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MAJORITY ON U.N. COMMITTEE FAVOR MODIFIED PARTITION; SHERTOK, HISTADRUTH HEARD

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- A majority of the members of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine definitely favor the idea of partition "with aspects of federalization" on the eve of their departure for Lebanon, where they will hear representatives of Arab countries.

The majority have accepted the principle of a Jewish state but are now struggling over the type of partition which will produce the smallest possible non-Jewish minority and, above all, which will have a chance of acceptance by the United Nations Assembly in September. They are considering a method of partition in which both states will jointly take over neutral services, such as railroads and post offices. Bi-nationalism has apparently fallen by the wayside, with the exception of a minority proposal which still interests some delegates.

Meanwhile, presentation of the Jewish case before the committee on Palestine went into its concluding stages today as the Histadruth offered testimony and Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency political chief, began answering the many questions posed by members of UNSCOP during the previous two weeks. Although the bulk of Shertok's testimony was completed today, he will wind up tomorrow.

Shertok painted a picture of the compelling necessity for the immediate establishment of a Jewish state and the tremendous promises such a solution held for the country, for both parts of the population and for the neighboring states.

Says No Arab Villages Destroyed by Jewish Settlement

Turning first to Indian delegate Sir Abdur Rahman's question as to how many Arab villages had been "wiped out" as a result of Jewish colonization, the Agency leader said that had never happened anywhere in Palestine. He cited the example of Wadi Hawarith where 1,100 Bedouins had formerly lived on 40,000 dunams (10,000) of land. Now, he reported, there are 26 Jewish settlements with a population of 1,500 in the area as well as the Bedouins who have increased in numbers to 1,700. The same Bedouins have since built two new villages--"not mud huts, but stone and concrete houses with tiled roofs." Wadi Harawith is "very characteristic" of what Jewish colonization has brought to the Arabs, Shertok asserted.

Replying to another of Rahman's queries, he stated that the Jews had acquired about 78,000 dunams of land in areas prohibited to Jews since the passage of legislation restricting Jewish land purchases in most of Palestine. He carefully pointed out that none of the 78,000 dunams had been acquired in defiance of the law but that preliminary arrangements for their purchase had been made well before the measure was announced.

He added that the High Commissioner, in whose hands is the responsibility for enforcement of the law, has been exceedingly rigid in its interpretation, to a degree where the exchange of a few dunams which would have benefitted the Arabs was prohibited. He quoted the present Lord Chancellor of Britain, Lord Jowitt, who character-

the restrictions as "savage" and declared that they were carried out savagely. He charged that they were not a measure for social protection, as claimed by the government, but were actually racial discrimination.

In answer to the government's charge that the disparity in the living standards between the Jews and the Arabs was at the base of the present state of affairs in the Holy Land, Shertok told the members of the committee that "there is no factual or statistical proof for that claim and we believe it cannot be proved. The danger of this theory is not in its facts but in its implications," he continued. "The implication of the government's theory is that Jewish development must be checked," he stated, whereas "Jewish development is the main agency of Arab progress."

He outlined eloquently the chief reasons for Jewish interest in Arab progress. First, "for intelligently selfish reasons--we do not want to lower Jewish standards to raise the Arab for our own benefit." He paused for a minute and then appealed to the U.N. delegates: "Gentlemen, I am not asking you to trust the altruism of the Arab. But trust the intelligence of the Jew in his appraisal of self-interest. Trust the Jew to be intelligently selfish. Selfishness is a better guarantee than altruism."

Jews Want To Raise Arab Standards To Prevent Competition of Cheap Labor

Continuing, he declared that the Jews were interested in raising the level of Arab life because "we do not want the competition of cheap Arab labor. We do not want the importation of cheap Arab labor from the neighboring countries. We want to purify the atmosphere in which we and our children live and have to live." He also pointed out that "a prosperous population is the backbone of our industry."

He listed a number of developments whose convergence at this time, he said, made the "coming of age of the Yishuv," and made continuation of the Mandate or a trusteeship unnecessary. He pointed to the general political pattern in the Middle East making it possible for a Jewish state to fit into the pattern in harmony. He cited the imperative need for large-scale immigration and settlement to save the Jews of Europe, to save the Oriental Jews and to "put our work in Palestine on a soundest basis." Finally, he said, the future of the Jews of the world is at stake--"whether the Jewish people will once and for all be helped to be rid of the scourge of homelessness."

He concluded with still further assurances that an Arab minority in a Jewish state would be "the happiest of all minorities throughout the world" because of the Jewish minorities in the neighboring Arab states, "our hostages in the Middle East throughout the world."

Shertok was preceded this morning by Zalman Rubashev, Histadruth representative and editor of its daily newspaper Davar, who asked UNSCOP to recommend free Jewish immigration, abolition of the White Paper and "the opportunity to establish the Jewish state in our homeland." He appealed: "Help us establish contact with the Arab nations as equals."

He declared that the Histadruth places itself completely at the disposal of the Jewish Agency in the reception and absorption of immigrants. After reviewing the situation of the Jews of Europe, he cited a survey among 8,000 Jewish refugees now working in Sweden as to whether they desired to remain there or go elsewhere. He said that only 53 desired to remain while the other 7,947 begged to be allowed to return to Palestine. He added that "another appeal for help" was coming from the Jews in the Arab countries.

Discussing the prospects for Jewish-Arab cooperation among the working class, Rubashev stressed: "We are not calling or anyone to reduce either the rights or requirements of the Arabs in any shape or form. But we ask you not to restrict our rights and not to prevent us from developing the untouched and neglected parts of Palestine."

UNSCOP DELEGATES CONFER WITH IRGUN LEADER IN SECRET HIDE-OUT; DISCUSS TRUCE

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- Dr. Jorge Garcia Granados of Guatemala and Prof. Enrique Rodriguez Fabregat of Uruguay, members of the United Nations committee, had a personal interview last night with Menahem Begin and other leaders of Irgun Zvai Ntzi.

They discussed the aims and hopes of the Irgun with regard to the UNSCOP inquiry and Begin promised that his organization would refrain from breaking the truce. Britain also refrained. Concerning the statement of the Mayor of Nathanya that Irgunists might free their two hostages if the British High Command gave a ray of hope for the three condemned Irgunists, Begin asserted that the Mayor could not speak for Irgunists or prophesy what they could do.

The two Latin American UNSCOP members gained the impression that Begin feels the situation is currently deadlocked with the government holding the condemned men of the Irgun, the two kidnapped hostages, and that he was waiting to see what the government will do when a ship carrying 4,000 refugees arrives here. He apparently regards this as one of a number of test cases. (A dispatch from Paris last week said that the 4,500-ton President Garfield had sailed from the port of Cette, near Marseille, bearing 4,000 Jewish refugees ostensibly bound for Colombia.)

Disclose Sandstroem Met This Week With Haganah Leaders

The delegates spoke in English, and were given refreshments during the interview, which was planned in great secrecy and followed by 48 hours a talk by Judge Eli Sandstroem, UNSCOP chairman, and two of his aides with leaders of the Haganah. Shortly before the dinner hour last night, Dr. Granados and Prof. Fabregat left Kadiot House in a United Nations car. They drove to an appointed spot where they parked their auto and entered a private car which awaited them. This took them to a third place, where another car carried them a great distance. Then they transferred to a fourth machine, after a short walk with escorts, and drove to a building where they were received by Begin and his staff. No indication was given of the city where the interview occurred. While the entire episode was surrounded with mystery-tale aspects, the two delegates were at no time blindfolded.

In the interview the entire Palestine problem was explored, the Irgun proposals were heard and many questions were asked. It is felt that the delegates' attitude regarding such an interview was that the dissidents are part of the Palestine problem, and committee members are obliged to investigate, listen and learn first-hand from all groups and factions have to say without necessarily endorsing their acts or policies.

JEWISH NEWSPAPERMEN PROTEST BAN ON ACCOMPANYING PROBERS TO LEBANON TO HEAR ARABS

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- The Palestine Journalists Association today sent a cable to Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, protesting against obstacles placed in the way of local Jewish reporters desiring to cover the hearings in Lebanon.

The cable said: "The chairman and press officer of UNSCOP have advised they are unable to obtain visas for accredited Jewish journalists for Lebanon, where the next UNSCOP sessions will be held. They suggest each apply individually in the ordinary way. The procedure is such that applications, if favorably considered, are granted in about a week but when applicants are Palestinian Jews they are invariably

ected after a lengthy delay. As the Committee is proceeding to Lebanon Sunday, urge prompt intervention."

At a closed session this afternoon, the Committee discussed among other things Lebanon's ban on the Jewish journalists. Later, they visited Government House for informal general discussion with the High Commissioner.

MARSHALL AGAIN ASKED TO RESTATE U.S. PALESTINE POLICY; HOUSE TO GET RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, July 16. (JTA) -- Secretary of State George C. Marshall has again been asked by a group of Republican Congressmen to clarify the U.S. policy on Palestine, specifically if it is intended that U.S. delegate to the U.N. Warren Austin appear before the Special Committee on Palestine and if stated U.S. policy on Palestine will be adhered to in presenting the U.S. case.

In a letter to the Secretary dated July 15 and signed by Congressman Jacob K. Javits of New York and 29 other House Republicans, it was pointed out that U.S. policy, enunciated in President Truman's letter to Ibn Saud, on Oct. 28, 1946, and a congressional resolution of Dec. 1945, clearly calls for the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

The letter asks specifically if Austin will appear before the special committee and "announce at that time": (a) the "continued adherence" to set policy and (b) "the willingness of the United States to join in the carrying out of a solution of the Palestine problem along the lines of such policy."

Released with the letter were copies of a House concurrent resolution which will be introduced in the House tomorrow "by at least 29 of the 30 Congressmen" who signed the letter. It calls upon the U.S. to "announce its continued adherence to its Palestine policy as established by the President and the Congress and its willingness to join in the carrying out of a solution of the Palestine problem along the lines of such policy."

Rep. Robert J. Twyman of Illinois, at a press conference concurrent with release of the letter and resolution, emphasized that the resolution was not intended to be a partisan issue, but that it was hoped that Democrats would introduce identical resolutions. The resolution, he said, has the "full sympathy" of the House leadership but "no definite assurance" of passage by either House this session. It has not been introduced in the Senate as yet.

In a previous letter to the Secretary the 30 Congressmen had requested that the State Department make clear our policy on Palestine. Marshall replied that he thought it "premature" to announce our policy until the U.N. committee had made its report.

10,500 JEWISH IMMIGRANTS ENTERED PALESTINE DURING LAST SIX MONTHS, GOVERNMENT REPORTS

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government today released immigration statistics for the six-month period from Dec. 15, 1946 to June 14, 1947, which revealed that 10,500 Jewish immigrants had been admitted to Palestine.

Nearly 3,900 of the immigrants came from Cyprus, 2,246 from the British zone of Germany and 543 certificates were subtracted for illegal immigrants who escaped from the blockade runner Susannah which beached on the southern Palestine coast. In addition, it listed some 2,600 certificates as issued by the Department of Migration and 243 allocated to the dependents of service personnel.

The official Gazette announced the new quota of 1,500 certificates for Jews and 200 for others for the July 15-August 14 period. Two hundred and fifty certificates will be allotted to parents of Palestine residents during this period.

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TITLED, SOME WOUNDED IN PALESTINE BLASTS; NATHANYA CURFEW EASED AS HUNT NEARS END

JERUSALEM, July 16. (JTA) -- At least one soldier was killed and several were wounded tonight in almost simultaneous explosions in the northern part of the country.

The blasts came as thousands of troops neared the end of a systematic combing of occupied Nathanya without uncovering arms or the two kidnapped Britons, whose capture precipitated the imposition of military rule. Only four suspects, including a woman, are being detained. All the others arrested yesterday have been released.

The house curfew, which had been in force since Monday night, was lifted temporarily between the hours of 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to allow food purchases. As of tomorrow, the curfew will be confined to the hours of 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. No vehicles may circulate through the town at any time without special passes.

An Irgun broadcast tonight says that the Haganah is not cooperating with the British in Nathanya. However, it attacks Mayor Oved Ben Ami as a "quisling," adding: "Do not forget he is not in the Warsaw Ghetto or any other European ghetto." A leftist broadcast earlier attacked the U.N. inquiry committee as "pro-British," and said that for this reason it will be impossible to maintain a truce until after the committee makes its report.

An official communique said that a military truck had been blown up on the Hahar Tikvah road, killing one soldier and injuring another. Two civilians were wounded nearby. A mine blasted a military car north of Hadera, causing no casualties. A jeep hit a mine on the Lydda-Petach Tikvah road, and several soldiers were wounded.

An earlier communique reported the killing of a Jewish supernumerary policeman who was on duty near a power station in Tel Aviv. He was shot down by fire from an automatic gun operated by unknown assailants, who hid in adjoining orange groves.

Jewish observers said that the government's announcement that one top and "second grade" terrorists had been discovered in Nathanya "sounded strange," since military rule had been expected for 36 hours, during which time there was ample opportunity for any person to leave the town. They also point out that continuation of the night curfew, although almost the entire city has been searched, indicates clearly that martial law was imposed as a punitive measure, rather than to facilitate capture of the kidnappers.

WORKERS THROUGHOUT RUMANIA REPORTEDLY BEING REINSTATED IN JOBS LOST DURING NAZI REGIMES

BUCHAREST, July 16. (JTA) -- A government commission which is completing an investigation of the reinstatement of Jewish workers to jobs from which they were ousted under racial legislation promulgated by pro-Nazi regimes, disclosed today that reports from all parts of the country, including sections of Transylvania, reveal that most of the Jews are rapidly returning to their former positions.

Meanwhile, following repeated protests by Jewish organizations, the Ministry of Labor has ordered all its local branches to register on their rolls Jews whose documents were lost as a result of persecution. Jews who lost their papers when deported or imprisoned have experienced great difficulty in proving their status as workers in a particular field and forfeited social security rights because they were not registered by the labor offices.

SHALL AND PATTERSON MAKE STRONG PLEAS FOR STRATTON BILL BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, July 16. (JTA) -- Secretary of State George C. Marshall and Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson today strongly urged passage of the Stratton Bill to admit 400,000 displaced persons to the United States over a period of four years. Cabinet members testified before the full Judiciary Committee, which augmented a Sub-committee on Immigration, which has been conducting hearings on the measure.

Secretary Marshall, emphasizing the importance of a definite stand by Congress, as quickly as possible, urged admission of "a substantial number of DP's as immigrants, to demonstrate that 'we practice what we preach.'" In answer to questioning by Rep. Emanuel Celler, Democrat of New York, he said that the situation is "critical" and that continuation of the DP camps is "bad and grows continually worse." As two compelling reasons for passage, he declared that it would represent affirmative action affirming "our moral leadership;" and, by admitting a sizeable number of DP's would stimulate other countries to take "an increased number." Marshall told the Committee that he spoke "with a good deal of personal feeling" about the DP's, in the light of his close association with the problem as Chief of Staff, and more recently, in its important bearing" on American foreign policy.

Rep. Frank L. Chelf, Democrat of Kentucky, said that in view of the probable difficulties in reporting favorably on the bill and of the intense sentiment in opposition to it, he would seek to amend it to admit 100,000 DP's. Marshall replied that this would help, that it would be "a lot better than nothing," but, answering a question by Rep. Celler, said that he "much preferred" admission of the 400,000.

Warns DP's Cannot Be Abandoned to German Economy

The Secretary reiterated testimony of other government officials that Congress is not being asked to assume a new problem, but to dispose of one already "on its hands." Rejecting the alternatives of forcible repatriation, abandoning the DP's to the German economy, and indefinite "segregation and maintenance" of the DP's in Germany, Marshall firmly stated his support for resettlement "in the various countries of the world willing to receive them."

"We had hoped a year ago," he said, "that admission of DP's into Latin America and other countries outside of Europe would solve the whole problem, but we now know it will not. Shiploads have moved to Paraguay and Brazil and some are now on their way to Venezuela. Other plans are in the making. But we cannot," he emphasized, "sit back ourselves and expect other countries to make all the positive efforts to solve this problem in which we are so directly concerned."

Rep. Gosset asked the Secretary if the U.S. does not have a larger proportion of immigrants than any other country in the world. Marshall snapped, "that is the significance of the Statue of Liberty."

The Secretary contended that turning the DP's over to the Germans "would be to perpetuate grave tensions and an ever present threat of internal conflict." He emphasized this later in his testimony and also argued against this solution as impracticable from an economic viewpoint, in view of the overcrowded and destroyed German economy. "I feel profoundly," he said, that the alternative of continued maintenance of DP's in Germany "with a prolonged contribution from the American taxpayer for their support directly or indirectly through the IRO" should not be adopted. He said that so far they "have done well in making the best of their situation... They have created much which is excellent in the life of their small communities. But men and women cannot be cut off indefinitely from any opportunity to help themselves

plan for their own lives and the lives of their children without an inevitable rationation."

Says U.S. in Better Position to Absorb Immigrants Than Other Countries

Marshall underscored the ability of the U.S. to absorb the DP's. "Although we left it to other countries to take the lead in active measures to alleviate this situation," he said, "yet we are actually in a better position to receive a substantial number of these people than any other nation. We have numbers of their stock already in this country who know their language and who have the resources and the interest to assume the task of fitting a relatively small number of their kinsmen in our vast economy, without expense to this nation in their resettlement, and with a reasonable assurance that they will not become public charges."

As one "deeply concerned" with the readjustment of veterans, Marshall vigorously doubted that they would favor turning over the DP's "to the people who uprooted and enslaved them, or kept them homeless in these camps."

Rep. Gosset, citing the Meader report (which alleged that Jewish DP's were unmaterial for American immigrants), and testimony of Rabbi Bernstein, adviser on Jewish affairs to General Clay in Germany, alleged that 150,000 Jewish DP's entered the American zone since the war primarily from Russia. Marshall said they came largely from Poland. Gosset said he had been told that at least half of the high government officials of Poland are Jews, that "Russian Jews are now running Poland." Marshall said he had no information to this effect.

Texas Democrat Charges Disproportionate Number of Visas Allotted Jews

Gosset asserted that 75 percent of the visas issued under the President's directive of last December, giving immigration priority to DP's, have been allocated to Jewish persons, although they constitute only 20 percent of the DP's. He further asserted that those DP's with money and influence would receive favored treatment in priority of admission. Marshall doubted that there would be any frequency of such cases.

Rep. Louis Graham, Republican of Pennsylvania, expressed concern over Section of the bill which gives priority to relatives of American citizens or of persons served in the armed forces. He asked Marshall whether there was cause for alarm that this provision might give special privilege to any racial group. Marshall immediately replied "no." He contended, however, that it is "more sensible" for DP's bringing relatives in the U.S. to come here than to go, for example, to France, where they have none, and vice versa.

Celler asked the Secretary if he had confidence in Rabbi Bernstein, and Marshall replied "yes." Celler then cited the case of Jewish DP's who had returned to Poland, and some of whom were killed in the Kielce pogrom. "Would you say that this is persecution?" Marshall agreed, and said that there are "many ways of persecution" other than physical torture or imprisonment. "You can be a pariah in your community, you can be made a failure in business effort, you can be made desperately unhappy in your family life," Marshall declared.

Secretary of War Patterson argued for the bill on the grounds of humanity, economy for the U.S., the contribution to be received from the skills of the DP's, and help for world peace. He echoed Marshall's argument of the importance of U.S. leadership in the over-all resettlement program.

To Rep. Gosset's question whether admission of the DP's is "tied in with the Palestine question," Patterson retorted "not a bit." When Gosset called for resettlement

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of the DP's in areas of smallest density of population, as in Australia, Patter- who several times seemed on the verge of irritation, pointed out that "the e of the interior of Australia is uninhabitable."

Secretary of Commerce Harriman, in a statement placed in the record, declared self "wholeheartedly" in favor of the bill, contending that a haven in the U.S. the refugees would be "to our ultimate national advantage" in economic terms.

DETERIORATION OF FOOD CONDITIONS IN DP CAMPS REVEALED IN SURVEY BY JTA CORRESPONDENT

MUNICH, July 16. (JTA) -- The food situation in the DP camps has deteriorated such an extent that the displaced Jews are being forced into the black market in er to obtain an adequate diet, DP camp leaders told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency respondent during a two-day survey of a number of large camps in this area.

Every camp reported chronic shortages of highly nutritive foods such as vege- les, eggs, milk and fresh meats. The Army has been substituting nutritionally low rch foods thereby maintaining the 2,000 calories in the daily food ration.

As a direct result of this policy, the camp leaders said, the Jews are compel- to take excess foods such as macaroni and flour and barter them to the Germans protein-rich foods. As one DP spokesman said: "No man, not even a DP, is going watch his wife and children do without necessary food day after day."

It was also learned that the food situation took a sharp turn for the worse following the adoption of ex-President Herbert Hoover's food plan for the Germans er which Germany obtained large quantities of the Army's 5-in-1 rations which etofore were almost exclusively allotted to the DP's. This development lends ight to the charge made in DP quarters that the Army intends to place the refugees the same diet as the Germans.

FOUR GESTAPO MEN, TRUSTEES SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR TORTURING MUEHLDORF CAMP PRISONERS

MUNICH, July 16. (JTA) -- Four Gestapo guards and prison trustees were today sentenced to life imprisonment by an American war crimes court at Dachau for tor- roring inmates of the Muehldorf concentration camp. Two other defendants were given nsecutive terms of four and fifteen years, while a seventh was acquitted.

The Muehldorf camp, which is about 60 miles from Dachau, housed some 8,300 isoners, almost all Jews, who were building an underground aircraft factory. Tes- mony revealed that some 47 percent of the prisoners were beat, shot and tortured death. The remainder were scheduled for extermination but were rescued by the vancing American armies.

ITALIAN POLICE SEIZE THREE JEWS ON SUSPICION OF BEING IMPLICATED IN SHIP BLAST

GENOA, July 16. (JTA) -- Police yesterday arrested three Jewish refugees on uspicion of being implicated in the explosion aboard the Panamanian vessel Vrisi, hich sank here on Friday. All refugees passing through the city were questioned.

It was disclosed that the British authorities in Italy last week asked the talian police to watch the Vrisi, which they suspected was being readied for car- rying visaless Jews to Palestine.

("Defenders of Arab Palestine," a British group, yesterday notified the London ees that it had been responsible for the Vrisi blast. Scotland Yard said today hat it was investigating the persons behind the group, which has sent threatening etters to prominent Jews, including Benn Levy, Labor M.P.)