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TRUMAN ASKS AMERICANS TO REFRAIN FROM ACTIVITIES WHICH AGGRAVATE PALESTINE SITUATION

WASHINGTON, June 5. (JTA)--President Truman today called on the people of the United States to refrain from any activities which would aggravate the situation in Palestine while the United Nations considers the question of a solution of that country's problems.

In a statement issued today from the White House, the President declared that "it is in the interest of the United States, as well as of the United Nations, that the efforts of the U.N. to solve this problem meet with success." Emphasizing that "the search for a fair and workable solution of the Palestine problem is one of the most difficult and important tasks confronting the U.N.," Mr. Truman warned against activities which, he said, "render still more difficult the tasks which the United Nations has before it."

The text of the Truman statement follows:

"The General Assembly of the United Nations in special session on May 15, 1947, unanimously adopted the following resolution: 'The General Assembly calls upon all governments and peoples, and particularly on the inhabitants of Palestine, to refrain, pending action by the General Assembly on the report of the special committee on Palestine, from the threat or use of force or any other action which might create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the question of Palestine.'

"The search for a fair and workable solution of the Palestine problem is one of the most difficult and important tasks confronting the United Nations. It is in the interest of the United States as well as of the United Nations that the efforts of the United Nations to solve this problem meet with success. Activities calculated further to inflame the passions of the inhabitants of Palestine, to undermine law and order in Palestine, or to promote violence in that country are certain to create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the Palestine problem and to render still more difficult the tasks which the United Nations has before it.

"I therefore urge every citizen and resident of the United States, in the interests of this country, of world peace, and of humanity, meticulously to refrain, while the United Nations is considering the problem of Palestine, from engaging in, or facilitating, activities which tend further to inflame the passions of the inhabitants of Palestine, to undermine law and order in Palestine, or to promote violence in that country."

Jewish circles here see the President's statement as aimed at groups that have been publishing advertisements in the U.S. press which have been interpreted as inciting to violence against the British authorities in Palestine. The British Government recently submitted several protests to the State Department against these advertisements.

PIPELINE AND RAIL STATION BLASTED BY IRGUN; EXTENSIVE DAMAGE INFLICTED

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA)--The Palestine extremists's favorite targets--the oil network and the Iraq Petroleum Company's pipeline--were under attack again last night and this morning, with extensive damage resulting.

The pipeline was cut about ten miles out of Haifa and oil gushed out uninter-
uptedly for more than two hours. The petroleum then caught fire and was not ex-
tinguished for an hour-and-a-half. Total losses are estimated at 800 tons. There
were no casualties.

The Atlit rail station was bombed during the night, causing the destruction
of the stationmaster's house and a large part of the waiting room. The terrorist
who planted the bomb was spotted by a constable, but escaped after knocking down the
policeman. Before fleeing he warned that the building was mined. All persons were
evacuated from the vicinity and there were no casualties.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi assumed responsibility tonight for the pipeline and
station explosions and said that it would continue attacks on "vital enemy objec-
tives" since "the government is not adhering to the United Nations call for peace
in Palestine, but continues to deport refugees and maintain the emergency defense
regulations."

In Tel Aviv, officers of the Criminal Investigation Division swooped down
on a printing press in Mizrahi Street, which was allegedly turning out Irgun
leaflets. Several persons were arrested, including the proprietor's son and one
of the plant's employees. An engraving of the Irgun insignia was seized.

Police announced this morning that two Arabs had been found dead in orange
groves near Rehovoth. The area has been the scene of Arab-Jewish clashes in recent
weeks.

"LETTER BOMBS" RECEIVED BY FORMER PALESTINE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY COMMANDER

LONDON, June 5. (JTA)--Scotland Yard officials today again reiterated their
denial of press reports that Jewish extremists are suspected of sending explosive
"letter bombs" to members of the British Cabinet and high Army officers.

The officials declined to comment on reports in today's newspapers that
among the persons who have received the explosive envelopes are Sir Harold MacMichael,
former Palestine High Commissioner, Lieut. Gen. Evelyn Barker, former commander
of the military forces in Palestine and Anthony Eden.

Special Scotland Yard men were ready to fly today to Milan to trace the
origin of the letters which were mailed from a post office in Italy. Police are
checking the letters for finger prints and are making ink and other tests. But
dispatches from Italy said that the Italian authorities declared that it was highly
unlikely that any envelope containing explosives could possibly withstand the force
of Italian cancelling machines. The letters contain gelignite and a pencil battery
detonator. Anyone opening them could be seriously injured or even killed.

Major Gen. Edward Spears, former British minister in the Levant, who is
strongly pro-Arab, asserted that he had received one of the letters, and added that
"there are Zionist desperadoes in Italy who are after me." However, the letters
are also reported to have been received by such pro-Zionists as Arthur Greenwood
and John Strachey, and Jewish circles here suspect that they are the work of
British fascists, operating through fascist remnants in Italy.

(A JTA dispatch from Jerusalem tonight said that the Stern Group had ad-
mitted that its members had sent the explosive-laden letters.)

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE SUBMITS ITS VIEWS TO U.N. INQUIRY COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

LAKE SUCCESS, June 5. (JTA) -- The overwhelming majority of Jews in the United States support the immediate admission of Europe's displaced Jews to Palestine and the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, the American Jewish Conference declared today in a statement submitted to the United Nations inquiry committee on Palestine. The committee was also urged to visit the displaced persons camps in Germany.

The statement pointed to the need for an immediate change in the current regime in Palestine, which is based on the 1939 British White Paper, because the present situation is dangerous to peace in the Middle East. "The course on which the Mandatory has embarked carries with it the imminent danger of plunging Palestine into total chaos which might well lead to the final destruction of a people whose fate has now become the concern of the United Nations," the statement said.

By recommending admission of thousands of Jews to Palestine without delay, the U.N. committee would help to end the disturbances, deplored by all Jews, which are attributable primarily to the White Paper policy," the Conference declared. Referring to the situation of the displaced Jews in Germany, the statement stressed the fact that competent observers have agreed that most of these people are determined to settle in Palestine and that this is the only solution to their problem.

The Conference asked the committee to visit the displaced persons camps in order to ascertain the plight and desires of the Jews there. It also urged that the Jewish Agency be given full authority over immigration of displaced Jews to Palestine and be given "such financial and technical facilities on an intergovernmental basis" as may be required for this purpose.

In advocating the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, the Conference pointed out that "under a democratic Jewish Commonwealth, the religious and cultural rights of the Arab population in Palestine would be respected, and all inhabitants would be accorded civil and religious equality." The inviolability of the Holy Places of the Christian and Moslem religions would also be guaranteed, the statement declared.

JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL DELEGATION INVITES WEIZMANN TO APPEAR AT U.N. COMMITTEE

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA)--A delegation of the Jewish National Council headed by Isaac Ben Zvi, president, today called on Dr. Chaim Weizmann at his residence in Rehovoth and extended to him an official invitation to testify before the U.N. inquiry committee.

Dr. Weizmann received the delegation cordially and it is assumed that he will agree to appear. The group included David Remez, chairman of the executive of the Jewish National Council, Dr. George Landauer and Dr. Abraham Katzenelson, also executive members.

The Movement for Labor Unity, left-wing opposition group in the Jewish Labor Party, today notified the Jewish Agency executive and the presidium of the Zionist Actions Committee that its representatives will appear separately before the inquiry committee to submit its views on the solution of the Palestine problem. The group also demanded the immediate convocation of the full Actions Committee.

(Jewish Agency circles in London today stated that the full session of the Zionist Actions Committee, which was scheduled to open in Jerusalem on June 15, has been postponed at the request of the American members of that body who would be unable to reach Palestine by the 15th.)

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JEWISH AGENCY REFUTES HIGH COMMISSIONER'S CHARGE IT REFUSING TO HELP CURB TERRORISM

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA)--A sharp rejoinder to High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham's charge that Jewish leaders in Palestine have refused to cooperate with the authorities against terrorism and have thus, implicitly, supported the extremists, was given today by a Jewish Agency spokesman, who said that terrorism was the fault of Britain's repressive policy of arrests and deportations "and such speeches as Bevin's." (At the British Labor Party convention at Margate last week, Foreign Minister Bevin described the basic problem in Palestine as a reflection of a Jewish-Gentile war.)

The Agency's view, the spokesman added, is that the political lawlessness of the government encourages terrorism. He said that the bulk of the Jewish community is opposed to terrorism and has openly and clearly disavowed it. The extent of Jewish cooperation can be gathered from police records, he continued. The Yishuv has also attempted to cut off the supply of funds to the terrorists and to prevent Jewish lands from being used as bases for extremist operations. He dismissed as "pure propaganda," the High Commissioner's charge that the Jews have not cooperated.

While it is true that it is the duty of citizens everywhere to assist the authorities in curbing crime, the situation changes when the breaches are political crimes, the spokesman stressed. "Here there are two hatreds: against British policy, and against terrorism, but the first is stronger." The impression that terrorism can be eradicated by police methods is fallacious, he declared. Only increased immigration and a return to political normality will eradicate the cause of violence, he said.

High Commissioner Says Detainees Should Be Confined Outside Of Palestine

The Cunningham statement was contained in an 8,000-word report to the Colonial Office on the Acre Prison break on May 4, during which more than 200 prisoners were liberated. The High Commissioner said that if the military forces were allowed to use their full strength against the whole Jewish community, they could wipe out terrorist activity in a few hours. He added, however, that the government has never contemplated such action, nor has the army desired it. He said that no other troops in the world would have exercised the restraint shown by British soldiers in Palestine in the face of continued provocation.

Asserting that the success of the Acre jail delivery was not due to a failure of the security system, but because the building had never been intended for use as a prison, Cunningham suggested that all political detainees be confined outside of the country. He attributed the success of this and similar attacks to the fact that the extremists had in their ranks persons experienced in guerrilla warfare in Europe and the fact that because of the refusal of the Jewish community to cooperate, the terrorists could lose themselves in the general population and emerge for attacks at strategic times.

COLONIAL SECRETARY REFUSES TO INCREASE IMMIGRATION QUOTA; TALKS WITH AGENCY AIDES FAIL

LONDON, June 5. (JTA)--In a conference yesterday with Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones, representatives of the Jewish Agency failed to secure his agreement to an increase in the Palestine immigration quota, it was learned today. Creech-Jones met with Mrs. Goldie Meirson and Berl Locker for 45 minutes, but the discussions were inconclusive.

211 REFUGEES SEIZED BY ITALIANS AFTER BORDER CROSSING RELEASED WHEN UNRRA GIVES AID

ROME, June 5. (JTA) -- Two hundred and eleven Jewish refugees who were arrested after they crossed into Italy illegally en route to Palestine were released today as a result of intervention by the Union of Jewish Communities with the Italian Government. UNRRA has agreed to provide maintenance for the refugees.

Jewish orphans who have arrived in Italy recently from Eastern Europe are now housed in two childrens homes, one in Milan and the other near Como, operated by UNRRA and the JDC. The homes are staffed by teachers and welfare workers from Palestine.

JEWS HARD HIT BY RUMANIAN DROUGHT; FLEE TO ESCAPE STARVATION, INCREASED ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, June 5. (JTA) -- Many of Rumania's 350,000 Jews are threatened with starvation as a result of a severe drought which has lasted almost three years, Joseph Klarman, Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent in Rumania, reported today upon his arrival from Bucharest.

The acute shortage of food, due to the lack of rain, is being utilized by anti-Government elements for increased anti-Semitic propaganda, Klarman said. This resulted recently in attacks on Jews and on synagogues in a number of towns. There have also been cases where Jews were attacked while travelling by rail. These acts continue despite the fact that anti-Semitic propaganda is outlawed and despite government measures to suppress anti-Semitic activities, Klarman said.

As a result of the food shortage and the increased anti-Jewish agitation, groups of Jews are leaving Rumania for the U.S. zone of Austria. The exodus is not being organized by Jewish groups. In fact, all Jewish organizations have issued appeals to Rumanian Jews to remain in the country, warning that those who leave may become homeless refugees.

There are about 150,000 Jews registered for emigration to Palestine as compared with the 70,000 who were registered at the end of 1944, Klarman declared. He revealed that the government had planned to repatriate 20,000 Rumanian Jews from the USSR, but was holding up the repatriation because of the food situation.

Klarman, who is a member of the Zionist Actions Committee, is proceeding from here to Jerusalem to attend the session of the Committee scheduled to open there on June 15. He emphasized that Jewish organizations in the United States must send large amounts of food to Jews in Rumania, and quickly.

90 TEACHERS FROM PALESTINE GOING TO DP CAMPS TO INSTRUCT 20,000 CHILDREN

PARIS, June 5. (JTA) -- U.S. and British military authorities and UNRRA have agreed to the assignment of 90 teachers from Palestine to camps and other DP installations in Germany and Austria, where there are 20,000 children of school age, Eliahu Dobkin, co-chairman of the immigration department of the Jewish Agency, said here today. Dobkin has just returned from Munich where he conferred with Jewish refugee leaders.

While in Germany he helped organize a federation of the Zionist movements in the country and also a Zionist youth federation, Dobkin disclosed. He said that 24 representatives of the Jewish Agency were expected in Germany soon. There are now 108 Agency emissaries in Germany and Austria.

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HEAD GRATIFIED AT EXTENT OF JEWISH REHABILITATION IN POLAND; STRESSES DP'S PLIGHT

WARSAW, June 5. (JTA)--Nowhere in Europe has he seen such progress in rehabilitation of shattered Jewish communities as in Poland, Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the J.D.C., told the JTA yesterday, on the eve of his departure for Prague. He added that he had been so impressed by what he has seen of the Jewish community here that he is certain that a stable Jewish cultural and economic life will be rebuilt in Poland.

Mr. Leavitt said that he had been particularly gratified by the evidence of the excellent care given children in various welfare institutions and hailed the activities of the TOZ, the Polish affiliate of the OSE. He praised the cultural rehabilitation already achieved by Jewish writers, artists and actors and the industrial rehabilitation of Jews employed in heavy industries and mining. The JDC head said that his organization was working in cooperation with various groups in all phases of rehabilitation.

Discussing his visit to the displaced persons camps, Mr. Leavitt declared that no matter how black we paint the picture of the Jews in the camps we cannot exaggerate. Demoralization is growing daily and the only solution is to open the doors of Palestine to them." He stressed the continued need for aid from America for the Jewish DP's as well as Jews in Poland, France and Czechoslovakia.

COURT RULINGS CLEAR WAY FOR TRANSFER TO HEIRS OF PROPERTY OF JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

NEW YORK, June 5. (JTA)--Two rulings issued yesterday by the Surrogates Court here would seem to clear the way for heirs of persons who were seized by the Nazis and subsequently never heard from to obtain possession of property in this city belonging to the victims.

The court ruled in the cases of a French Jewish woman and a Rumanian Jewish man, both of whom were sent to death camps by the Nazis and are presumed to have perished, that "a certificate of presumptive death from a foreign state of domicile will be accepted as proof of death. If the ruling serves as a precedent for other sections of the country, many hundreds of refugees who have been barred from estates bequeathed to them because they could not produce proof of the death of the testator will be benefitted.

TOP BULGARIAN LEADERS PRESENT AT MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR JEWS MURDERED BY GERMANS

SOFIA, June 5. (JTA)--Memorial services for Jewish partisans and concentration camp prisoners murdered near the city of Pleven, in Bulgaria, by the Nazis were held here yesterday on the occasion of the transfer of the remains of the victims to a common grave.

The services were arranged by the Jewish Organization for the Struggle Against Fascism, which is called the "Ilya Ehrenburg Organization." Speakers included top members of the government and army and trade union leaders. All stressed the ties between Bulgarian Jews and non-Jews which were created in their common struggle against a common enemy.

RABBI AARON MILEIKOWSKY, PRESIDENT OF TEL AVIV RABBINICAL COURT, DIED; WAS 87

TEL AVIV, June 5. (JTA)--Rabbi Aaron Mileikowsky, president of the Rabbinical Court of Tel Aviv, died here today. He was 87. Rabbi Mileikowsky, was formerly one of the leading rabbis in Russia, holding the post of Chief Rabbi of Kharkov during the Czarist regime, prior to his emigration to Palestine.

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