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JEWISH AGENCY MEETING IN PLENARY SESSION TO DISCUSS TESTIMONY FOR U.N. HEARINGS

JERUSALEM, June 13. (JTA) — Four members of the Jewish Agency executive will testify before the United Nations inquiry committee, which opens its hearings here on Monday. The text of the Agency memorandum to be submitted to the committee will be discussed by a two-day plenary session of the Agency, opening on Sunday.

The memorandum will differ considerably from the one submitted last year to the Anglo-American inquiry committee. While the latter did not contain any criticism of the mandatory power, the present memorandum charges the British Government with failure to implement the provisions of the mandate.

The Agency spokesmen will be David Ben Gurion and Moshe Shertok, testifying on the political aspect of the problem and Eliezer Kaplan and Dr. Fritz Bernstein on the economic aspects. The religious views of the Palestine Jewish community will be presented by a representative of the Chief Rabbinate, while speakers for the Jewish National Council will testify on educational and municipal matters. Representatives of Dr. Magnes' Ichud group, which favors bi-nationalism, and of the Agudas Israel will also testify.

Palestine Govt. May Recommend "Morrison Plan" to U.N. Body

The government testimony, which is understood to be almost completed, concludes that the best solution of the Palestine problem is either the Morrison federalization plan, which was proposed by the British Government last year, or some form of cantonization, according to reliable sources. The government material is said to be essentially the same as that presented to the Anglo-American inquiry committee, with revision of figures on immigration and other statistics to bring them up to date.

The government memorandum is believed to contain some reference to the oil situation on the Arabian peninsula and the route of the pipelines and a comparative survey of the Jewish and Arab secret armed forces. It is reported to outline what the probable reaction of the Arab and Jewish communities would be to various solutions.

Arab Higher Committee Informs U.N. of Decision to Boycott Probers

LAKE SUCCESS, June 13. (JTA) — The Palestine Arab Higher Committee today officially informed U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie that the Palestine Arabs will boycott the inquiry committee.

A communication signed by Jamal Husseini, deputy chairman of the committee, said that the action was being taken because of the failure of the special session to call for termination of the mandate; the refusal of the General Assembly to place the goal of independence on its agenda and the failure of the session to separate the world Jewish refugee problem from that of Palestine.

U.N. MEMBER STATES IGNORE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON "ILLEGAL" JEWISH IMMIGRATION

LAKE SUCCESS, June 13. (JTA) -- United Nations members appear to be ignoring Secretary-General Lie's request for information on any action they may have taken in response to the British appeal for cooperation against "illegal" immigration into Palestine.

In a press conference held today by Lie and his staff it was revealed that no more than six or seven nations had replied to date. Of these none made the slightest reference to the matter of action, confining themselves to formal acknowledgments of the communication. Other replies may still come in.

Lie refused to comment on the critical statement issued by the Jewish Agency, but revealed that acknowledgment of it was made to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver on June 7, stating that the Agency statement had been forwarded to the chairman of the Palestine Commission.

In the Committee on an International Bill of Rights, Soviet Professor Vladimir Koretsky today urged that priority be given the problem of discrimination of all kinds--racial, sex, religious--as the most fundamental of all the rights in modern times. He indicated that the Soviet Government was formulating this doctrine concretely for future presentation.

It became clear during yesterday's meeting that, before attempting to draft the Bill of Rights, a decision must be taken as to whether the bill should be a manifesto, that is a declaration of principles, or a more binding covenant that national legislatures might agree to support. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt said it has been the intention of the U.S. Government that the bill should be in the nature of a broad declaration of rights followed by conventions on particular subjects.

Turkey Offering Aid to Britain to Combat "Illegal" Palestine Immigration

JERUSALEM, June 13. (JTA) -- The Arab press today reported that the Turkish Government has informed Britain that it will cooperate in combatting "illegal" immigration to Palestine.

As a complementary step to the anti-Zionist boycott, which has been in effect for seven months, the Iraq Government has ordered that exports from Iraq will not be transhipped through Haifa and imports passing through Haifa will not be admitted into Iraq.

STATE DEPT. HAS TAKEN NO ACTION ON PUBLICATION OF MUFTI'S TIES WITH AXIS, MARSHALL SAYS

WASHINGTON, June 13. (JTA) -- Secretary of State George C. Marshall has not yet taken action on the recent request of Senator Robert Wagner of New York for publication by the State Department of documents in the Department's files on the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem.

Asked at his press conference what action the Department was planning on Wagner's request, formulated in a letter to the Secretary, Mr. Marshall said he would have to look at the papers, since he did not recall the matter.

FRENCHMAN CHARGED WITH DENOUNCING JEWISH CHILDREN TO GESTAPO GOES ON TRIAL AT LYONS

PARIS, June 13. (JTA) -- The trial of Lucian Bourdon charged with having denounced 33 Jewish children to the Gestapo during the German occupation opened in a court at Lyons today. The children were deported to the Oswiecim concentration camp where they were subsequently murdered.

U.S. ARMY WILL ADVANCE FUNDS TO IRO TO FEED DP'S AFTER LIQUIDATION OF UNRRA

WASHINGTON, June 13. (JIA) -- If the International Refugee Organization is not organized by July 1, when War Department funds for feeding displaced persons in Germany run out, the Army will try to work out a plan to advance funds for that purpose to be later reimbursed by the IRO, Assistant Secretary of War Howard C. Petersen told a press conference here today.

The Army has been supplying a large share of the food for displaced persons in the American zone of Germany, but funds for this purpose will be terminated on July 1, Petersen explained, on the assumption that IRO will be able to take over care of the refugees. He expressed some doubt that it would be organized at that time because that date is only two weeks off.

In the interim period between July 1 and when it does come into being the Army will try to work out some plan whereby it can advance the funds, which would be later reimbursed by the IRO. Petersen said he would have to take the matter up with the appropriations committee.

Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati will be one of a group of leading American clergymen to tour American-occupied areas in Europe at the invitation of Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, according to a War Department announcement. The group will depart June 23 from Washington and will report directly to the Secretary upon their return to Washington on July 28.

2,200 REFUGEES STRANDED IN VIENNA WITHOUT UNRRA, ARMY AID; IN SOLE CARE OF JDC

VIENNA, June 13. (JTA) -- The 2,200 Jewish "infiltrates" from Eastern Europe who have arrived here since April 21 when American DP camps in the Vienna area were closed down are now in a desperate position.

The UNRRA team which had been aiding them has halted all assistance to the refugees, most of whom come from Rumania, and the American military authorities have closed down the Rothschild Hospital, which served as a camp for 1,000 transient Jews, and removed medical equipment. New camps have been set up in small schools, where two and three persons are compelled to share a single bed. The overcrowding is made worse by the fact that the normal flow of refugees out of Vienna into the DP camps in the U.S. zone of Germany has virtually ceased since Army transportation to the camps was discontinued several weeks ago.

The refugee Jews here, whose number continues to increase, are in the sole care of the J.D.C., according to Bronislaw Teichholz, president of the International Committee for Transient Jews. Teichholz complains that the American military authorities recently have shown no appreciation of the precarious situation of the refugees here, most of whom lack shoes, linen and other clothing. With UNRRA activities at a stand-still and the International Refugee Organization still a paper body, only JDC aid is available.

GERMANS GET FIVE-YEAR TERMS FOR ORDERING DESTRUCTION OF AACHEN SYNAGOGUE IN 1938

MUNICH, June 13. (JTA) -- A German court in Aachen has sentenced Zenner Rot, former police chief of that city, and Eduard Schmeer, one-time Nazi district leader, to five years imprisonment for having ordered the burning down of the Aachen synagogue during the Nov., 1938 pogroms. The riots occurred after the assassination of Ernst vom Rath, German diplomat in Paris, by Herschell Grynzpan, a Polish-Jewish youth.

A.F.L. PRESIDENT TELLS CONGRESS ADMISSION OF DP'S WOULD NOT AFFECT EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

WASHINGTON, June 13. (JTA) -- William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and former Supreme Court Justice Owen J. Roberts strongly supported the Stratton Bill, providing for the admittance to the U.S. of 400,000 DP's over a four-year period, at the resumption today of hearings on the measure by the House Subcommittee on Immigration.

The AFL president urged that the U.S. take the lead "in opening its doors to the displaced persons, unless we are to make a mockery of the principles for which we fought in World War II." He said that even if the entire current quotas and all unused quotas from the war years were set aside for the DP's from each country, this would be far less than necessary for the refugee groups. "It is obvious that if we are to offer sanctuary to the displaced refugees of Europe, we must enact emergency legislation which will temporarily waive the present quota restrictions," he added.

Green was questioned closely by Rep. Ed Gossett, Texas Democrat, on the possible detrimental effect that the immigration of 100,000 persons a year would have on the unemployment problem. The AFL leader replied that it would have such little effect, in view of the fact that over half those entering would be women and children and that the whole 400,000 could be admitted in one year without affecting the employment situation. He stressed that there are a number of nurses, doctors and agricultural workers among the DP's who could fill our urgent manpower shortages in these fields, but urged safeguards to prevent their exploitation as a source of cheap labor.

The president of the American Federation of Labor touched upon the situation of the Jews in Europe. "The continental European Jews," he said, "were subjected to the most extreme scourge of anti-Semitism and organized violence ever perpetrated upon their race. From 1933 to the present less than 200,000 Jewish refugees managed to enter the U.S. while 6,000,000 Jews were exterminated by Hitler." He added that "it is ironical that two years after V-E Day the unfortunate Jews who bore the brunt of Nazi barbarity have neither home nor country."

Admission of DP's Is "Moral Obligation" of U.S., Justice Roberts Says

Justice Roberts vigorously urged enactment of the Stratton Bill as "a moral obligation" of the U.S. He expressed his "really passionate desire that my country should do something" to uphold its democratic traditions to give the DP's the moral right to "pursuit of happiness."

He compared the DP's to the pioneer settlers of this country and said that his own ancestors fled to the U.S. to escape religious persecution. Justice Roberts expressed the certainty that "if the U.S. makes a great gesture," other countries will follow. He referred specifically to South American countries in this connection. He said that entrance of the DP's would not strain the national economy, since most of them would be merged with families already here.

Under questioning by committee members on the role of the IRO, Justice Roberts said that this was "piecemeal" and would not solve the DP problem. He voiced opposition to any change in the immigration laws at this time, but said there "are terrifically serious implications," if this country turns its back on people looking for asylum.

Others who testified in favor of the bill were Bishop William T. Mulloy, president of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference and Charles Rozmarek, president of the Polish American Congress. The only witness to oppose the measure was Charles E. Babcock, of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, B'NAI B'RITH TESTIFY AT SENATE HEARING ON F.E.P.C. BILL

WASHINGTON, June 13. (JTA) -- Leaders of the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith and National Council of Jewish Women today testified before a Senate subcommittee in favor of the Ives Bill barring racial discrimination in employment.

Speaking for the American Jewish Committee, Ben Herzberg, chairman of the legal and civic affairs committee of the organization, told the subcommittee that "to deny a man a job because of religion or color is a cruel injustice" and "harmful to our economy." He cited the success of the anti-bias law now in force in New York State, where complaints have been settled by negotiation without recourse to courts, and denied that federal anti-discrimination legislation would cause more friction than it would remove.

Emphasizing that compulsory enforcement provisions are necessary, Herzberg lauded the safeguards contained in the Ives Bill. "The Act," he pointed out, "calls for mediation before any action can be initiated by the commission. In the absence of a hearing, there will be no publicity, and the commission can only enforce an order if it is approved by a court. The Act is not one-sided, because an employer can complain of his employees."

B'nai B'rith President Says Bigotry Must Be Treated on National Level

Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith, said that "prejudice and bigotry are not confined within state borders but constitute a national problem calling for treatment on a national and state level." Pointing out that the Ives Bill is protective legislation for equality of economic opportunity, Goldman said that it tries "to make effective in every-day life the principles of democracy which we preach abroad."

He characterized the bill as "a temperate measure," and warned against "misleading cries of radicalism and governmental interference with the rights of free enterprise. Actually," he said, the bill "is merely another application of one of the long-established principles of our government, to safeguard by specific legislation the fundamental rights of all citizens." Passage of the legislation, Goldman declared, would facilitate carrying out the nation's program of high production and fair employment.

The special interest of the National Council of Jewish Women in supporting the bill was stated by Mrs. H. Wolfe of Richmond, Va., who said "we want to protect our children from the employment discrimination which has been the experience of our generation. We do not believe that it is in keeping with the American way of life for an American to be barred from the occupation of his choice because of his color or religion or the country from which his parents came," she declared.

Mrs. Wolfe, representing the national committee on education and social action of the Council, said that "so long as any American is kept from making a living because of race, religion or national origin, our country cannot be completely free or its people economically secure." The war-time F.E.P.C., she said, proved that people of many races, religions and nationalities could work together toward a common goal. She emphasized that the need for protection against discrimination is even greater today than during the war, in view of a "noticeable trend toward contraction of employment" and resulting heightened tensions connected with discharge of members of minority groups.

