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BEN GURION ASKS TEMPORARY U.N. SUPERVISION TO PRECEDE FORMATION OF JEWISH STATE

JERUSALEM, July 7. (JTA) -- Under a barrage of questions from members of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, today redefined the Zionist demand for a Jewish state in Palestine, but again left the door open for partition.

Ben Gurion said that the Jewish Agency wanted to begin immediately to bring in 1,000,000 Jews and undertake large-scale economic development under United Nations supervision. He predicted that it would take three to four years to get these projects going, after which the U.N. could withdraw and Palestine would become a Jewish state. However, if the U.N. should decide on partition, a viable Jewish state could be established immediately, he said.

The four-hour session was marked by bitter exchanges between Ben Gurion and Indian delegate Sir Abdur Rahman, who attempted to take over direction of the questioning from Emil Sandstroem, UNSCOP chairman. Rahman, Sandstroem, Canadian delegate J. Cleveland Rand, Guatemalan delegate Jorge Garcia Granados, Czech delegate Karel Hisecky and Uruguayan delegate Prof. Enrique R. Fabregat participated in the cross-examination, which will continue tomorrow.

Ben Gurion was subjected to searching questions on the meaning of the Mandate, the intention of the Balfour Declaration, the duties of the Mandatory, the means of establishing a Jewish state and the problem of Arab-Jewish relations.

Replying to Sandstroem, who asked if the Arab-Jewish conflict were not the "root of all evil" in Palestine, Ben Gurion said that "we have no conflict with the Arabs." To another question by the chairman, who asked what regime the Zionists wanted to replace the White Paper and the Mandate, the Agency chairman said: "We want the United Nations to find that we are in the right and to establish a Jewish state."

Establishment of such a state, he continued, must be divided into a "material" and a "legal" phase. The first part would entail the immigration of millions of Jews and economic development. When the United Nations has satisfied itself that the main purpose for which this country is destined--to solve the Jewish problem--is being fulfilled, then the second, the legal, phase will be realized--by formal proclamation of a Jewish state," Ben Gurion stated.

U.N. Supervision Does Not Mean Continuation of Mandate, He Says

Asked by Sandstroem whether U.N. supervision would not be merely a continuation of the Mandate, Ben Gurion said, "No, because now there will be an unequivocal statement that Palestine is becoming a Jewish state." He pointed out that development of the country would be in Jewish hands immediately, while the U.N. would only supervise security and similar matters for a limited time.

He added that the material phase would require not only development of Jewish

jects and Jewish settlement, but development of Arab parts of the country, raising the Arab standard of living to the Jewish level.

Sandstroem then asserted that Ben Gurion had presented only the Jewish solution of the problem. "Is this a complete dismissal of the Arab case?" he asked. Ben Gurion answered: "That is not for me to reply. I am sorry that no Arab representatives are here, because only they are able to answer it authoritatively." He pointed out that two years ago, the Agency had rejected a British Labor Party suggestion that the Arabs be moved from Palestine to neighboring states.

#### Ben Gurion Refuses to Comment on Possible War With Arabs

Ben Gurion refused to answer "yes" or "no" to a question by Rahman as to whether his proposed solution of the problem would not lead to a bloody war with the Arabs. Touching briefly on the Arab claim to Palestine on the basis of ancient residence and a present majority, he pointed out that 27 years ago when the Mandate was issued 50 nations of the world, represented in the League of Nations, approved Jewish aspirations despite the fact that an even larger Arab majority existed then. "Everything that has happened since has only strengthened that decision of the world," he said.

Ben Gurion replied in the negative to a question by the committee chairman as to whether he felt that 1,000 years of occupation by the Arabs was long enough to vitiate Jewish claims to Palestine. Sandstroem then questioned Ben Gurion concerning the meaning of the Mandate when it referred to a Jewish national home and asked whether there were not reservations in the Balfour Declaration. The latter replied that the only reservations were that the civil and religious rights of other sections of the population be safeguarded and the status of Jews in other countries not be prejudiced. He said that there had been no trouble concerning the reservation, and as to the first, the specific reference to guarantees of the rights of other sections of the population, and not the Jews, implied clearly that what was meant was that a Jewish majority should be obliged to safeguard the rights of a non-Jewish minority.

When Rahman asked whether Ben Gurion would be willing to allow the question of immigration to rest with the Jews and Arabs, he replied that he would, adding that he was certain that were we allowed to return to our country, we would live in peace with the Arabs."

The Agency spokesman said that in 1937 "we were ready to accept compromise when we had the talks with the government (early this year) we said we would accept a viable Jewish state in part of Palestine."

#### Says Jews Can Defend Themselves if Arabs Reject Peaceful Approach

Granados asked whether the Jewish people would be able to defend themselves against violence. Ben Gurion replied that if the U.N. establishes a Jewish state, the Jews would approach the Arabs and attempt to work out a modus vivendi for a peaceful existence. However, if the Arabs threatened force, the Jews would take care of themselves.

Queried by Vladimir Simich, alternate Yugoslav delegate, who asked whether the Jews would agree to a Jewish majority with parity in the government, Ben Gurion said that would be impossible, and would lead to a permanent deadlock.

To Czech delegate Karel Lisicky, who asked whether Ben Gurion was opposed to partition, the Jewish spokesman said that the Zionists were against partition, but he reiterated his earlier testimony that if a viable Jewish state were offered, the Jews would consider it. Granados asked if partition were decided upon, would a transitional

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be necessary or could a Jewish state be established immediately. Ben Gurion said that a state could be set up immediately. He replied to another question that Jews could provide the manpower to guarantee the peace.

Sandstroem queried Ben Gurion concerning the Haganah, and asked whether it was armed. Ben Gurion replied: "I hope so," adding that "if you wish its representatives to appear, I am sure they are ready, but I do not know whether they could appear publicly, since under present laws that may not be legal."

The last half-hour of questioning was enlivened by frequent clashes between Ben Gurion and Ben Gurion and once between Granados and Rahman. The latter occurred when Granados interrupted Granados' questioning at one point and said: "We're not interested in that." The Guatemalan retorted sharply: "I'll conduct my own questioning. You conduct yours."

#### Indian Delegate Displays Open Hostility

The Indian delegate, who made no attempt to disguise his hostility, told Ben Gurion: "I am going to ask you serious questions. I want them answered briefly." He then began reading quotations from various sources, prefacing each with: "Are you aware of that..." Finally, Ben Gurion demanded: "What's the purpose of these questions? You are calling my attention to statements and interpretations written in books, except your word that they are printed in books." He protested that he was unable to answer historical questions and Sandstroem suggested that Rahman reserve those questions for when Dr. Weizmann testifies.

The Indian delegate asked whether it were not true that Jews from Germany fled to that country during World War I. Ben Gurion said "certainly, and rightly so. It was before the Axis." At this point Moshe Shertok, who was seated next to Ben Gurion, leaned over and whispered something to him, and Rahman snapped "...involving Mr. Shertok." Ben Gurion replied that Shertok had been an officer in the British Army during World War I. Rahman attempted to prove by citing various references that the Arabs had been opposed to the Jews as far back as 1914, but Ben Gurion said he had known Arabs during that period, and they were not engaged in political opposition to the Jews.

Sandstroem interrupted to ask Rahman whether he would be through soon, and the latter replied that he would not, the chairman adjourned the session until tomorrow morning.

At a closed session, after the public hearing closed, the committee voted to take no action on personal appeals from individuals to intervene to secure immigration visas for Jews or to secure the release of detainees.

Emil Ghouri, a member of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, told correspondents later that he agreed with Ben Gurion's demand that the British leave Palestine, and also said that the Arabs and Jews could live together peacefully, but only if the Jews accepted their minority status. Yesterday, Jamal Hussein, deputy chairman of the Higher Committee, told an Arab conference in Haifa that an Arab uprising was inevitable, if Britain did not grant immediate independence to Palestine.

#### PALESTINE VISAS TO BE ASSIGNED TO DISPLACED JEWS IN BRITISH ZONE OF AUSTRIA

LONDON, July 7. (JTA) -- Palestine immigration certificates, which are now being assigned to displaced Jews in the British zone of Germany, will also be allotted to DP's in the British zone of Austria, the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad announced today. The committee said that for the present the number will be limited to 25 monthly.



1,000 CYPRUS INTERNEES ON HUNGER STRIKE TO PROTEST WORSENING CAMP CONDITIONS

JERUSALEM, July 7. (JTA) -- Thirteen thousand Jews interned on Cyprus, of whom 2,000 are children, were on a hunger strike today to protest the deterioration of conditions in the camps. The strike began at midnight yesterday and will continue through midnight today.

Edith Weiss, sister of Jacob Weiss, one of three Irgunists sentenced to death for participation in the Acre prison break, has arrived here from Czechoslovakia to see her brother. She visited him for the first time yesterday, but was not permitted to come close enough even to shake his hand.

The Stern Group last night demanded the release of two of its girl members who were arrested yesterday when they entered Kadimah House, where the U.N. inquiry committee is quartered, to leave a memorandum for UNSCOP. The Sternists said that the seizure of the girls was an "outrage on the part of the occupation forces."

JEWISH, ARAB DOCTORS SET UP INOCULATION STATIONS TO FIGHT BUBONIC PLAGUE IN HAIFA

HAIFA, July 7. (JTA) -- Jewish and Arab medical associations today set up inoculation centers in Haifa to protect the port city's 160,000 population from an epidemic of bubonic plague. A leading Jewish medical authority warned that there is a danger of the plague spreading to other cities and towns throughout Palestine as it did in another outbreak 18 months ago.

Fourteen persons have already been stricken and Dr. J.S.M. Pollock, Palestine senior medical officer, said that the epidemic has reached "alarming proportions." The people of the city have been told to wear "thick socks and long trousers tied at the bottom" to protect them against fleas bearing the disease. A rat extermination campaign has begun and huge quantities of liquid DDT were sprayed on "danger areas." It is believed that the disease was spread by rats from an ocean going vessel.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY CONFERS FIRST HONORARY DOCTORATES OF PHILOSOPHY ON WEIZMANN, MAGNES

JERUSALEM, July 7. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University today conferred its first honorary degrees of Doctor of Philosophy on Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Dr. Judah Magnes, president of the University.

Dr. Magnes, in a speech following the presentation of the degrees, reviewed Weizmann's role in the establishment of the institution. The awards were made by Sir Leon Simon, chairman of the University's executive council.

NEW EXECUTIVE TO COOPERATE IN TRANSFERRING HERZL'S REMAINS TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The newly-elected national executive of the Zionist Organization of America, at its first meeting today, appointed a committee headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to cooperate with other world Zionist bodies in bringing the removal of the remains of Theodor Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement, from Vienna to Palestine. It is planned to make Herzl's grave in Palestine a national shrine.

APPEALS TO CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION FOR ADMISSION OF DP'S TO UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, July 7. (JTA) -- President Truman today urged speedy passage by Congress of special legislation to enable "a substantial number" of displaced persons to enter the United States as immigrants. He did not specify either the Stratton bill or the measure introduced recently in the Senate by nine Senators providing for the admission of an unspecified number of displaced persons.

In a message to Congress emphasizing "the urgency of this subject," the President reiterated the "firm" policy of the United States to resist "any proposal to send these people back to their former homes by force, where it is evident that their willingness to return is based upon political considerations or fear of persecution." Pointing out that the problem is solely an emergency one resulting from the war, he said that "the only civilized course is to enable these people to take new roots in friendly soil." He cited the open door policy of certain Western European and Latin American countries and stated it was the "plain duty" of this country to cooperate with other nations in solving this tragic problem."

"We ourselves should admit a substantial number as immigrants," declared Mr. Truman. "We have not yet been able to do this because our present statutory quotas are applicable to the Eastern European areas from which most of these people come and are grossly inadequate for this purpose. Special legislation limited to this particular emergency will therefore be necessary if we are to share with other nations in this enterprise of offering an opportunity for a new life to this people."

The President reassured Congress that "there is no proposal for a general revision of our immigration policy as now enunciated in our immigration statutes," nor "relaxing present prescribed standards for all immigrants 'including these displaced persons.'" Stating that the International Refugee Organization will help to relieve the DP's, Mr. Truman explained that it is "only a service organization" unable to impose its will on member countries. Continuance of this organization and our financial support of its work will be required," he warned, "as long as the problem of these homeless people remains unsolved."

Says Displaced Persons Should Not Be Left in Camps Indefinitely

In strong terms the President declared that "it is unthinkable that they should be left indefinitely in camps in Europe." He dismissed the alternative of sending them out "in Germany into the community of the very people who persecuted them." The relatively small number who would be admitted, he insisted, could be easily absorbed "in the light of the vast numbers of people of all countries that have usefully assimilated into our national life."

The President further pointed out that most of the displaced persons "already have strong roots in this country--by kinship, religion, or national origin. Their occupational background clearly indicates that they can quickly become useful members of our American communities." Their kinsmen, he said, already in the United States, have been vital factors in developing American life.

Mr. Truman called on Congress to decide the fate of the DP's. "They live in growing uncertainty of their future," he said. "Let us join in giving them a chance for decent and self-supporting lives. I urge the Congress to press forward with its consideration of this subject and to pass suitable legislation as speedily as possible."

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AUSTRIAN LAWS RESTORE VICTIMS OF PERSECUTION TO FORMER JOBS; PAY PERSECUTED PENSION

VIENNA, July 7. (JTA) -- Partial restitution of pension and job rights for victims of fascism is provided in two new measures adopted by the Austrian parliament today.

Possibly the most important aspect of the laws is the fact that they cover political and religious victims not only of the post-Anschluss period, but also those who were persecuted during the Dolfuss and Schuschnigg regimes.

The first of the measures provides that persons who suffered persecution between 1933 and 1945 shall receive official certificates entitling them to preferential treatment in all government offices, particularly in the department of taxation. The government also undertakes to pay pensions to the widows and orphans of persons persecuted by the Fascists and Nazis, while survivors and their children are entitled to special relief payments.

The second piece of legislation restores to their former positions all persons who were discharged for religious or political reasons or because of their national origin. Social security payments and pensions withheld for the same reasons will be restored.

RABBIS FROM U.S. AND BRITISH ZONES OF GERMANY OPEN THREE-DAY CONFERENCE IN MUNICH

MUNICH, July 7. (JTA) -- Almost within sight of the spot at which Hitler in 1933 boasted he would "obliterate Jewry and Judaism from Germany," about 100 rabbis from the U.S. and British zones of Germany today opened a three-day conference to discuss various religious problems.

Among the long list of distinguished speakers and guests was Gen. Lucius D. Clay, American commander in Germany, who assured the rabbis and the more than 300 guests attending the opening session that the Jews will enjoy freedom and security in Germany as long as the American Army remains here, and "I am sure the Army will be here as long as you are here."

He said that he regretted that he could not answer the question of "when will you leave Germany," but added that the Army and the military government are giving "considerable attention" to Jewish problems and will do the utmost to improve the conditions of the Jews. Meanwhile, the General suggested, the rabbis should devote their efforts to restoring their people's "peace of mind plus their cultural and spiritual needs" in order to prepare them for their future tasks.

Parley Votes Thanks to Truman; Presents Bible to Gen. Clay

The conference voted to send President Truman a cable thanking the American people for their "contribution to humanity and freedom" and expressing the hope that American aid would continue. Rabbi Nathan Baruch, Vaad Hatzala representative in the American zone, presented Clay with a leather-covered copy of the Bible with his name inscribed on the cover. Rabbi Baruch announced that the Orthodox relief agency would send a similar Bible to the President.

Other speakers included Ambassador Robert Murphy; Brig. Gen. Walter Miller, military government director in Bavaria; Rabbi Philip Bernstein, advisor on Jewish affairs; Charles Passman, Joint Distribution Committee director in the U.S. zone; Dr. Sam Hoffman, Jewish Agency director; Dr. Philip S. Auerbach, Bavarian Commissioner for Persecutees; and David Treger, president of the Jewish Central Committee of Germany. Rabbi Solomon Shapiro, J.D.C. religious affairs director, chaired the meeting.

HUNGARIAN PREMIER CALLS NATION "TO ATONE" AT CEREMONY HONORING MEMORY OF JEWS KILLED

BUDAPEST, July 7. (JTA) -- In two separate ceremonies today Hungarian Jews honored the memory of the thousands of their co-religionists murdered by the Nazis in this country.

One ceremony was held at Kaposvar, about 100 miles southwest of Budapest, where a memorial to seven thousand Jews of that city, who died at the hands of the fascists, was unveiled at the local Jewish cemetery. An urn containing earth from a mass grave for Jewish victims at the Oswiecim death camp was interred.

Premier Lajos Dinnyes, who attended the services, told the gathering that "we have sinned greatly against democracy and liberty and we must atone." He expressed sympathy for the sufferings which the Jews underwent during the fascist regimes. Ann Kethly, vice-president of the parliament, and other leading government figures were present. Joseph Schwartz, Joint Distribution Committee European director, expressed the sympathy of American Jews and pledged fullest aid to the needy of the country.

In Jaszbereny, about 30 miles east of here, similar services were held in the town synagogue. Minister of State Arpad Szaksits, speaking for the government, declared: "Let us build a new world both for Jews and non-Jews and let us love one another irrespective of race or religion."

MEMBERS OF JEWISH THEATRE TROUPE FROM BERGEN-BELSEN PERMITTED TO REMAIN IN BELGIUM

BRUSSELS, July 7. (JTA) -- The Belgian Government has granted members of a Jewish theatre group from the Bergen-Belsen DP camp who have been touring the country permission to remain here, Minister of Justice Paul Strye announced in Parliament today amidst cheers and applause from the deputies.

The announcement was made following an appeal by Socialist deputy Isabelle Buisson who urged that permits for residence be granted to "these people who are about to return to Belsen after enjoying for a few days the amenities of civilized living and some of them have missed for a decade."

The members of the troupe sent Mme. Blume a letter of thanks in which they declared that their reception in Belgium, the first free country they have visited since the war, gave them confidence in a better future. The letter added that they hoped their stay in Belgium would be the first stage toward their eventual destination-- Palestine.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES JEWISH DELEGATION; PROMISES CITIZENSHIP TO REFUGEES

HAVANA, Cuba July 7. (JTA) -- President Dr. Ramon Grau San Martin this week received a delegation composed of Dr. Leon Kubowitzky, general secretary of the World Jewish Congress; Raphael Silber, president of the Central Council of Jewish Institutions in Cuba; and Dr. Richard Meisner, president of the Association of Jewish Refugees.

Dr. Kubowitzky submitted to the President a memorandum asking for naturalization of Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria who cannot acquire Cuban citizenship under the present regulations concerning former enemy nationals. The delegation also appealed to the President to open the doors of Cuba to large-scale Jewish immigration.

Emphasizing his interest in the Jews in Cuba and his sympathy for the displaced Jews in Europe, the President promised to facilitate the naturalization of Jewish refugees now in Cuba, but pointed out that he could do nothing about immigration without to refer the Jewish request to the proper authorities and advise them to give them their prompt attention.

### HUNGARIAN JEWISH MUSEUM REOPENED; TWO-THIRDS OF PRE-WAR COLLECTION DESTROYED BY NAZIS

BUDAPEST, July 7. (JTA) -- The Budapest Jewish Museum, closed during the war by the pro-fascist regime, was reopened today with the remnants of its former collection on display.

At least two-thirds of the paintings by Jewish artists owned by the museum were destroyed by the Nazis and their collaborators. Present at the reopening ceremony were members of the Hungarian Cabinet and Joseph Schwartz, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee.

### MORTALITY RATE AMONG JEWISH DP'S NOT TRUE INDEX OF HEALTH, OSE DIRECTOR SAYS

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The low mortality rate among Jews in Europe as evidenced by the absence of epidemics or large-scale outbreaks of infectious diseases cannot be interpreted as an indication of the good health of the DP's, Dr. Leon Wulman, executive director of the American OSE, declared in a report to a meeting of the organization's board of directors and its advisory council.

Dr. Wulman, who recently returned from a survey of the health conditions of European Jews, said that the health of the DP's must be judged by "more subtle criteria" such as psychological equilibrium, mental stability and nervous balance. Dr. Edward Kahn was elected chairman of the advisory council.

### HUNGARIAN ZIONISTS SAY "ASIRAI ZION" MISSION NOT SANCTIONED BY PALESTINE RABBINATE

MONTREAL, July 7. (JTA) -- The United Zionist Council of Canada today announced that it has received categorical denials from the Palestine Chief Rabbinate and Tel Aviv's Mayor Israel Rokach that they have authorized Palestinian attorney Seligman to represent them or speak in their behalf during his current fundraising tour for the Asirai Zion Fund (fund for detained Palestine Jews suspected of terrorism.)

While here and in Toronto, Seligman stated that he undertook his tour at the request of the Rabbinate and Mayor Rokach. The Zionist Council points out that earlier this year, the Zionist Organization of Canada issued a statement declaring that Jewish prisoners and their families were receiving ample care from the Jewish National Council of Palestine.

### JEWISH LEADER RECEIVES HIGHEST POLISH AWARD; SERVED AS GUERRILLA LEADER DURING WAR

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The Jewish Central Committee of Warsaw today informed the World Jewish Congress headquarters here that Dr. Adolph Berman, president of the committee, has been awarded the Cross of Grunwald, highest Polish medal. Dr. Berman is a member of the Polish National Council and served as a leader of Jewish guerrilla fighters during the Nazi occupation.

### REPORT OF BRITISH J.N.F. PRESENTS PLANS FOR RELIEVING HOUSING SHORTAGE IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- Plans to relieve the acute housing shortage in Palestine were outlined by Aaron Wright, president of the Jewish National Fund of Great Britain and Ireland, who is now in this country, at a dinner given in his honor by the American J.N.F. A special committee of Zionist leaders and businessmen was asked to study the proposals submitted by Mr. Wright.

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