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BRITISH MINISTERS SERVED WITH WRIT TO HALT RETURN OF EXODUS REFUGEES TO GERMANY

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- A writ of habeas corpus, designed to prevent the return to Germany of the 4,400 Exodus refugees was served today on Foreign Secretary Bevin and Colonial Secretary Creech-Jones by D.N. Pritt, counsel for the Jewish Agency. The writ will be argued in the High Court on Wednesday. Although only six refugees are listed in the writ, it would affect all 4,400 if granted.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the writ would not halt the ships at Gibraltar, which they are expected to reach tomorrow. Reports from there say that the mole has been barricaded and machine-gun posts set up at strategic points to prevent any attempt by the deportees to land.

The Foreign Office spokesman also stated that no reply to the British note to the French Government, requesting that France receive the refugees by rail from the British zone of Germany, was expected before Wednesday.

The Chief Rabbinate and the Beth Din have issued a proclamation calling on Jews throughout the British Empire to observe Thursday as a day of fasting and prayer in sympathy with the refugees. Thursday was decided upon in order to ensure that sufficient time had elapsed for the call to reach all corners of the Empire.

Correspondents Will Observe Arrival of Refugees in British Zone

London papers report that Air Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas, commander of the British zone, has ordered that the press be given the fullest facilities to observe the arrival of the deportees next week, "in order to prevent misrepresentations of Britain's actions, such as were circulated in France" when the prison ships arrived at Port de Bouc.

Morgan Philips, secretary of the Labor Party, reiterated that the government cannot permit illegal immigration into Palestine, in an interview appearing in the French Socialist organ, *Le Populaire*. Philips said that "we do not believe that the Jewish problem can be solved in Palestine alone. There must be absorption of displaced persons by other nations."

The British section of the World Jewish Congress wired the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster, the Moderators of the Church of Scotland, the Trades Union Congress and the chairmen of the Labor Party and the Cooperative Union, asking them to support the Congress appeal to Prime Minister Attlee to reverse the decision to return the Exodus refugees to Germany.

The Manchester Guardian, liberal daily which has usually been pro-Zionist, said that the government's decision on the Exodus case represented a "lack of imagination" rather than a lack of humanity. The paper said that the government failed to see the effect its decision would have on Jews everywhere and on France, the U.S.A. and others of the United Nations. At the same time, it adds that the government has a good case for demanding that illegal immigration stop. "In one sense it (illegal immigration) is nothing more than an unscrupulous form of political blackmail," the Guardian asserts.

ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE ISSUES CALL TO EXODUS JEWS TO REMAIN FIRM

ZURICH, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Zionist Actions Committee meeting here today issued a call to the 4,400 Exodus refugees aboard three British vessels returning them to Germany to stand firm until they are admitted to Palestine.

Zalman Rubashov, editor of Davar, read a declaration calling on the Exodus refugees to remain steadfast in their determination to enter Palestine. He termed Britain's behavior "a crime against humanity and against the Mandate." Thanking France for the sympathy it showed the refugees, Rubashov said its "behavior was a sign that the spirit of humanity in Europe" was not dead.

Praising the "heroic, forty-day" struggle of the Exodus Jews, Rubashov denounced the inhuman conditions under which they were forced to live. Terming "their unbreakable will" a symbol of the desire of the Jewish people to reach Palestine, he said: "Notwithstanding any difficulties or laws which may result, we do not recognize the country which has lost all right to be the power in Palestine."

Expressing "joy over the unity of the East European immigrants, with American seamen and French Jewish youth," Rubashov denounced Britain not only for driving the Exodus Jews from the shores of Palestine but also for threatening to use force to drive them back to "the land of blood and hate" from which they came.

Revisionists Urge Breaking Political Relations with Britain

A Revisionist statement issued here declared that Zionist leaders, as well as the British, were responsible for the present situation. Asserting that Zionist leadership "by its politics paved the way for the Exodus catastrophe," the statement which was released by the Revisionist faction at the meeting, accused the leadership of answering the "Bevin offensive" with appeasement.

Denouncing Zionists who throw all their weight on fighting only for immigrants, the statement said fasting days and expressions of sorrow were "an ineffective means of combat," and called for breaking political relations with Britain and the setting up of a unified Zionist front to act as a "counter-offensive."

The members of the Actions Committee expressed doubt, during private conversations, that the writ of habeas corpus served today on Bevin and Creech-Jones will halt the return of the Exodus deportees to Germany. Several members felt that the move would strengthen Britain's determination to take the refugees to the British zone.

The fifty-year jubilee of the Zionist Organization, which is scheduled to be held in Basle on Aug. 31, will be addressed by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, it was announced here.

BRITISH COMMANDER SAYS EXODUS JEWS WILL NOT RESIST DISEMBARKATION AT HAMBURG

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The officer commanding the British troops aboard the three transports carrying the Exodus refugees today told a Reuters correspondent on the Rummymede Park, one of the vessels, that information reaching him from all three ships indicated that the passengers would not resist disembarkation in Hamburg. He cited no basis for his optimism.

However, the correspondent reports that the deportees are hard at work fashioning shofars and other ritualistic material from scraps of tin cans and packing cases in preparation for Rosh Hashanah, which falls on Sept. 15-16. This would seem to indicate that the refugees expect to remain aboard ship, since the transports are expected to reach Hamburg several days before the 15th.

PALESTINE JEWS FAST IN SOLIDARITY WITH EXODUS REFUGEES; SYNAGOGUES THROWN

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Virtually every Jew in Palestine fasted today to demonstrate their solidarity with the Exodus refugees now en route to Germany. Cafes and places of entertainment closed down and throngs filled the synagogues where special prayers were read from the Book of Exodus and the shofar sounded. Orthodox Jews prayed at the Walling Wall.

A Jewish Agency spokesman told a press conference that "today Jews in all countries of their dispersion are identified through the solidarity of their fast with their brethren on the high seas who are being returned to the 'Valley of Slaughter.'" He added that the political blindness of the British Government is setting the whole world against it.

The more than 15,000 deportees on Cyprus participated in the fast, according to reports from there. Rations were received this morning with the understanding that they would not be distributed until nightfall.

Irgun Calls for Economic Boycott of Britain

Avigdor Orenstein, 22, of Haifa, was found unconscious this morning near Rishon LeZion. Orenstein was discharged from jail four days ago after serving a sentence for carrying arms. He is believed to be a victim of an internal squabble among the Irgunists. Another young Jew, Shlomo Sharabi, 25, was found seriously wounded in an orange grove near Petach Tikvah later in the day. He said that two Arabs had assaulted him and seized 15 pounds.

There was still no information late today concerning the whereabouts of Moshe Smil, 20, a member of the Haganah, who was abducted from his home in Givat Shmuel last night by 30 Irgunists.

In a broadcast last night, the Irgun appealed for a world-wide Jewish boycott against Britain. It also called for civil disobedience in Palestine and refusal to pay taxes. The broadcast pointed out that Britain is in dire economic straits and can be hurt by a boycott.

High Govt. Officials Discriminate Against Jewish Press

High government officials have instituted, without any formal announcement, a policy of barring the Jewish newspapers and agencies from their press conferences. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has not been invited to several such conferences in recent days, and reporters from the local Jewish press have been treated similarly.

The Arab press here reports that Syrian police have discovered a group which has been smuggling Jews into Palestine across the Syrian border. The papers assert that the organization was headed by a woman named Rubica Costica and her assistant, Alexander Atwill. The alleged headquarters of the organization are reported to have been found in a synagogue near the Palestine border. Several persons seized there gave the authorities the names of the group's leaders.

Informed quarters here are paying little attention to the threat by Jamal Husni that he will bring 20,000 illegal Arab immigrants into Palestine if the U.N. does not halt Jewish immigration. His statement is seen as a last minute attempt to influence the deliberations of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine.

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10,000 JEWS IN GERMANY FAST TO PROTEST RETURN OF EXODUS REFUGEES TO GERMANY

MUNICH, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- About 170,000 Jews in the western zones of Germany observed a day of fasting and prayer in protest against the return to Germany of the Exodus refugees.

According to reports received by the office of the Central Jewish Committee here, all camps and communities in both the British and the American zone participated in the observance. Every Jewish camp office and other installations in the U.S. were closed, as did the offices of the voluntary agencies. No demonstrations or violence of any kind was reported as of late afternoon.

Thirty-two Palestinian teachers arrived here today to participate in the Jewish DP school program, which will be launched tomorrow. Thirty more are expected shortly. Half of them will do classroom teaching, while the others will supervise the small educational program financed by the JDC. About 18,000 children will be involved.

FOR ZIONISTS PICKET BRITISH CONSULATE IN NEW YORK TO PROTEST EXODUS DEPORTATION

NEW YORK, Aug. 25. (JTA)-- Several hundred pickets paraded before the British consulate here today to protest against the deportation of 4,400 Exodus refugees to Germany. The demonstrators sought to submit a statement to officials of the consulate, but they refused to accept it. Meanwhile, Orthodox Jews throughout the country fasted in response to the call of the Palestine rabbinate.

The picketing was arranged by Zionist Labor groups. Among the pickets were many trade union leaders, who carried banners denouncing the British move. The slogans on the banners read: "How Long Will Humanity Condone British Inhumanity?"; "British Gift to Jewish Refugees--Blood and Tears"; "Don't Send Floating Dachaus Back to Germany"; "Exodus to Palestine Will Continue."

A cablegram was sent to the refugees on the three British deportation ships stating that "sixty-five thousand members of the American Zionist labor movement" support their struggle to reach Palestine.

85 MEETINGS IN LODZ AND CRACOW PROTEST DEPORTATION OF EXODUS JEWS

LODZ, Poland, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- More than 2,000 Jews participated in a meeting here to protest the deportation of the Exodus refugees to Hamburg. A similar meeting was held in Cracow. The Central Jewish Committee adopted a resolution of protest on behalf of all Jewish groups in Poland.

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The DAIA, central Jewish representative body of the Argentine, the Zionist Central Council and the Jewish Agency here have sent a joint appeal to the United Nations, President Truman and French Premier Paul Ramadier, asking that they intervene with Britain to prevent the return of the Exodus refugees to Germany.

MONTREAL, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The United Zionist Council, representing all Zionist groups in the Dominion, has sent a protest to the British Government in connection with the Exodus case. The government was urged to allow the refugees to proceed to Palestine.

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ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT IS ASKED TO RESTORE DUTY-FREE PRIVILEGES TO RELIEF SUPPLIES

BUCHAREST, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee has appealed to Rumanian Government to restore duty-free status to its relief supplies, despite a recently-enacted law abolishing all such exemptions, it was learned here today.

In a memorandum to the Finance Ministry, the JDC pointed out that in view of present depression and unrest in the country, it felt the Rumanian Government should extend whatever help it possibly could to facilitate the work of the organization which, it emphasized, extends aid to non-Jews as well as Jews.

The note also stressed the fact that not only did the Bulgarian Government exempt the JDC from import duties, but it provides free rail transportation, too.

JEWISH COURT DOOMS GHETTO COMMANDER; MURDERER OF RADOM JEWS TO HANG

WARSAW, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Joseph William Blum, former commander of the Radom ghetto, was sentenced to death by a court in that city, it was announced today.

Blum pleaded that he was only following orders, but several Jewish survivors testified to his brutality. The presiding justice declared that as commandant of the ghetto and police in Radom, Blum was directly responsible for the death of more than 10,000 Jews.

ANTI-FASCIST DEMONSTRATORS BREAK UP MEETING OF ANTI-SEMITIC EX-SERVICEMEN'S GROUP

LONDON, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Hundreds of police were rushed to the Dalston district of North London yesterday when crowds shouting "We Don't Want Fascism" stormed speaker's platform at a meeting of the anti-Semitic, pro-fascist League of Ex-Servicemen.

Police seized several of the demonstrators, but some of them were subsequently freed by their comrades.

ITALIAN POLICE RAID DP CAMP SEEKING IRGUNISTS; FIND FOUR NON-JEWISH DP'S WITH ARMS

ROME, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Displaced Persons camp at Cina-Citta, near here, raided during the week-end by 400 Italian policemen searching for arms and members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi. No members of the Irgun were discovered, but two Chinese and two Yugoslavs were arrested for possessing guns.

CANADA INTENDS TO ADMIT MORE DP'S, MINISTER ANNOUNCES; ONLY 20 JEWS ADMITTED SO FAR

OTTAWA, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Canadian Government will authorize the admission of further groups of European displaced persons as soon as existing quotas are filled, Immigration Minister Howe told a press conference.

So far, he said, the admission of 10,000 DP's, exclusive of those brought to Canada under the Immigration Department's "Relative plan" and its "group movement plan," had been authorized by the government. More than 5,000 of them already are in Canada, and the remaining 5,000 are coming to this country in steady numbers. (Only 20 Jews were included among the recent arrivals. When the second 5,000 quota is exhausted, he said, the government will authorize the admission of another group of about 5,000.)

UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS OF U.S. AND CANADA CRITICIZED AT AGUDAH WORLD PARLEY

MARIENBAD, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the U.S. and Canada and the Mizrahi Organization are hampering Agudas Israel efforts on behalf of Orthodox DP's, Jacob Rosenheim, world president of the Agudas Israel Organization, stated today in a presidential message to the meeting here of the group's World Executive Council. The address was read for Mr. Rosenheim, who was unable to attend the meeting because of ill health, by Rabbi E.M. Bloch of Cleveland.

Mr. Rosenheim assailed the recent agreement between the Orthodox Vaad Hatzalah and the J.D.C., which provided for assumption by the JDC of the Vaad Hatzalah's relief activities in Europe. He charged that while the agreement ostensibly covered all religious groups, actually it excludes the Agudas Israel. Mr. Rosenheim called for intensified efforts to build Agudah social and educational institutions in Europe.

The Agudah president said that as far as Palestine was concerned, the organization was obliged to oppose any solution which provided for partition or a Jewish state not based on Torah principles. He declared that the Agudas Israel must demand, firstly, abolition of the White Paper restrictions and, secondly, a political regime ensuring Palestine's internal unity and regulation of immigration by a non-partisan Jewish body. He sharply attacked terrorism as alien to the Divine injunction against the use of violence.

Other sections of the address were devoted to the need for internal reorganization of the movement, with emphasis on the necessity for an effective world rabbinical council, and the strengthening of the Agudah central committee.

GRANITE BLOCKS ORDERED BY HITLER FOR VICTORY MONUMENT MAY BE USED FOR GHETTO MEMORIAL

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Huge granite blocks ordered in Sweden by Hitler for a victory monument, but never delivered to Germany, are being considered here for shipment to Poland to be used for the construction of a monument honoring the memory of the Warsaw ghetto fighters.

Salo Fiszgrund, a member of the Jewish Socialist Bund in Poland, has arrived here to inquire into the possibility that the blocks may be available in time for the unveiling of a monument, which is expected to take place in April, 1948, the fifth anniversary of the uprising in the ghetto.

A group of 20 Jewish students from Budapest has arrived here to visit the Universities of Upsala and Stockholm. Led by Professor Stephen Hahn, chief of Budapest's Rabbinical Academy, the group came here at the invitation of the Swedish-Jewish Students Association.

ISRAEL ROKACH ASKS J.T.A. TO DENY THAT HE IS A REVISIONIST LEADER

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25. (JTA) -- Mayor Israel Rokach who is presently detained at the Latrun camp along with scores of other Jewish leaders, mostly Revisionists, asked the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today, through his private secretary, to deny in his behalf that he is a Revisionist leader, as has been claimed in advertisements in New York newspapers released over his signature.

"I was never a Revisionist," his message to the J.T.A. said. "I never belonged to that party, and the signature (used in the ads) is forged."