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ARAB NATIONAL COMMITTEE OFFICES DESTROYED AS BLAST ROCKS JAFFA; CASUALTIES HEAVY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A terrific explosion rocked Jaffa today when a vehicle loaded with explosives blew up alongside the headquarters of the Arab National Committee and buried a large number of Arabs in the wreckage. The Stern Group is believed responsible for the attack.

The casualty figures varied, with official statistics listing 80 casualties, including 9 known dead. Private estimates, however, ran much higher to 25 and 30 dead - while one Arab source set the death toll at 70. Some 15 Arab shops on the same narrow street as the two-story committee headquarters were severely damaged as was a nearby police headquarters and the adjoining Barclays Bank building.

In Jerusalem, a strong Arab attack on the walled Jewish quarter of the Old City was beaten back by Haganah troops and British soldiers after penetrating a distance into the Jewish quarter through two holes blasted in a concrete defense wall. Although the situation is highly confused in the quarter, one Haganah member and three unidentified persons are known to have been killed and a number of Jews and Britons wounded.

The Jewish quarter, which lies in the center of an Arab neighborhood, has been cut off from the remainder of Jerusalem for three days and has had no communication with the outside world since yesterday when the Arabs cut the main telephone lines. The Arabs laid siege to the six gates of the quarter on Friday, and the British have made no attempt to force entry for supplies of food and medicines for the surrounded Jews.

New Attacks Expected Against Besieged Jews in Old City

Although the Arab raiders were thrown back and the British assert that they have placed a wedge of troops between the two forces, the situation is still precarious, and new attacks were expected momentarily. Yesterday attacks were initiated by the Arabs after a strong police patrol had surrounded Haganah defense posts and disarmed them. The Arabs forced the weaponless Jews to retreat and set fire to a number of shops before the police arrived.

The police, in armored cars, made no attempt to pursue the Arabs, but for a while gave Jewish fire fighters some protection. However, they quickly decided that their presence was not needed and drove off, leaving the Jews exposed to sniper fire. The fire fighters withdrew leaving the shops to the flames. The Arabs also claim to have blown up a house in the quarter and killed six Jews who were in it at the time.

The Arabs and the British authorities have not yet agreed on what type of vehicle exploded in Jaffa. The Arabs and some British insist it was a jeep which was driven up by Jews disguised as British soldiers, while other British authorities

assert that it was a three-ton truck apparently loaded with orange crates and driven by extremists in Arab dress.

The headquarters also housed the offices of Hajada and Futuwa, Arab "defense" armies which have been active in the recent battles on the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border. Informal quarters state that the National Committee in Jaffa was the second most important command center for the Arab guerrillas.

Shortly after the blast the British set up patrols in the border area checking all Jews and Arabs whom they found there in an attempt to find the perpetrators of the bombing. The raiders are believed to have driven from the scene in a second vehicle and later to have mingled with the Arabs in Jaffa and escaped. One British soldier was wounded in Jaffa later by an Arab sniper.

Seven Jews Die in Sporadic Attacks in Haifa

Seven Jews died in Haifa during the week-end in sporadic outbreaks of violence. Two of the dead were Haganah men and the third was a woman. One was killed and two were wounded by Arabs who fired a Tommy gun from a speeding car, while one Jew was murdered and one wounded when they were attacked as they left a cinema.

Some small-scale fighting also occurred on the Tel Aviv "front" during the week-end as well as on the outskirts of Jerusalem where the Jews have abandoned the ordinary methods of transportation and are running a gauntlet of bullets in armored cars to bring necessary supplies to Hadassah Hospital and the Hebrew University, both on Mt. Scopus. Jewish-chauffered taxis were once again seen on the streets of Jerusalem this week-end after the lifting of a ban on their movement following the bombing of a group of Arabs near the Damascus Gate by two Irgunists in a cab early last week.

Telephone communications between Jerusalem and the rest of the world were severed last night for the second time in 72 hours. Some 120 Jewish and Arab operators refused to report for night duty at the General Post Office, which operates Palestine's communications system, because they claim that they are not receiving sufficient protection against attacks.

The Jewish Agency executive met again today, with Dr. Moshe Sneh attending for the first time since his resignation from that body last week. He is believed to have given the members of the executive a personal account of the reasons for his action.

An Agency spokesman pointed out that the Agency has protested the disarming of Haganah militiamen in the Old City. He asserted that the disarming was in violation of a promise by Chief Secretary Sir Henry L. Gurney's promise that Jews holding defensive positions would not be disarmed.

The oft-reported truce between the Haganah and the Irgun Zvai Leumi has once again been reported signed--last Thursday night. One source said that it is understood that the truce agreement will shortly be considered by the Agency and the Jewish National Council.

DISEMBARKATION OF 12,000 VISALESS JEWISH IMMIGRANTS AT CYPRUS COMPLETED

HAIFA, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The disembarkation of some 12,000 visaless Jewish immigrants intercepted aboard the blockade runners Pan York and Pan Crescent has been completed, dispatches from the island received here today said. This brings the number of Jews detained on the island to 32,000.

N.Y. POLICE INVESTIGATING DISCOVERY OF 65,000 POUNDS OF TNT BOUND FOR PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- New York police officials were today conducting an intensive inquiry into the mysterious circumstances surrounding the discovery yesterday of a consignment of 65,000 pounds of TNT which was to have been shipped to Tel Aviv tomorrow.

The discovery of the shipment, in crates marked "used machinery," resulted from an accident in the loading of the American Export Lines freighter *Executer*. A case fell from the loading crane to the Jersey City pier and broke open. When one of the dock workers approached the crate to repair it, he found the cans inside labelled "TNT, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army." Police and F.B.I. officials immediately ordered the ship impounded and the explosive was removed by a Coast Guard cutter to a "safe anchorage."

The export declaration papers listed the Oved Trading Company of Tel Aviv as the consignor and the Habogeg, Ltd., also of Tel Aviv, as the consignee. Neither firm could be traced immediately. Meanwhile, New York police authorities announced that they had found a three-story warehouse in upper Manhattan where, after a long search, they discovered two cartridge-loading machines and a stencil which had been used in marking one of the cases in the shipment.

While the police were searching the warehouse, they received several telephone calls, and each caller asking the same question- "Anything doing tonight?" The callers hung up immediately when they were asked to identify themselves. The warehouse was operated by the Machinery Processing and Converting Company, whose head, Julius Chender, left his home a few minutes before police called. His whereabouts are still unknown.

Police officials declared that the TNT was capable of blowing up "six cities the size of Jersey City." They said that other stencils found in the warehouse included the names "Palestine Glass Works, Phoenicia, Ltd., Haifa," "H. Slavin, Haifa, Palestine," "Van Cleef Toy Company, Capetown, South Africa," and "Perez Garcia Company, Brazil."

HADASSAH MEETS TO INCREASE AID TO PALESTINE; PARTICIPATES IN MEDICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A three-day emergency conference of the national board of Hadassah was convened here this morning to mobilize a national campaign among Hadassah members to increase their voluntary quota of \$4,720,000 for the organization's Palestine activities to \$7,000,000. The parley will close Tuesday.

The organization, which in effect has become a partner of the Jewish Agency and the major health organizations of Palestine in a medical defense program, today called \$50,000 to Palestine and set aside another \$175,000 for the establishment of field hospitals, first aid stations, training of emergency medical personnel and the shipment of medical and surgical supplies. It is estimated that the emergency program alone will involve the expenditure of \$500,000 by Hadassah.

SIR ALEXANDER CADOGAN NAMED BRITISH LIAISON OFFICER TO U.N. PALESTINE COMMISSION

LAKE SUCCESS, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Sir Alexander Cadogan, chief United Kingdom representative to the United Nations, has been named British liaison officer to the U.N. Implementation Commission on Palestine, it was announced here during the weekend by a British delegation spokesman.

The British also revealed that Fletcher Cooke, deputy financial secretary to the Palestine Government, and Trafford Smith, chief of the Palestine department of the Colonial Office, are en route to Lake Success to join Cadogan as technical advisors.

J.D.C. ANNUAL MEETING SETS 1948 NEEDS AT \$98,000,000; WARBURG REELECTED CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee will need a minimum of \$98,647,000 in 1948 to continue its program of relief and rehabilitation assistance to Jews abroad and to assist in the migration and resettlement in Palestine of displaced Jews from Europe, it was announced today at the 33rd annual meeting of the J.D.C. Edward M.M. Warburg was reelected chairman of the agency for 1948.

Four Jewish leaders who addressed the conference today pointed out that continuing large-scale aid to the Jews of Europe must be maintained and increased at the same time that the J.D.C. staff and facilities must be pressed to the limit to give every assistance to DP's migrating from the camps of Germany, Austria and Italy to Palestine. Former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, a J.D.C. vice-chairman, said that this year "there can be an end to homelessness for hundreds of thousands of Jews in Europe," adding: "However, we must not for a moment lessen our efforts to help the 1,500,000 Jews now in Europe, most of whom will remain there for years to come."

Judge Louis E. Levinthal, former advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. military command in Europe, who returned from his tour of duty yesterday, urged the U.S. to receive its fair share of DP immigrants. He urged the nations which voted for partition of Palestine at the U.N. not to think that they had done their full duty toward the refugees, but also to permit some of them to resettle in other lands besides Palestine.

Describing the energy and vitality with which Europe's Jews are entering into reconstructive programs as "the most encouraging single aspect of the Jewish scene in Europe," Mr. Warburg declared that "the United Nations decision on Palestine brings new hope and courage to the homeless Jews in the DP camps. To fit them for the new lives they will begin in the Holy Land, JDC must provide increased training and reconstruction activities--along with vitally needed relief. Equally clear are our responsibilities towards the 1,400,000 Jewish men, women and children who will remain in Europe this year."

Reporting on the European scene, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, J.D.C. European director, declared that the Agency's activities since liberation form a sturdy foundation for recovery. "JDC's support of children's homes and medical institutions, its rebuilding of Jewish communities, its support of loan centers and producers' operatives, its shipments of raw materials and machinery are the tools with which Europe's Jews can go forward towards revival," he stated. "But at the same time the Jews of Europe present basic relief needs which only JDC can meet." He pointed out that the International Refugee Organization, valiantly attempting to take up UNRRA's burden, is operating on limited funds and provides only limited aid.

U.P.A. WILL NEED OVER \$283,000,000 FOR 1948; \$95,000,000 FOR IMMIGRATION ALONE

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A total of \$283,156,000 will be required by the United Palestine Appeal during 1948 to finance various Palestine projects, including the integration of the expected 75,000 refugee immigrants, Dr. Israel Goldstein, head of the U.P.A., announced during the week-end. This figure represents more than three times the total spent by the agency during 1947.

The cost of immigration and the providing of housing, clothing, training and initial equipment for earning a living will amount to more than \$95,400,000 as against more than \$17,779,000 spent last year. Development of the Jewish Agency agricultural program will require \$27,500,000.

JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL PROCLAIMS \$6,000,000 DRIVE FOR FIGHT AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A nation wide campaign for \$6,104,540 by the Joint Defense Appeal to finance the fight against anti-Semitism conducted by the American Jewish Committee and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League was proclaimed here today by some 600 delegates attending the second annual conference of the J.D.A., fund-raising arm of the Committee and the League. The resolution embodying the recommended appeal climaxed a day of studying the problem of anti-Semitism in the U.S. and effective means of fighting it.

Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the Committee, emphasized that organized anti-Semitism is presently at a low point, but warned that it still remains a threat. Lashing out at social anti-Semitism, Judge Proskauer stated that civil rights as understood by Americans include the right to earn a living, gain an education and the right to proper housing "without limitations of caste."

Frank Goldman, B'nai B'rith president, also concentrated his fire on the social forms of racial discrimination, the forms which he said are known today as the "gentleman's agreement approach." Asserting that Americans were rejecting the overt, brutal anti-Semitism of the Hitler philosophy, he stressed that at the same time "polite society refuses to give up its own brand of anti-Semitism" - which he described as "less visible and less voluble."

Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the A.J.C. executive, said "the work of the JDA-financed agencies is not limited to the old concept of fighting the organized anti-Semites, but extends to the greater basic and fundamental objective of promoting broad, wholesome relationships generally between Jews and non-Jews." The promotion of such relationships "is a task that imposes a definite permanent obligation on the Jewish communal organizations in America and on local Jewish leadership - and must be clearly recognized as such," he stated.

Justice Meier Speinbrink, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League, stressed American Jewry's responsibility toward Palestine and the future of many thousands of Jews overseas. "The challenge of Palestine that we face today presents American Jewry with an historic opportunity that we dare not ignore without destroying ourselves in the eyes of the people of the world," he asserted. "In this area, it is the role of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee to keep the Jewish community of this nation strong so that it can make its great contribution."

Praising the recently-issued reports of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights and the Commission on Higher Education, Dr. John Slawson, A.J.C. executive vice-president, emphasized that the two organizations "are determined that the contents of these two reports shall receive the widest possible circulation and that the recommendations shall be implemented to the end that the underlying purposes embodied in these two documents, mainly equality of opportunity for all regardless of religious, racial or national origin distinctions, shall be realized." Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the A.D.L. spoke on the present "character of anti-Semitism." He outlined the patterns followed by anti-Semitic forces and pointed out the signs by which they can be recognized.

Donald Oberdoffer, chairman of the J.D.A. National Council, sketched the growth of the National Council to its present strength of 587 members representing 230 communities. He described the Council as an instrument for promoting a sounder and healthier democratic life in America and said that in its fund-raising activities, it had helped the Joint Defense Appeal to increase the amount which it had raised from \$3,800,000 in 1946 to \$4,750,000 in 1947.

N.F. PARLEY ADOPTS PLAN TO RAISE \$880,000,000 IN TEN YEARS FOR LAND PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A ten-year land acquisition and development program in the future Jewish state in Palestine, involving the expenditure of \$880,000,000 for the purchase and reclamation of 3,000,000 dunams (750,000 acres) of land, was adopted here today by delegates to a leaders conference of the Jewish National Fund.

Representing Jewish communities throughout the United States, the 700 delegates voted unanimously to embark on a program of land purchase whereby 1,000,000 dunams will be redeemed as quickly as possible to provide the resettlement facilities necessary for the immediate absorption of the scores of thousands of Jews who will be admitted to Palestine following the establishment of the Jewish state.

The closing plenary session of the three-day parley adopted the land reclamation plan after considering for two days the draft of the plan submitted by Dr. Abraham Granovsky, head of the J.N.F. of Palestine. A Palestinian delegation, headed by Israel Rokach, Mayor of Tel Aviv, and Abraham Harzfeld, colonization expert and labor leader, who arrived in this country by air last week explained the details of the proposal to the delegates. The plan is based on the premise that 100,000 families will be settled on the land.

Asserting that the area of the Jewish state as approved by the United Nations General Assembly would have been considerably larger had the land holdings of the J.N.F. been greater, Mayor Rokach stressed that the Jewish state will not succeed in getting off to a good start "if the land holdings of the Jewish people are not considerably expanded immediately." He drew attention to the fact that the expected influx of scores of thousands of Jewish immigrants, especially from Europe's DP camps, will create "grave hardships" unless the facilities for their resettlement on the land are available.

He stated that during its first decade of existence, the Jewish state will not possess the means for land purchase since "one-third of the Jewish government's budget will be directed towards the assurance of security." He noted that the city of Tel Aviv at present lacks enough hospitals, while the hospital situation in Haifa is "catastrophic." "A tremendous responsibility rests upon American Jewry," Rokach told the conference. "The failure of land purchase will result in the creation of an invalid state without an economic basis and without establishing a people resting securely on its own soil."

Harzfeld, in an address stressing that a sound economy demands that at least 20 percent of the population be based on the land, called on American Jewry to provide immediately sufficient funds to purchase and improve 1,000,000 dunams for the settlement of refugee immigrants. He called this figure the "irreducible minimum."

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA GAINS 100,000 MEMBERS DURING PAST THREE MONTHS

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- An enrollment of 100,000 new members in the Zionist Organization of America during the past three months was announced here during the week-end by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Z.O.A. This brings the total Z.O.A. membership above the 250,000 figure.

RABBI LEO BAECK, HEAD OF WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM, ARRIVES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Dr. Leo Baeck, president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and former Chief Rabbi of Berlin, today arrived in New York by air from London. Rabbi Baeck, who came here to participate in the American Jewish Cavalcade sponsored by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, will be received at the White House Thursday.

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