

Tuesday, December 9, 1947

JTA Daily News Bulletin

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

LAST MINUTE NEWS

ARAB ATTACK ON TEL AVIV OUTSKIRTS FLUNG BACK BY HAGANAH AFTER FIERCE BATTLE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- A well armed and well trained Arab band which this evening launched an attack on forward positions of the Haganah in the Hatikvah quarter of Tel Aviv was beaten off following a fierce battle which lasted more than an hour. The total number of casualties is still not known.

Before they were flung back, the Arabs advanced several hundred yards and burned a few huts in the Jewish quarter. Haganah reinforcements rushed to the scene and flares soared into the skies from the fighting zone summoning additional men. Sniping fire swept every foot of the battleground. Before they went over to the defense, the Jews put up a savage resistance forcing the raiders to slow up and eventually halted them.

Many inhabitants, old Yemenite Jewish men and women, making their way from the battle zone toward the center of the city, spread panic when they entered movie theatres, interrupting the performances and demanding that everyone hurry and join the battle. Gunshots shooting upwards from the burning buildings tended to sow more confusion.

The panic among inhabitants of the area resulted in additional injuries. A number of persons were hurt running about in the pitch-black streets, which are mostly narrow, curving alleys. Some 6,000 to 8,000 persons live in the Hatikvah section.

A British soldier was killed and a second wounded when a convoy which they were escorting was brought under fire by Arabs in the Jaffa suburb of Abu Kebir. The convoy, which arrived in Tel Aviv late in the day, originated at Sarafand.

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BRITISH POLICE TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM TEL AVIV NEXT WEEK; NINE JEWS, TWO ARABS KILLED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- All British police units will be withdrawn from the Tel Aviv area on December 15 and Jewish police will take over responsibility for the maintenance of order in an area containing nearly half the Jews in Palestine, it was officially announced today.

Meanwhile, the sound of gunfire was heard almost continuously in the Tel Aviv-Jaffa area today. There has been no let-up for over 24 hours in the sporadic engagements on this literally flaming front. At least five Jews were killed here during the day, bringing the day's Jewish death toll to nine.

The area in which Jewish police will take over next Monday includes the city of Tel Aviv and its suburbs bounded by the towns of Petach Tikvah, Ramath Gan and Be'er Brak. No mention was made of the evacuation of British troops, many of whom have been stationed in the battle area between Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

The official announcement followed on the heels of charges by the Haganah that at least two of its men were killed by British police while they were defending Jewish positions on the Jaffa boundary line. The government's statement clearly distinguished between the police withdrawal and the forthcoming general British evacuation from the country, stating that the Tel Aviv move had nothing to do with the general picture.

British Refuse to Arm Jewish Police, Militia, but Will Give Guns to Arabs

Goldie Meirson will see Palestine Chief Secretary Sir Henry L. Gurney to discuss the security situation and other problems. It is understood that one of the problems she will discuss will be the question of whether British police removed from Tel Aviv are to be shifted to Jaffa. The Jews oppose this, since they fear that the Britons, whose "impartiality" they doubt, may assist the Arab attackers of Tel Aviv.

Mrs. Meirson will also take up the government's alleged refusal to supply arms for the Jewish police who will be recruited to replace the Britons. The authorities are reported to be refusing to allot arms to the Jews on the grounds that "the Jews have enough of their own." However, they will provide arms for the Arab police-men to be recruited for service in the Arab areas. An Agency source said that this also represented the government's attitude as far as arming the projected Jewish and Arab militias.

Among the Jews killed today was Joshua Globberman, chief of the Haganah's divisional headquarters in Jerusalem, who was leading a motor convoy from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. On the road the convoy was halted by a British armored car and all the vehicles and passengers were searched for arms. As the search ended, Globberman who

ed his vehicle slightly in front of the remainder of the convoy, saw two
ing rifles at him. He attempted to move, but was not quick enough and
in the head and instantly killed.

The British soldiers in the armored vehicle made no attempt to return the
r did they pursue the killers. Gliberman had been assigned to the convoy
e Egged Bus Company reversed its decision of yesterday to suspend operations
ts convoys were protected by either British soldiers or armed members of the
illitia.

In Jerusalem, Abraham Hirschler, 45, was stabbed and wounded fatally by an
the Birkat Sultan quarter. It was reported that the Arab was arrested with
stained dagger in his possession. A second Jew, unidentified as yet, was
near the Jaffa Gate.

Arab House Blown Up By Haganah to Wipe Out Snipers' Nest

During the fighting on Tel Aviv's outskirts, an Arab house was blown up and
ely destroyed by the Haganah, after it had been noted that snipers had been
from its windows and roof all day. Later, a heavy exchange of fire took place
n Tel Aviv's defenders and Arabs in the adjoining village of Abu Kebir. During
ttle several houses were set afire. A government communique after nightfall
that the blaze was spreading and had not yet been brought under control.

Two of five Jews killed on the Tel Aviv battle front were identified as
m Shlugersky, 30, and Max Preger. Jacob Sarabi, 27, was found strangled to
this morning near the Hassan Bek Mosque, in the border area. This is the third
ng in a row that a Jew has been found murdered in the vicinity of this house of
p. According to one report, Arabs found Sarabi dressed in Arab raiments and
d him as a "Zionist spy."

One Jew was reported stabbed to death in an Arab section of Haifa. Haim
an, a bus driver, was shot and seriously wounded while driving his vehicle in
A. A police communique says that British troops wounded two Arabs in an exchange
shots in a Jewish section of the city. A British constable was killed by unknown
en. An unidentified Jew was killed and a second seriously injured when their car
hich they were travelling encountered an Arab roadblock near Haifa and was set
e.

A quantity of ammunition was discovered by Jerusalem police in the Arab
ashibi quarter. At least two Arabs were listed as dead during the day, one being
nd near the Manshieh police station between Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

Arab Who Was Nazi Parachutist Reported Leading Attacks on Tel Aviv

Arab sources said Sheikh Hassan Salameh, notorious pro-Nazi leader who was
achuted into Palestine during the war and was captured and subsequently escaped
m the British, is now back in Jaffa leading the attacks on Tel Aviv. Dispatches
m Cairo disclosing that the ex-Mufti has returned there from Lebanon are arousing
abs here who believe that he will shortly arrive in Palestine.

The British announced that they were withdrawing arms from Arab temporary
nstables in the Samaria district after a number of them had deserted with their
apons.

Last night one Jew, Moshe Cipori, was killed during an attack on the Shapiro
arter of Tel Aviv. During the battle Irgunists and Haganah men fought side by side
or the first time in two years. Cipori, 25, was an Irgunist. The battle started
hortly after a huge public funeral for three Haganah leaders killed in or near the
ity since Saturday.

LEAGUE STARTS SECRET MEETING ON PALESTINE; EGYPT MAY WARN AGAINST "HASTY MEASURES"

CAIRO, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Council of the Arab League, representing seven countries, today began meeting here to discuss action on the partition decision of the United Nations. The session, which is taking place in the Egyptian Foreign Office, is being attended by the prime ministers of Lebanon, Iraq, Syria and Transjordan, while Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Yemen are represented by high officials.

The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, who arrived here by plane from Beirut to attend the meeting, told reporters: "We shall draw the swords from our sheaths and let them talk, for words are useless." However, informed observers believe that some of the other participants are likely to caution the conference against "hasty measures" and armed intervention in Palestine.

One influential Egyptian newspaper today carries a second article favoring the partitioning of Palestine into a Jewish and Arab State. At the same time, it was reported here today that Emir Zaid, uncle of the boy King Feisal of Iraq, categorically denied that he would command an Arab army "for the liberation of Palestine."

From Transjordan, it was reported today that Premier Samir Rifai Pasha resigned during the week-end because of the inclination of King Abdullah to accept the Palestine partition. He was recalled by Abdullah only after the Premier of Iraq warned King of Transjordan that he might lose his throne.

IN ARAB LANDS UNDER PRESSURE TO GIVE FUNDS; "VOLUNTEER" TO FIGHT AGAINST PARTITION

CAIRO, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Jews in the Arab countries in the Middle East are being subjected to steadily increasing official and unofficial pressure to support the Arab states war on partition of Palestine, according to reports reaching here today.

Hundreds of Baghdad Jews are said to have "offered" to enlist in the anti-Arabist military forces which are reportedly formed. Large contributions to the fund for finance warfare in Palestine have been made by Iraqi, Syrian and Lebanese Jews. Jews in Lebanon have contributed \$25,000, while the Baghdad Jews have given even larger sums estimated in Baghdad papers to exceed \$2,000,000.

In Aden, British protectorate on the Red Sea, where more than 50 Jews have been killed in intermittent rioting which began last week, wealthy Jews today started to move to Eritrea.

Five Jews, arrested on Oct. 21 near the settlement of Elion for violating the Lebanese-Palestine frontier, have been given sentences ranging from two to three years, and each fined the equivalent of \$400. The Lebanese authorities charged that the Jews, who had protested that they had crossed the frontier unwittingly and were let out for a walk, were all armed, and "lacked the required credentials."

HAGANAH TO SUSPEND IMMIGRATION; WILL SEND ARMS TO PALESTINE USING SAME FACILITIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Haganah will suspend "illegal" immigration to Palestine in favor of shipping arms for the defense of the new state--by the same clandestine methods, if necessary, a Haganah officer who just arrived in this country, indicated at a press conference today.

Speaking under the auspices of the Americans for Haganah, Theodore Kollek, wartime liaison officer between Haganah and British intelligence, added that the arms needed by the Jewish militia will be purchased legally, but will be shipped by all possible methods.

BRITAIN INTENDS TO SURRENDER PALESTINE MANDATE ON MAY 15; WILL NOTIFY U.N. COMMISSION

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Official circles today indicated that the British government intends to surrender the Palestine Mandate on May 15, 1948. An announcement to this effect will be made by Sir Alexander Cadogan, head of the British delegation at the United Nations, to the U.N. implementation commission as soon as the commission is set up, a government spokesman said. He hinted that Sir Alexander will expect that the independent Jewish and Arab states in Palestine come into existence some time later.

(At Lake Success, Sir Alexander told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent that "May 15th seems the logical date" for the laying down of the Mandate. He confirmed the London report that he will submit the exact date of the surrender of the Mandate to the U.N. Commission.

The first official announcement of the dates on which British troops will be withdrawn from Palestine is expected to be made by Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Blake in a statement at the beginning of the two-day Palestine debate in Parliament Thursday and Friday. Unofficially, it was learned today that British and Arab forces will be withdrawn from Tel Aviv, Petach Tikvah and Ramath Gan on Dec. 15, leaving this area under supervision of local Jewish police.

Well informed circles today revealed that the first talk on Palestine between U.S. Secretary of State Marshall and British Foreign Secretary Bevin, held a few days ago, ended "inconclusively." Mr. Marshall and Mr. Bevin are expected again to discuss the future of Palestine before the Secretary of State returns to the United States.

NO JEWS AND ARABS ON U.N. STAFF FOR PALESTINE WITHDRAWN; U.S. JEWS EXPECTED TO SERVE

LAKE SUCCESS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Jews and Arabs will be permitted to serve on the staff of the U.N. Implementation Commission, it was learned here today.

A new ruling issued by Secretary-General Trygve Lie reverses a previous decision on inclusion of Jews, Arabs or Britons on the staff of about 60 persons which will work with the implementation commission. A number of U.S. Jews employed by the U.N. are now expected to be eligible for important positions on the secretarial staff.

The working group of the Trusteeship Council, which is drafting the status of Jerusalem, today heard L.H. Gibson, Attorney General of Palestine. Among the decisions reached by the group was that Hebrew and Arabic would be taught in the primary schools and that the U.N. languages--English and French--would be offered in the secondary schools. It did not reach any agreement on whether the public schools would be operated separately for members of each community or whether Jewish and Arab children would attend the same schools.

U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS BODY GETS SUB-COMMISSION REPORT ON PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

GENEVA, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Sub-commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities today submitted its report to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, currently in session here.

The sub-commission's recommendations, which are to be considered for inclusion in the draft declaration or convention on human rights, include four articles dealing specifically with the prevention of discrimination and the protection of minorities, and also suggested machinery for preventing discrimination.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT AGREES TO REVIEW SENTENCES IMPOSED ON JEWISH DP CAMP POLICE

FRANKFURT, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Forty-one former members of the Jewish police at the Wetzlar Camp were released without bail today pending individual review of the six-month sentences imposed on them last week. Their release came as a result of intervention by Judge Louis E. Levinthal, advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. Military Government.

The DP's were found guilty of participating in a riot and assaulting U.S. soldiers after their headquarters at the Wetzlar Camp had been attacked by a group of Communists with the tacit blessing of the military authorities, whom they had convinced that the camp police were "Communists." Levinthal pointed out that the military did not justify the sentences and the authorities agreed to the releases. It is expected that the prison terms will be cancelled.

One of five other DP's arrested at the same time was freed yesterday for lack of evidence, while the other four are out on bail awaiting trial next month.

VIOLENCE ENDS IN GERMAN TOWN WHERE JEWS, MOSLEMS CLASHED; ARMY DENIES JEW KILLED

MUNICH, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Army announced tonight that violence has ended in Ulm, in Wuerttemberg-Baden, which was the scene of a week-end clash between Jewish and Moslem DP's in connection with the Palestine issue. The Army communique stated that a Jew had been killed, as reported by several news agencies.

The communique asserts that black market operations, rather than political differences, precipitated the violence, which runs counter to reports of eye-witnesses. It identified the Moslems as mostly Syrians who had served in the German army, and thus are not truly DP's. Jewish organizations are not taking any official action against the 18 Jews arrested, since the participants in the fray had been urged not to leave their camps.

High ranking American military authorities and representatives of foreign delegations today joined Jewish organizations and DP delegates from throughout the American zone in the final observance here of Jewish statehood.

The meeting was held in the partially redecorated Frankfurt synagogue, which was burned and gutted by the Nazis during the 1938 riots. Maj. Gen. Miller White, representing the U.S. Army, said that the Army shared the joy of the Jewish people in the Palestine settlement, but warned that difficult days lay ahead.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Harrold said that continued cooperation between the DP's and the military was still necessary since it would be many months before all displaced Jews left Germany. Other speakers included Chaim Hoffman, Jewish Agency director here, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. Army, and DP leaders.

FRENCH JEWS RECEIVE DEATH THREATS IN CONNECTION WITH TRIAL OF VICHY ANTI-JEWISH AIDE

PARIS, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Jews in Dijon have received letters threatening them with death, if Xavier Vallat, former Vichy Commissar of Jewish Affairs who is on trial here, is sentenced to die, it was revealed today.

Several former members of the General Union of French Jews, established during the German occupation, testified today at Vallat's trial to the measures he took against both foreign and French Jews. The proceedings were then adjourned until tomorrow.

JEWISH GROUPS, IN BRIEF TO U.S. SUPREME COURT, OPPOSE RELIGIOUS CLASSES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Jewish rabbinic and lay congregational organizations through the Synagogue Council of America, and Jewish community relations agencies through the National Community Relations Advisory Council, in an unprecedented move, have filed a single joint brief with the United States Supreme Court, in opposition to religious instruction classes in public schools.

The brief was submitted in support of an appeal by Vashti McCollum, of Champeau, Illinois, from a decision of the Illinois State Supreme Court. It points out, however, that Mrs. McCollum's atheism is opposed by the Jewish organizations, and that they dissociate themselves from her anti-religious statements.

Religious instruction of children always has been looked upon as a sacred responsibility and trust among Jews, the brief declares. But the Jewish organizations are convinced, it continues, that religious freedom and freedom of belief and worship can remain inviolate only so long as there is no intrusion of secular authority in religious matters or of religious authority in secular affairs.

The school practices which are under review in the Supreme Court case involve the holding of religious classes in regular school rooms during regular school hours, the classes being taught by special teachers paid by an interfaith committee. In the brief, the Synagogue Council of America and the National Community Relations Advisory Council maintain that these practices are unconstitutional because they directly or indirectly prefer one religion over another, and aid religion, in contradiction of the First and Fourteenth Amendments; and because, by permitting religious instruction in the public schools during regular school hours, attendance is not wholly voluntary.

Filed by the Jewish organizations as friends of the court, the brief is signed by Henry Epstein, NCRAC chairman, as attorney for both the Synagogue Council and the A.C. The draft of the brief was prepared by the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress, under the direction of Leo Pfeffer, assistant director of the Commission. It was then considered at length and revised by a committee consisting of Henry Epstein; Ben Herzberg of the American Jewish Committee, chairman of the NCRAC Legislative Information Committee; Newman Levy of the American Jewish Committee; Sol Rabkin of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Shad Loebner, Will Maslow and Leo Pfeffer of the American Jewish Congress; Samuel Rothstein of the Synagogue Council of America; and Jules Cohen, NCRAC National Coordinator.

TENS OF THOUSANDS VISIT HERZL'S GRAVE TO MARK ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH STATE

VIENNA, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Thousands of persons yesterday visited the grave in the Jewish cemetery here of Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism, as part of the celebration of Jewish statehood. A newly-formed Zionist youth organization led the road to the grave, carrying huge portraits of Herzl and blue-and-white flags.

A Zionist meeting yesterday afternoon, presided over by Sigmund Kornfeld, Herzl's one-time secretary, was attended by American and French authorities and representatives of the government. Speakers included representatives of the World Jewish Congress, the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee.

ATTACKS ON JEWISH CEMETERIES, SYNAGOGUES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA REPORTED SINCE LIBERATION

PRAGUE, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- More than 30 incidents involving desecration of Jewish cemeteries and synagogues have occurred in Bohemia and Moravia since the liberation, it was reported here by Jewish sources. Although some of the damage is attributed to persons digging for "treasure," most of the raids were carried out by pro-Nazi youths.

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE TIGHTENS CONTROLS OF ALIEN VISITORS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- The Immigration and Naturalization Service will tighten control of alien visitors during the time they are in this country, it was announced here.

After the visitor crosses the border his name will be sent by immigration officials to the district immigration commissioner responsible for the area in which the alien will remain. When the alien arrives at his destination he will be required to mail his current address to the local commissioner, the announcement said. Subsequent moves must also be reported to local commissioners.

PRIME MINISTER SMUTS SENDS FIRST OFFICIAL MESSAGE TO SOUTH AFRICAN CHANUKAH SERVICES

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of the Jewish community in South Africa, an official government message was read at a religious service last night celebrating the beginning of Chanukah. The city's mayor and members of the council as well as military officers and Jewish veterans attended the service.

The message, from Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts, was read by Minister of Education M.S. Gluckman. It congratulated the Jewish people on the U.N.'s Palestine decision and singled out Dr. Chaim Weizmann for the warmest praise. Smuts, who was instrumental in the issuance of the Balfour Declaration in 1917, reviewed the history of the Jews in relation to the Mandate during the past 30 years.

NEW YORK FEDERATION OF REFORM SYNAGOGUES HOLDS ANNUAL CHANUKAH CONCLAVE

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Officers and members of 37 liberal synagogues in the metropolitan area yesterday met at Temple Emanu-El at the annual Chanukah convocation sponsored by the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues.

Principal speakers were Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of Hebrew Union College; Dr. Maurice Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Rabbi William F. Rosenblum, president of the Synagogue Council of America. Rabbi Rosenblum called for liberal Judaism to "recapture" its basic "missionary spirit" while Dr. Glueck linked the past history of the Jews with their present religious aspirations. Dr. Eisendrath identified the U.N. decision on Palestine with Chanukah, referring to the former as an "augury of greatest importance in the history of world Jewry."

\$175,000 COLLECTED AS CHANUKAH GIFT FOR PALESTINE AT LOS ANGELES J.N.F. DINNER

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Approximately \$175,000 was collected here last night as a Chanukah gift for the Jewish community of Palestine at the 13th annual Chanukah dinner of the Jewish National Fund. Sixteen hundred guests heard Judge Morris Rothenberg, national chairman of the J.N.F. of America, and California Gov. Goodwin Knight, featured speakers.

JEWISH INFORMATION BUREAU ISSUES DIRECTORY OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 8. (JTA) -- Over 1,100 Jewish philanthropic agencies, synagogues, institutions and other organizations are listed in the "Jewish Community Directory of Greater New York," issued by the Jewish Information Bureau. The new directory is the first compilation of Jewish organizations to be made since 1918 when the "Jewish Communal Register" was published by the Jewish Community of New York City. It is edited by Reuben Fink and Bernard G. Richards.