

TA Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

A. CORRESPONDENT STILL BARRED FROM LEBANON, ALTHOUGH GOVT. LIFTS BAN ON OTHERS

JERUSALEM, July 18. (JTA) -- All newspaper correspondents, foreign, Jewish and Jewish--with the single exception of Gerold Frank of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency--today were granted Lebanese visas to cover the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine which moves to Beirut Sunday.

Granting of visas by Lebanon to French, South African and Palestine correspondents, and those already given to United States reporters traveling with Frank, left Frank as the only one specifically banned. UNSCOP said it was powerless to intervene since it was a matter between Frank and the Lebanese. When asked the reason for the Lebanese action, that country's consul here replied today: "My hands are tied. The ban came from Beirut."

It is understood the ban was ordered by the Lebanese Foreign Office not only because of the sensational interview obtained by Frank last year with the Maronite Archbishop of Beirut, in which he expressed sympathy with the Zionist cause, but also because Frank had charged in his writings that Lebanon was a "police state."

Theodore Backer of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency is among those accredited to Lebanon.

UNSCOP Secretariat Instructed By U.N. To Protest Refusal to Admit Frank

LAKE SUCCESS, July 18, (JTA) -- United Nations officials said today that further instructions were being sent to the UNSCOP secretariat in Jerusalem in connection with the Lebanese discrimination against Gerold Frank, special correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, in the granting of a visa to accompany the inquiry mission to Palestine.

The United Nations is taking the position that there must be no discrimination against any correspondents accredited to the United Nations commission. Officials point out the precedent established in the case of the Balkans commission when Rumania sought to bar an Associated Press correspondent. At that time, the United Nations insisted that under the London convention this correspondent could not be barred on personal grounds. The same situation is described as prevailing in the Frank case.

Adrian Pelt, Acting Secretary-General, last night cabled Dr. Victor Hoo, chief of the UNSCOP secretariat, to remind the Lebanese Government of the London convention. The cable, which was sent before the U.N. had received official word that Frank had been barred, was motivated by the original Lebanese decision not to grant visas to Jewish correspondents.

JEWS TRANSFERRED TO DEPORTATION VESSELS IN HAIFA PORT AS U.N. PROBES WATCH

HAIFA, July 18. (JTA) -- Forty-five hundred visaless Jewish immigrants, the last single group to attempt to run the British blockade on one ship, were today shipped to deportation vessels in the harbor here under the eyes of U.N. inquiry committee chairman Emil Sandstroem and Yugoslav alternate delegate Vladimir Simitch.

During a battle when the refugees' vessel, "Exodus 1947" was intercepted, one was shot to death and 125 were wounded, 25 seriously, according to Jewish Agency reports. A government communique, however, said no deaths had occurred.

The entire city of Tel Aviv went on a general strike in response to a radioed call from the immigrant vessel, which called on the entire Jewish community of Palestine to strike. All shops and offices, including the municipalities departments, closed down and all transportation came to a halt in Tel Aviv.

Both the Jewish Agency and the Haganah transmitted an appeal from the ship to members of UNSCOP to aid them and to witness the deportation to Cyprus.

An official announcement revealed that the first British attempt to capture the vessel was made some time after 2 a.m. this morning. From the Exodus' continuous broadcasts was pieced together the story of the one-sided battle. The British naval ship, consisting of a war cruiser and five destroyers, opened fire on the over 1,000-ton former American excursion boat with tear gas, smoke bombs and small arms, without warning.

The first attempts to board the vessel resulted in the British raiders being repulsed and their arms tossed overboard. A number of combatants on both sides were killed. For the first time since the visaless ships started arriving in Palestine, Jews responded to British gas bombs with tear gas missiles of their own.

The engagement continued with short respites for about five hours during which the warships closed in on the Exodus and rammed her a number of times from all sides. The ship sprang a number of leaks and at one time reported that she was in danger of sinking. During the latter part of the clash the bridge of the vessel was controlled by a party of British seamen, but the ship's crew was still in control of her engines and steering apparatus.

British Sailors Board Vessel in International Waters

Throughout the engagement the Jewish Agency and the Haganah were in touch with the vessel and charted her course from south of Jaffa at about 1:50 a.m., when the immigrants called on the inhabitants of Tel Aviv to welcome them home, until 9:30 a.m. It was reported that the British were in control of the vessel and were forcing it to proceed to Haifa. The entire boarding operation, begun about 17 miles off the Tel Aviv coast, took place in international waters.

The ship's radio reported that five of the wounded were dying and that a number of the injured were in desperate need of blood transfusions. It also declared that a woman passenger had died during the journey, after being delivered of twins. The British reported three sailors requiring hospitalization, and the Haifa naval hospital ordered to prepare beds for forty persons.

According to the official communique, damage resulted to both the Exodus and several other naval vessels as the blockade runner twisted and turned in an attempt to reach

shore and beach itself. It also accused the passengers of using gas bombs, oil steam jets and other missiles and of releasing life rafts from the upper decks the destroyers when they drew alongside.

Arrival of Refugees in Cyprus Will Bring Internee Population To 20,000

The first party of immigrants taken off the battle-scarred Exodus was placed aboard the Ocean Vigor. When all the passengers reach Cyprus they will increase the island's interned population to over 20,000. The camp facilities were originally set for a maximum of 10,000. Recently, an outbreak of typhoid fever occurred due to a shortage of water on the island.

The blockade runner, originally named President Warfield, began her career as a pleasure craft in Chesapeake Bay. After the war she was sold for scrap. A man, identified only as being "from New York," purchased it for \$40,000, ostensibly for use in the waters. It next made its appearance at the French port of Cette where the passengers embarked.

The Haganah tonight broadcast a statement that the Exodus was the first of many ships due to arrive in Palestine waters despite the British diplomatic and military blockade. The announcer said that its arrival was also an answer "to many who make our own camp" who assert that unauthorized immigration has ceased.

BRITON KILLED, EIGHT PERSONS WOUNDED IN THIRD DAY OF ATTACKS IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, July 18, (JTA) -- One British soldier was killed and at least eight other persons, including a Jewish bystander, were wounded today in a new series of attacks on British military personnel. This is the third successive day of raids since Nathanya was placed under martial rule.

The fatality occurred when a military truck was blown up by an electrically detonated landmine near Kfar Bilu, in the Nathanya area. Three other soldiers riding in the vehicle were seriously injured.

In Jerusalem four attacks took place today. In the city near the Machne Yehuda market place several terrorists opened fire on a passing military truck from behind a low stone wall, wounding two soldiers. When the troops on the truck returned the fire, a Jewish civilian in the crowded street was hit. He was taken to the Hadassah hospital where he is said to be in a critical condition.

The area was immediately cordoned off by police and military reinforcements. All men in the area were detained in hastily-erected wire cages and were questioned. During the hunt a single shot rang out and another soldier was hit. His assailant was not immediately captured.

A Government communique revealed that a jeep and a staff car were fired upon outside of Jerusalem. No injuries were reported. At an entrance to one of the "protected" zones in which military and civilian government personnel work and live in this city's sentry was wounded when a hand grenade was hurled at him.

At about 7 p.m. tonight the sirens sounded in the city for the second time within two hours when an incendiary bomb was set off under an armored patrol car. No details concerning casualties were divulged.

Extending the area of their hunt for the two kidnapped British soldiers held by the Irgun, the British forces today cordoned off Magdiel and Kfar Saba, two small settlements about half-way between Tel Aviv and Nathanya. The troops withdrew later in the day after a thorough search which uncovered nothing incriminating.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE INTERIM BODY RECOMMENDS POSTPONEMENT OF FOURTH SESSION

NEW YORK, July 18. (JTA) -- The Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference announced today that it has recommended postponement to November of the fourth session of the Conference, which was slated to be held on Labor Day week-end to discuss conversion of the organization into a permanent body.

The announcement said that several organizations affiliated with the Conference requested the postponement in order to avoid a conflict with "an important emergency Jewish international gathering requiring the presence of a substantial number of delegates and officers." The meeting referred to is apparently the conference of the World Zionist Actions Committee, which is slated to meet in Switzerland at the end of August.

Delegates to the Conference are being asked to indicate whether they favor a postponement. A letter signed by Louis Lipsky, executive committee chairman, expressed regret for the inconvenience that would be caused by the postponement, but suggested that the additional time could be used for wider public hearings on the new form of organization.

HEARINGS ON STRATTON BILL CONCLUDE WITH TESTIMONY BY ATTORNEY-GENERAL TOM CLARK

WASHINGTON, July 18. (JTA) -- House hearings on the Stratton Bill ended this morning with testimony by Attorney-General Tom Clark, who strongly supported the measure.

Clark told the House Sub-Committee on Immigration that "practically every person who appeared in support of this bill presented his facts and views on the basis of actual experience or first-hand acquaintance with the subject," while most of the opposition witnesses had based their testimony on a long-standing prejudice to immigration itself.

He urged the Committee to bear such prejudices in mind in determining the weight which should be given to their utterances in opposition to this bill. "As a lawyer, I feel justified in saying that these witnesses lack qualification to state essential facts and lack the qualification of expert witnesses," Clark charged.

Refuting charges that admission of 400,000 displaced persons, as provided by the Stratton Bill, would take jobs away from American workers, Clark cited the testimony of A.F.L. President William Green and CIO President Philip Murray on behalf of the measure. He reiterated that there was no intention of changing the basic immigration law of the U.S.

Earl G. Harrison, chairman of the Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons, last night charged that a move is being made in the Senate to stall action on the entry of displaced persons in America "for two years at least, possibly until they are dead." Mr. Harrison said that Senate Resolution 137, introduced by Sen. Chapman Revercomb, Republican of W. Va., on July 11 on the floor of the Senate for action, "will, if passed, hopelessly entangle the displaced persons problem in Congressional investigation, red-tape, fumble and delay."

Rep. Frank Fellows, yesterday in the House introduced a resolution similar to Senator Revercomb's, calling for an investigation of the immigration system.

WILLIAM TUCK, U.S. NOMINEE, NAMED HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ORGANIZATION

GENEVA, July 18. (JTA) -- William H. Tuck, of the United States, was today elected executive secretary of the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization, succeeding Arthur J. Altmeyer, who resigned this week. Proposed by the American delegate, George L. Warren, Tuck was elected unanimously. Sir Arthur H. H. H. H., deputy secretary of the British Ministry of Health, was appointed deputy executive secretary of the Preparatory Commission.

(According to the State Department, Tuck worked with Herbert Hoover on the Commission for Relief of Belgium during World War I. When Hoover made his recent round-the-world food survey for President Truman, he was accompanied by Tuck. The new IRO served as a captain in the Navy during World War II.)

DELEGATES FROM NINE COUNTRIES TO STUDY WAYS OF COMBATTING EUROPEAN ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, July 18. (JTA) -- An attempt to formulate a "cure for anti-Semitism" will be made at the Conference of International Experts on the Resurgence of Anti-Semitism in Europe, scheduled to be held in Switzerland from July 30th to Aug. 5th, according to Dr. Everett Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews in the United States.

Describing anti-Semitism as a "social and psychological disease," Dr. Clinchy said he believed all church bodies, as well as the press, radio and movies, should mobilize to combat it. At a press conference, Dr. Clinchy, Dr. Willard Goslin, U.S. educator, and Rabbi Julian Feibelman of New Orleans, agreed that the strongest weapon in the fight against anti-Semitism was education.

The delegates to the Conference stressed that German anti-Semitism was chiefly an international problem which the National Conference of Christians and Jews would be willing to tackle along with UNESCO. It was revealed that the Conference hoped to form a "task force" to tour Germany to help eradicate the problem of anti-Semitism through an educational campaign. Other delegates to the Conference are Prof. Selig Brodetsky, Neville Laski, and Rabbi Philip Bernstein. In addition to the United States and Britain, countries represented at the meeting will be Greece, Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Germany and Czechoslovakia.

SWEDEN CONSIDERING LAW WHICH COULD CURB ANTI-SEMITISM, JUSTICE MINISTER SAYS

STOCKHOLM, July 18. (JTA) -- The Minister of Justice today told the Swedish Parliament that the government is considering a law which would be applicable to anti-Semitic propaganda.

The government will not propose that Parliament pass a special law against group hatred, he said, adding that "you have to fight anti-Semitism chiefly by the use of widespread, serious information."

THREATENING LETTERS SIGNED BY "DEFENDERS OF ARAB FREEDOM" SENT TO ITALIAN JEWS

ROME, July 18. (JTA) -- Threatening letters signed by the "Defenders of Arab Freedom" have been received by the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, the Zionist Federation and the Palestine Office of Charitable Institutions and by the heads of these organizations, it was disclosed here.

Apparently referring to the sinking of the Vrissi in Genoa harbor last Friday, the mimeographed letters read: "This is our first warning. We have supplied proof that we are able to pierce the belly of your infested ships, and we can easily cut your throat." The letters were turned over to the police.

TO AID COMMUNITIES PLANNING PERMANENT USO-TYPE SERVICES FOR ARMED FORCES

NEW YORK, July 18. (JTA) -- When the USO is formally liquidated on December 31, 1947, communities planning to provide a permanent, peace-time, inter-faith and inter-racial community-wide service program for the armed forces and hospitalized veterans like those developed by USO during the war years will have at their disposal the manpower, resources and experiences of the National Jewish Welfare Board, Frank L. Weil, JWB president, announced here today. JWB is one of the six member agencies of USO.

The first major city in a military area to launch such a post-war USO type of program is Philadelphia, Mr. Weil said. In that city the Community Chest accepted the report of a committee of the local USO Council calling for the establishment of the Philadelphia Service Council to carry on continuing USO type services on a peace-time basis. After December 31, 1947, the new Council will be financed by the Community Chest. Milton Feitelson, former USO-JWB director in Philadelphia, has been named director of the new service program. The Philadelphia Army and Navy Committee of 1943, one of 300 still functioning, is integrally related to the new program.

MIZRACHI TO MEET IN SWITZERLAND TO DISCUSS REVISION OF ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

July 18. (JTA) -- At the request of the American Mizrahi movement, a special consultative conference of the General Mizrahi movement has been called for August 15 in Zurich, Switzerland, to formulate proposals for the creation of a new international organizational structure, it was announced today by Leon Gellman, national president of the Mizrahi Organization of America.

The conference will be attended by about 75 leaders of the General Mizrahi movements in England, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Holland, Palestine, United States, and the Jewish DP camps in the U.S. zones of Germany and Austria.

JEWISH BOY SCOUT LEADER, 60 SCOUTS WILL ATTEND WORLD JAMBOREE IN FRANCE NEXT MONTH

NEW YORK, July 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Harry Lasker, national director of Jewish Relationships, Boy Scouts of America, will attend the Sixth World Scout Jamboree in Molsson, France, August 9 to 22, as a member of the general staff of the American delegation which consists of 1,090 Boy Scouts and leaders from every state, including more than 60 of the Jewish faith.

Dr. Lasker, an ordained rabbi, will arrange religious services for those of the Jewish faith at the Jamboree, as well as aboard the Army Transport "General H. Muir" upon which the United States delegation sails from New York on July 24. The "Jamboree of Peace," as the gathering will be known, will bring together at Molsson, 40 miles northwest of Paris, 30,000 Scouts from 39 nations.

BOSTON LEADER SAYS REFUGEES ON CYPRUS KEPT ALIVE BY U.S. JEWS THROUGH U.J.A.

New York, July 18. (JTA) -- Fred Monosson, prominent Boston Jewish leader and chairman of the national rainwear division of the United Jewish Appeal, reported here upon his return from Cyprus that the 16,000 Jewish refugees detained on that island are alive and healthy today because of the U.J.A.

One of the few American Jewish leaders permitted to visit the Mediterranean detention center, Mr. Monosson said that the homeless Jews "are healthy and seem well cared for but all are eager to leave the barbed wire atmosphere and to get to Palestine as soon as possible." Mr. Monosson said he was particularly impressed with the "outstanding" health and child care program conducted on Cyprus by the J.D.C.