

JTA Daily News Bulletin

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 VOTES TO START INQUIRY INTO U.S. IMMIGRATION SYSTEM; DP ENTRY TO BE STUDIED
 111 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

WASHINGTON, July 28. (JTA) -- An investigation into the whole field of immigration, which will also cover the question of admission of displaced persons to the United States, was voted by the Senate in the closing hours of the current session, which adjourned at 3:50 A.M. today.

The resolution, as originally introduced by Senator Chapman Revercomb, Republican of West Virginia, called for a full-scale inquiry into the existing immigration laws. Sen. Revercomb stressed that the United States has "no obligation" to admit refugees. However, his resolution was amended and now provides for an investigation by a five-man unit of the Judiciary Committee of all phases of the immigration system, and specifically how the entry of displaced persons would affect the country. The resolution also provides that a report be made on January 10, after Congress is reconvened.

Senator John S. Cooper, Kentucky Republican, replied to Revercomb's repeated assertions that the U.S. is not obligated to admit some of the refugees by pointing out that "if we enter upon this investigation without having in mind the possibility and idea that eventually we shall accept some of these persons, then I cannot see the reason or excuse for the investigation, so far as it relates to displaced persons."

Pointing out that U.S. participation in the International Refugee Organization involves participation in resettlement of the refugees, Sen. Cooper said that he did not see how the U.S. could ask other countries to take them without doing its share. "We have urged Britain to do something about Palestine. I do not think we can speak out of one corner of our mouth in that way, telling another country to do something about the matter and then, speaking out of the other corner of our mouth, say that we will not take any steps in that direction ourselves."

Minority Leader Alben Barkley, in a long speech urging passage of the resolution, said he thought that "the peace of the world cannot be preserved when a million or two displaced, distressed, despairing men and women wander all over the face of the earth trying to discover a place where they may find security." He expressed regret that legislation to admit DP's to this country was not passed by Congress in this session.

U.S. Protection for "Exodus 1947" Refugees Urged; Britain Criticized

Extension of American protection and assistance to the 4,500 Jewish refugees from the "Exodus" was proposed in the closing hours of the Senate by Senator Edwin Johnson, Democrat of Colorado. Declaring that it is within the power of the President to extend such aid, and in accord with American tradition and precedent, Johnson proposed that President Truman "direct our military and naval establishments in Europe to offer these 4,500 concrete help."

Senator Dennis Chavez, Democrat of New Mexico, attacked British policy in Palestine, in a speech on the Senate floor.

ISH OFFICIALS APPREHENSIVE AS BRITISH PREPARE TO DISEMBARK 4,500 DEPORTEES TODAY

MARSEILLE, July 28. (JTA) -- Jewish officials were tonight awaiting with grim apprehension the scheduled disembarkation tomorrow morning at nearby Port du Bouc of 4,500 refugee Jews being returned from Palestine aboard three British prison ships.

The scope of the preparations being made by French officials would seem to indicate that they anticipate that the refugees will be landed. Original plans to disembark them into lighters, which would have facilitated the refugees' refusal to leave the ships, have been abandoned and the transports are now due to dock at Port Bouc piers.

Special trains have been ordered to carry the Jews from the ships to dispersal points and plans have been made to house 1,500 of the immigrants in the Miramas race track, 1,000 in a former U.S. Army camp and the remainder in other installations. About 400 are expected to require hospitalization.

A large official delegation, including Andre Blumel, political advisor of the Jewish Agency in France, who is here in a governmental capacity, arrived late last night to observe the ships' landing and to ascertain whether use of force by the British to effect disembarkation of the 4,500 would involve a violation of international law.

French Not Expected to Intervene if British Use Force

Members of the delegation pointed out today that one of the key issues is the question of whether the three transports are listed as merchant ships or British warships. If they are in the former category, the French have certain authority over them. However, if they are listed as warships, they are considered British territory and, as such, inviolate. Also involved is whether the crew are merchant seamen or in the Royal Navy. It seems likely that the French authorities will not intervene even if force is used. A high French official told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency: "We cannot start a war with Britain over this incident."

Final preparations for receiving the deportees were discussed this morning at a meeting of French officials with the captain of the destroyer Cardigan Bay, one of the warships escorting the deportation ferries. The Cardigan Bay put in at Marseille early this morning.

Local and Paris authorities have been holding almost continuous consultations with representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Marine Ministry, the Army, the Red Cross and local health authorities. Special attention is being paid to sanitation precautions, since it is feared that epidemics may have broken out on the deportation ships. Underfoot everywhere are more than 100 newspapermen who have been assigned to cover the landing which has attracted world-wide attention.

Meanwhile, a report from Paris quotes Jewish Agency quarters there as declaring that strong pressure is being exerted on the refugees to make them land. The Agency statement is being interpreted in some quarters as an indication that the Zionists now believe that the refugees will disembark.

800 VISALESS JEWS SHIPPED TO CYPRUS; 1,100 APPREHENDED ABOARD TWO BLOCKADE RUNNERS

HAIFA, July 28. (JTA) -- Nearly 800 of over 1,100 visaless Jewish immigrants intercepted aboard two blockade runners and brought into Haifa just after dawn this morning were tonight en route to Cyprus. The remaining four hundred will stay aboard their ship until the British provide more shipping to remove them to the island.

The two vessels, the Shivat Zion (Return to Zion) and the Fourteen Heroes (named in honor of 14 members of Haganah who died in a premature blast last year)

re escorted into the harbor by destroyers which had been seeking them since last Monday. The crew of the Shivat Zion damaged its engines, and a tug was forced to tow her in.

Passengers aboard neither ship offered resistance to boarding parties, but on the former a number of Jews refused to be transhipped despite the fact that they were told that the sooner they disembarked the sooner they would be sent to Cyprus. Under the present immigration quotas assigned to the internees, it will take this group about two years to enter Palestine, it was officially announced.

Transhipped from the Shivat Zion were 190 men, 81 women and 127 children, in addition to two stretcher cases. Of the Fourteen Heroes' 800 passengers, 398 were transhipped. A total of eleven men and women from both ships were hospitalized and of their relatives remained in Palestine pending their recovery.

THREE PALESTINE YOUTHS TO BE HANGED TODAY; IRGUN WARNS HOSTAGES WILL DIE

JERUSALEM, July 28. (JTA) -- The three Irgunists doomed for participation in the Acre jail break last May will be hanged tomorrow, it was announced tonight by the government.

Menachem Beigin, commander of the Irgun, immediately announced that the two British soldiers kidnapped on July 13 as hostages would also be hanged. Earlier, it was reported that the two had been tried by a kangaroo court and found guilty of being members of "an occupying army illegally on Palestine soil."

An Irgun statement issued tonight warned that "Palestine's streets will run red with British blood. We are starting our campaign now."

The relatives of the condemned men, as well as their lawyers, have already left for Acre Prison, where the executions will take place. Among them is Edith Weiss, sister of one of the youths, who arrived here from Czechoslovakia three weeks ago.

Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog has communicated with the High Commissioner, appealing for clemency, but as yet has received no reply. The rabbinate at Haifa, meanwhile, has assigned rabbis to accompany the youths to the gallows and to arrange for their funerals.

The announcement of the scheduled executions cast a pall over the Jewish community. Surprise was expressed that the time of execution had been revealed in advance, since usual procedure is to notify only the next of kin and other persons directly involved. Some quarters interpreted it as an "invitation" to the Irgun to hang the hostages.

The three who are to die tomorrow are Abshalom Habib, 20; Jacob Ben Joseph Weiss, 23; and Meir Ben Kadourie Nakar, 21. They were sentenced to death by a British military court on June 16, and the sentence was confirmed on July 12.

A section of Jerusalem and two Jewish settlements were today cordoned off as police hunted terrorists and continued to search for the two kidnapped sergeants. The northwestern suburban area of Jerusalem was cut off this morning and troops carried out an intensive man-hunt for persons responsible for attacks in the city during the last few days. Nine persons were detained for further interrogation.

In Kfar Saba and Ness Ziona, soldiers and police found no trace of the abducted men. The former settlement is in the Tel Aviv area, and the latter is in the Ramat Hashikma district. All cordoning operations began at dawn.

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MEMBERS OF U.N. PALESTINE COMMITTEE CLASH IN GENEVA ON ISSUE OF VISITING DP CAMPS

GENEVA, July 28. (JTA) -- Members of the U.N. Special Committee on Palestine, who began meeting here today in the headquarters of the United Nations, clashed almost immediately on the question of visiting the camps for displaced Jews.

Opposing the proposal to visit the DP camps in Germany was the representative of India who did not seek to cloak his pro-Arab attitude during the hearings of UNSCOP in Palestine. The meetings of the committee here are being held in camera.

The League of Red Cross Societies here today received a cabled appeal from the Red Mogen David in Palestine, asking help for the Exodus 1947 refugees who are expected to arrive today or tomorrow at Port du Bouc, France. Grave concern is expressed here over the selection of Port du Bouc, since it is feared it may indicate that the deportees may be placed in camps in the areas which were formerly occupied by interned Spanish republicans.

U.N. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONTAINS THREE ITEMS ON PALESTINE

LAKE SUCCESS, July 28. (JTA) -- The provisional agenda of the session of the United Nations General Assembly which will open on September 16 was made public today. It contains the following three items dealing with the Palestine question:

1. The request submitted by the United Kingdom on April 2, 1947, to place the Palestine issue on the agenda at the next regular session of the Assembly, when the British Government will ask the United Nations to make recommendations concerning the future government of Palestine.
2. The report of the U.N. Special Committee on Palestine which is now being prepared by the members of the committee in Geneva.
3. The request of the Saudi Arabian and Iraq governments for the termination of the Palestine mandate and the recognition of Palestine's independence as a unitary state.

The three items are part of a 43-item program listed in the provisional agenda. Additional items may be submitted up to 25 days before the opening date of the Assembly.

(Arab sources in Jerusalem said that the Palestine Arab Higher Committee has invited Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, extremist leader who has remained outside the Committee, to join the Palestine Arab delegation being sent to Lake Success for the General Assembly session.)

EGYPTIAN JEWISH GROUP BACKS NATION'S DEMAND TO U.N. FOR EVACUATION OF BRITISH TROOPS

CAIRO, July 28. (JTA) -- In connection with Premier Nokrashi-Pasha's departure for the U.S. to present the Egyptian case before the U.N. Security Council, the Jewish Democratic Front today cabled U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie expressing the hope that the Security Council will support Egyptian demands for independence, evacuation of British troops and unity of the Nile Valley (which would include the Sudan).

U.S., BRITAIN AND FRANCE SUPPORTING TRANSJORDAN BID FOR U.N. SEAT

LAKE SUCCESS, July 28. (JTA) -- Representatives of the United States, Britain, France, China, Brazil, Belgium and Syria today voiced support of Transjordan's application for membership in the United Nations, when the matter came up before the U.N. Membership Committee. Discussion of the application will be continued when the Committee resumes meeting on Wednesday.

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PRAGUE JEWS CONCERNED AT GOVERNMENT MOVE TO TAKE OVER COMMUNITY BUILDING

PRAGUE, July 28. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders have expressed concern over a demand of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Health that the building housing the Prague Jewish Community's Home for the Aged be confiscated by the government and converted into a nurses training school.

The building served as a home until 1944, and after the liberation was returned to the community. At that time the Ministry sought to obtain the building, but changed its mind because of the excessive costs involved in repairing it. Since then the Jewish community has invested 2,000,000 crowns (\$40,000) in it, some of which was provided by Jewish relief agencies from abroad.

Sandor Nathan and Ferenc Jambor, Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod representatives who were expelled from Hungary for passport "irregularities," arrived here today. It was reported that the Czechoslovak representative in Budapest has intervened for Nathan who is a Czech citizen.

GERMAN RACIAL AND POLITICAL PERSECUTEES DEMAND RESTORATION TO PRE-1933 STATUS

MUNICH, July 28. (JTA) -- Addressing a meeting of 1,200 racial and political persecutees here today, Dr. Philip Auerbach, Bavarian Commissioner for Persecutees, declared that the victims of the Nazis would not be satisfied with "a handful of German marks," but would insist on reclaiming the status they had in 1933.

The meeting, which was sponsored by the Union of Persecutees, which is headed by Auerbach, heard him deliver a strong demand for assignment of property confiscated from Nazis to a rehabilitation fund for the Nazis' victims. "During the closing months of the war, those of us in concentration camps heard Roosevelt's and Churchill's promises over the radio," Auerbach said. "We have not forgotten them. We wish to tell the world that the racial and political persecutees did not lose the war. We demand justice."

Other speakers included German trade union leaders and representatives of political parties.

I.G.C. SUBMITS EVIDENCE OF ANTI-JEWISH ACTS FOR USE IN I.G. FARBE TRIAL

LONDON, July 28. (JTA) -- Acting on the request of the deputy chief of the U.S. counsel at the Nuremberg war crimes tribunal, the World Jewish Congress has submitted evidence for use in the forthcoming trial of top figures in I.G. Farben, it was reported here today.

The evidence includes a report on the conditions under which Jewish forced laborers were employed at the Monowitz concentration camp, where work was done for I.G. Farben. Also included are a number of affidavits by Hungarian Jews, sworn before the U.S. consul in Budapest, detailing mistreatment while employed at forced labor.

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS AIMED AT WIPING OUT ANTI-SEMITISM

BUDAPEST, July 28. (JTA) -- The Hungarian Government will initiate a program designed to eradicate anti-Semitism and racial prejudice in all Hungarian schools when the fall term opens, Minister of Education Dr. Gyula Ortutay said here. This marks a change from the present reticent policy of declaring that anti-Semitism is approved by the government and, therefore, there is no Jewish question and no need to discuss it.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GERMANY TO STUDY DP PROBLEM

LONDON, July 28. (JTA) -- Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, and Joel D. Wolfsohn, head of its European office, today left for Germany to visit the DP camps there and investigate the general situation of the Jews.

The A.J.C. leaders visited London to discuss with leaders of the Board of Deputies of British Jews the growing problem of anti-Semitism in England. They also met with Leonard Stein, president of the Anglo-Jewish Association; Paul S. Warburg, cultural attache at the American Embassy here; and Dr. Nathan Morris, director of the United Jewish Educational and Cultural Organization, which was organized last year with the cooperation of the Committee, to aid in the cultural rehabilitation of European Jewish communities.

NEW JERSEY POLICE PATROL YESHIVA AREA AFTER SEVERAL ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS

SOMERVILLE, New Jersey. July 28. (JTA) -- New Jersey State Police have organized special patrols in the vicinity of the Yeshiva of Nitra, here, after a number of incidents in the last few months during which 55 refugee students were subjected to anti-Semitic ridicule by local youths.

On one occasion the beard of the dean of the school, Rabbi Solomon Unger, was pulled by a boy, and at other times firecrackers have been exploded during religious services. Four teen-age boys recently apprehended after one incident have been warned by police. The school authorities refused to press charges.

WORLD COUNCIL OF AGUDAS ISRAEL WILL MEET TO SET POLICY ON UN PALESTINE DECISION

LONDON, July 25. (JTA) -- The Agudas Israel announced here that its World Council will meet in Marienbad, Czechoslovakia, the week of Aug. 19th, primarily to formulate the organization's policy regarding the forthcoming U.N. decision on Palestine. Two hundred delegates representing 28 countries are expected to participate in the conference, with the majority of them coming from the United States and Palestine.

JEWISH COMMUNITY IN TRIPOLITANIA BECOMES AN AFFILIATE OF WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

NEW YORK, July 28. (JTA) -- The Jewish community in Tripolitania comprising more than 30,000 persons, has become affiliated with the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbart, head of the organization department of the Congress, announced today. The organization, which is known as "Comunita Israelitica della Tripolitania," has its headquarters in the capital, Tripoli.

BELGIAN QUEEN PRESENTS GIFT TO ORT DURING COUNTRY-WIDE FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN

BRUSSELS, July 28. (JTA) -- Belgian Queen Elizabeth has presented a substantial gift to the Belgian ORT during a campaign to raise funds to continue the organization's activities, it was revealed here. The campaign took the form of "ORT Days" held in various large cities throughout the month, and a number of exhibits of work done by ORT students were set up here and elsewhere.