of the Palestine resolutions passed in Congress and the declarations on Palestine made by the Democratic and Republican parties," she said.

Disputes of the Aliyah Chadasha, the New Settlers Party, voiced opposition to what they described as "the shifting of the interest of Palestine Jewry towards the East." They demanded that the Agency continue to follow the Western democracies.

Hashomer Hatzair representatives insisted that bi-nationalism is the best solution of the Palestine problem, since it offers an opportunity for reaching an Arab-Jewish rapprochement, which, they said, must come sooner or later.

Leaders of the Mapai, the Jewish Labor Party, argued that only an independent Jewish State can secure adequate Jewish immigration into the country and unrestricted development.

HAGANAH ATTACKS ARAB BAND IN REPRISAL FOR RAIDING JEWISH SETTLEMENTS; KILLS SEVEN

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- In a gun battle near Petach Tikvah last night, Haganah virtually wiped out an Arab robber band that had been molesting Jewish settlers, but lost one of its own members in the operation.

In a "communiqué" issued to the press, the Haganah stated that "several Arab gangs recently appeared in the Sharon area, attacking and killing Jews. The Haganah was compelled to find and root out these gangsters. Last night a Haganah unit discovered the gangsters in an Arab cafe on the highway near Petach Tikvah and in a battle, killing seven of the gangsters, including their chief, and wounding several others. The Haganah was compelled to undertake this action in order to clear the vicinity and make Jewish life safe, but the Haganah does not fight peaceful, law-abiding Arabs."

Troops which arrived this morning at the cafe, which is in the Arab village of Taba, found four bombs planted by the Haganah. In the process of detonating them, the soldiers partially wrecked the cafe. Afterwards, they cordoned off the nearby settlement of Givat Hashlosha and carried out searches, the results of which were not announced. The outskirts of Taba were reported to have been mined to prevent pursuit.

The dead Haganah member, Shlomo Miller, 23, died in Beilinson Hospital, in Petach Tikvah this morning. Meanwhile, a Jewish watchman at Ramat Gan was attacked by another Arab gang, suffering several stab wounds.

Rachel Kremer, the fiancée of Meir Feinstein, young Irgunist who committed suicide in his cell a few hours before he was to be executed, was arrested today as he was preparing to visit his grave on the expiration of the traditional 30-day waiting period. No reason for the arrest was given. Moshe Tochner, of Tel Aviv, was also seized today when he arrived at a Jerusalem military court to testify at the trial of Mordechai Laufer, who is charged with illegal possession of arms. It was learned later that Tochner had been mistaken for Menachem Beigin, leader of the Irgun, whom he resembles. He was questioned at Criminal Investigation Division headquarters for several hours.

Palestine Arab Leader Urges Arabs to Acquire Arms

It was learned today that Jamal Husseini, deputy chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, recently addressed a group of 2,000 Arabs in Haifa, urging every Arab to acquire arms. "You must buy arms before going to bed, before eating, before going to places of entertainment," Husseini is quoted as saying. "I don't want any Arab house without arms." A member of the Criminal Investigation Division, who was present during the address, took no action.

Police last night shot and wounded a Jewish youth who was posting Sternist placards in Ramat Gan. While his wounds were being dressed in a Tel Aviv infirmary, a number of Sternists invaded the building and released the youth, who was later found dead.

The cost of the extremist campaign against the government and the various restrictions including curfews and martial law were detailed during a broadcast by Montague Brown, assistant economic secretary of the government. He reported that the security budget which amounted to \$18,000,000 two years ago had risen to \$32,000,000 for the current year.

Brown declared that losses resulting from curfews and martial control were incalculable and had retarded the country's development. He also stated that as a result of the increased security budget decreases in taxes and import duties were impossible, although the latter taxes were undoubtedly forcing up living costs.

5/22/47

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT TO DRAW ALLIES' ATTENTION TO INFLUX OF JEWISH REFUGEES FROM EAST

VIENNA, May 21. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government has decided to draw the attention of the Allied authorities to the steadily increasing influx of Jewish refugees from Eastern European countries, it was learned here today. Representations will also be made to the Rumanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian Governments to prevent further migration.

Minister of the Interior Oscar Helmer stated that the Austrian Government would like to admit the refugees for humanitarian reasons, but that the country could not afford to accommodate and feed additional thousands of persons.

A group of 116 Rumanian Jewish refugees stranded on the Austro-Hungarian border when the frontier patrols of both nations refused to permit them to move was finally taken to Sopron, Hungary, yesterday. The transfer was accomplished by Russian troops based in Hungary. The Joint Distribution Committee and the Committee for Jewish Refugees were permitted to send medical supplies to the group after it was reported that three children had died of exhaustion.

A similar incident is reported to have occurred on the border near the town of Helliggenkreuz when a band of 123 Rumanian Jews were chased across the frontier by Hungarian troops. The Austrian police, under orders from the local Soviet authorities, refused to permit the Jews to continue on to Vienna and kept them in a field for six days. The Austrians were said to have fired at the Jews to prevent any of them from escaping.

Jewish leaders here fear the development of a serious situation as refugees continue to arrive daily. Within the last few days several hundred have been forced to camp at various spots on the border. With the closing of DP camps in the American zones to new infiltrates, the burden of their support falls completely on the J.D.C.

DP TRAINING SCHOOL NEAR MUNICH THREATENED WITH SHUTDOWN AS ARMY REQUISITIONS SITE

MUNICH, May 21. (JTA) -- A DP training center at Bad Wiessee, forty miles south of Munich, is threatened with a shutdown following the graduation of its current class of 150 Jewish leaders tonight.

An order released today reveals that the Army Air Forces in Germany has requisitioned the school site for a recreation camp. The center has been maintained by UNRRA since last fall and has trained DP's and Allied military and civilian personnel for camp administration.

A two-week class is scheduled to start this Sunday, but the Army's sudden order has resulted in its postponement. Unless the Army agrees to provide an alternative site for the school, it will be closed completely.

NAZI HANGS HIMSELF IN JAIL; SAID KILLING 5,000 JEWISH GIRLS WAS "PAINFUL REMINISCENCE"

WARSAW, May 21. (JTA) -- Karl Galasch, former deputy commandant of the Gross-rosen concentration camp, who was under death sentence, today committed suicide in the Wroclaw prison by hanging himself.

At his trial, Galasch declared that the killing at the camp of some 5,000 young Jewish women who had formerly been employed in the Krupp arms factories was a "most painful reminiscence."

5/22/47

NAMES OF THREE MEMBERS OF U.N. INQUIRY COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE DISCLOSED

LAKE SUCCESS, May 21. (JTA) -- The names of three members of the United Nations inquiry committee on Palestine were made known here today, although they were not officially confirmed by the U.N. Secretariat.

The three are: H.E. Nasrollah Entecam for Iran, Sir Abdur Rahman for India and N.S. Blom for the Netherlands. The Iranian representative is the ambassador to the U.S. and served as delegate at the special session. Rahman is a justice of the High Court of the province of Lahore, while Blom is an advisor to the Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

(Dr. C.A. MacGillivray, who will serve as the Palestine Government's liaison officer with the inquiry commission, left Jerusalem today for London, en route to New York.)

LESS IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED TO PALESTINE THAN AUTHORIZED BY QUOTAS DURING RECENT MONTHS

LONDON, May 21. (JTA) -- Little more than one-half the number of immigrants authorized to enter Palestine during the first four months of this year were actually admitted, Zionist quarters here indicated today.

These sources pointed out that somewhat under 3,500 Jews were admitted although the quota amounted to 6,000. They emphasized that this was not the fault of the Jewish Agency which distributed those certificates allotted to it, but of the Palestine Government which has draped miles of red tape over the immigration problem.

POLICE ARREST FIVE YOUTHS IN PARIS ON SUSPICION OF CONNECTION WITH STERN GROUP

PARIS, May 21. (JTA) -- Paris police arrested five youths, allegedly connected with the Stern Group, in a surprise raid on a local hotel last night.

The five, ranging in age from 15 to 22, are charged with illegal dealings in arms and are said to have had a number of revolvers in their possession. The youths also had a quantity of leaflets signed by "The Combatants of Liberty" of the Stern Group.

SYRIAN GOVERNMENT PROMULGATES LAW BANNING SALE OF PALESTINE LANDS BY SYRIANS TO JEWS

JERUSALEM, May 21. (JTA) -- The Syrian Government has promulgated a law providing a three-year prison sentence for Syrians selling land in Palestine to Jews, it was reported today from Damascus. The law provides a similar penalty for anyone smuggling a Jew into Palestine via Syria.

MCMARNEY HONORED BY JEWISH GROUPS; HOPES FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED JEWS

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- The hope that permanent homes will be found soon for the displaced Jews of Europe was expressed today by Gen. Joseph T. McMarney, former commander of U.S. forces in Germany, at a luncheon in his honor tendered jointly by the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Conference, the World Jewish Congress, the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency.

Speakers included Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Federal Judge Simon Rifkind, adviser on Jewish affairs to Gen. McMarney, Rabbi Philip Bernstein, present Jewish adviser to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Edward M.M. Warburg, Nahum Goldmann, Louis Lipsky, and Irving H. Engel. Judge Rifkind credited Gen. McMarney with having directly or indirectly saved the lives of 200,000 displaced Jews by allowing them to enter Germany where they were cared for.

IRO PREPARATORY BODY ADJOURNS; REJECTS PLEAS OF JEWISH GROUPS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS

LAUSANNE, May 21. (JTA) -- The Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization adjourned today, after deciding to reconvene in Lausanne at the end of June. The commission passed a resolution expressing preference for Geneva as the headquarters of the IRO.

Arthur J. Altmeyer, executive secretary of the Commission, was authorized to "enter into agreements with governments and occupation authorities" on the care of refugees and displaced persons, following the liquidation of UNRRA. He was also empowered to negotiate new agreements with organizations such as the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees and voluntary groups, who are now working with UNRRA.

The Commission rejected the applications of several voluntary agencies, including the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Agency, for consultative status, but directed the executive secretary "to study the possibilities of widening the activities of the voluntary societies of strengthening their relations with the IRO."

Belgium, France, Canada, China, the Netherlands, Great Britain and the United States were named to an advisory committee which will meet with the chairman of the Preparatory Commission, Henri Foa of France, in the interval before the next meeting.

UNRRA REFUSES ASSISTANCE TO 200 JEWISH ORPHANS WHO ARRIVED IN ITALY "LEGALLY"

ROME, May 21. (JTA) -- UNRRA authorities here have refused to make provision for some 200 Jewish orphans who arrived in Italy from various Central European countries en route to places of resettlement, it was learned today. The officials insist that since the children arrived "legally" the responsibility for their maintenance rests with those who brought them to Italy.

CHILEAN OFFICIALS PLEDGE ADMISSION OF JEWISH REFUGEES WHO ARE GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- High Chilean government officials have promised to admit without discrimination Jewish refugee craftsmen who have contracts guaranteeing them work in the country, it was announced here by the HIAS. The information was forwarded to the HIAS headquarters here by its representatives in Latin America to whom the pledges were made.

D.A.R. CONVENTION URGES CONGRESS NOT TO EASE PRESENT IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

WASHINGTON, May 21. (JTA) -- The Daughters of the American Revolution, now holding their 25th continental congress here, today unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon Congress to retain the present immigration quota system adopted in 1924.

WORLD RABBINATE WILL PROCLAIM UNIVERSAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR NAZI-EXTERMINATED JEWS

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- The Synagogue Council of America has requested the cooperation of the rabbinate of the world in the proclamation of a universal day of mourning in commemoration of the victims of Nazi extermination in Europe.

The day is to be designated by the Synagogue Council, representing the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbinic and congregational bodies of American Jewry, and approved by the chief rabbinate of Palestine, Great Britain, France, Italy and the rabbinic bodies of the American Jewish community.

PROTESTANT CHURCH LEADER EXPRESSES SUPPORT OF STRATTON BILL TO ADMIT 400,000 DP'S

WASHINGTON, May 21. (JTA) -- Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, chairman of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, has expressed support of the Stratton Bill to admit some 400,000 displaced persons, in a telegram sent yesterday to Earl G. Harrison, chairman of the Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons.

"I shared in preparing the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ resolution concerning displaced persons, and am happy to be recorded as favoring HR 2910," the telegram read, continuing: "From the very beginning, I have believed the United States has a moral obligation to receive its fair share of displaced persons."

ARGENTINE ZIONISTS URGE OPENING OF JEWISH AGENCY OFFICE IN BUENOS AIRES

BUENOS AIRES, May 21. (JTA) -- The establishment of a Jewish Agency office in Buenos Aires was urged in a resolution adopted yesterday at a national convention of the Argentine Zionist Federation, attended by 130 delegates.

The convention also called for the convocation of a Latin American conference of General Zionists, and expressed its solidarity with the Confederation of General Zionists. Samuel Rabinovich was reelected president of the organization. President Juan Peron sent the parley a message expressing sympathy with the Zionist cause.

JUDGE MEIR STEINBRINK NAMED TO FULL TERM AS HEAD OF B'NAI B'RITH ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- New York State Supreme Court Justice Meir Steinbrink has been elected to a full term as national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, it was announced yesterday. Justice Steinbrink had been named last September to fill out the term of the late Sigmund Livingston of Chicago, who served as the head of the organization for more than 33 years, until his death in June.

Richard E. Gutstadt, who has been national director of the organization since 1932, was granted an extended leave, and Benjamin R. Epstein, assistant national director, was named to serve as acting national director during his absence. New members of the national commission of the League elected were William A. Gerber of Philadelphia; John J. Unterman of Newark, N.J.; Joseph Cohen of Kansas City, Kansas; and Frank Goldman of Lowell, Mass., newly elected president of B'nai B'rith, who replaces the late Henry Monsky.

WEST NEW YORK EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES FLOUTING ANTI-BIAS LAW, AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS CHARGES

NEW YORK, May 21. (JTA) -- Three-fourths of the white collar employment agencies in the city are openly violating the regulations of the State Commission Against Discrimination under the Ives-Quinn law, which bars discrimination in employment, the American Jewish Congress charged yesterday.

In a letter to Charles Garside, chairman of the New York SCAD, the AJC said that the official poster required by SCAD was not being publicly displayed. The Congress urged that SCAD begin prosecuting violators of the law.