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## HAGANAH BLOWS UP BRIDGE LINKING SYRIA TO PALESTINE WHEN ATTACKS ON JEWS RESUME

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Reports from northern Palestine tonight said that the Haganah had blown up the bridge linking Syria to Palestine, following new attacks on Jewish settlements in Upper Galilee.

Arab snipers renewed attacks on Jewish colonies near Dan, on the northern frontier, and sporadic fighting was said to be continuing. Strong troop reinforcements, accompanied by aircraft, were dispatched from Rosh Pina and other installations.

Sirens wailed in Jerusalem this evening and British troops were alerted when a Haganah squad demolished the home of the mukhtar of Lifta, an Arab suburb adjoining the mixed Arab-Jewish quarter of Romema.

Early reports said that at least one person was buried under the debris of the two-story stone structure. It was the second alert of the day, the other having been sounded this morning when a road mine exploded under a Jewish bus.

At dawn this morning, Haganah units using mortars attacked two Arab strong-points in the Sheikh Jarach quarter of Jerusalem in an attempt to cut the cordon around Hadassah Hospital and the Hebrew University. Mortar fire destroyed two houses, but the Arabs replied with heavy rifle fire, cutting off access to Jewish suburbs neighboring the Sheikh Jarach section.

## Ten Jews Killed or Wounded in Arab Attack; British Arrest 100 Defenders

A large-scale Arab attack on Kfar Uriah, due west of Jerusalem, which began last night, raged until dusk this evening when police and troops finally arrived, driving off the attackers. Ten of the settlement's defenders were reported to have been killed or seriously wounded. The police arrested the entire male population of the village, comprising about 100 persons, and confiscated their arms. No explanation was given for their action.

The Mekor Haim suburb of Jerusalem was attacked from two sides this morning and the battle continued all during the day. Intermittent shooting was heard from the Old City, the Jewish quarter of which is still besieged.

A Jewish Agency spokesman, commenting on the Arab invasions from Syria, praised the prompt action of the British troops, pointing out there is nothing that need stand in the way of cooperation between the Jewish defenders and the British military. He declared that such cooperation did not constitute any violation of the British avowed intention of not implementing partition.

He said that the attacks from Syria were a test case for the United Nations and the Arab states involved, adding that information reaching the Agency indicated

that the invasion could not have been carried out without the knowledge of the Syrian Government. The reaction of the U.N. to these attacks will determine future Arab policy, the spokesman stressed.

In other incidents today a resident of Ramat Hakovesh, north of Tel Aviv, was wounded and his rifle stolen when ambushed by Arabs while working the fields; an Arab was arrested for attempting to stab a British policeman in Bethlehem, but was released from the local jail by a crowd of women; four armed Arabs held up the survey office in Haifa, escaping with a large quantity of arms; and Arabs from Jaffa attempted to attack Tel Aviv, but were driven off by Haganah reinforcements.

Miriam Mindel, 22, was killed today on the Tel Aviv border by British soldiers, while Haim Unger, 27, and Ephraim Nagari, 50, were killed in Haifa by snipers. Menashe Cahana, 22, and Yahir Yechi, 21, were seriously injured when the truck in which they were riding was blown up by Arabs near Beit Dajan, an Arab village adjoining Ramleh.

A synagogue in the Maccabi quarter of Tel Aviv was the target of Arab snipers today, after a car had delivered six rifles to Arabs entrenched in a house facing the synagogue. The Haganah replied, wounding one of the snipers. There were no Jewish casualties.

There were no further reports of violence from Yavneh, where 12 Jews and eight Arabs were killed yesterday when an Arab attack on the settlement resulted in a pitched battle with the Haganah and British reinforcements.

#### Jewish Quarter in Beirut Attacked for Third Successive Day

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The Jewish quarter in Beirut was attacked again today for the third successive day, according to reports reaching here today from Lebanon. There were no casualties.

Meanwhile, Premier Jamil Mardam Bey and President Shukri Kouatly said they were studying the note handed them yesterday by British Minister P.M. Broadmead, protesting the attacks on Palestine from Syria.

#### AGENCY SPOKESMAN AT U.N. COMMISSION WILL URGE IT TO PROCEED TO PALESTINE QUICKLY

LAKE SUCCESS, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- A Jewish Agency spokesman said today that the first demand the Agency will make to the U.N. Palestine Commission, to which it has been invited to send a representative, will be a request that the Commission proceed to Palestine as soon as possible.

The Agency declaration followed a statement yesterday by a British spokesman, reiterating that his government did not wish to have the implementation body come to Palestine until shortly before the Mandate is relinquished on May 15. He added that Britain might be willing to give up the Mandate before that date if the Commission felt it could take over.

#### DR. SILVER LAUDED AT FAREWELL DINNER IN PARIS; THANKS FRANCE FOR U.N. ROLE

PARIS, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Jewish and non-Jewish leaders here paid tribute last night to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver as a "Zionist, religious leader and prominent American" at a farewell reception in his honor. Among those present were Catholic leader March Sangnier, Leopold Fedor Senghor, Negro representative of Senegal in the French National Assembly, and a representative of the U.S. Embassy. Silver reviewed the mutual influence of the French and American spirits in bringing about a "just solution of the Jewish problem."

CONGRESSMEN REPORTED READY TO ASK PROBE OF SALE OF EXPLOSIVES FOR PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Several Congressmen were reported today to be preparing to ask for a Congressional investigation of the sale by the War Assets Administration of explosives destined for Palestine, following the disclosure that the explosives seized during the past few days in New York and Jersey were purchased by the Jewish Agency.

Statements issued last night by the Agency and by Leonard Weissman, who acted for the Agency in negotiating the purchase of the explosives, established that not only had the sale complied with all legal regulations, but that application for export licenses were to have been filed before any attempt was made to ship the explosives.

Weissman, who has been completely exonerated by the FBI, denied that the crates of TNT found on a Jersey pier last week-end were part of the explosives purchased by the Jewish Agency. It was pointed out that the explosives found on Friday loaded on trucks in Jersey and New York, plus the part of the shipment which has been held up at the WAA arsenal, add up to the total purchased by Weissman.

The text of the statement issued by the Agency follows:

"The Jewish people of Palestine are in desperate need of arms for their defense. The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, who collaborated with Hitler in the destruction of 6,000,000 Jews in Europe, has now called the Arab world to arms to carry on his work of massacre and extermination. Through his connections with the Arab League and the Arab states, the Mufti has the facilities to acquire arms and munitions for aggression and invasion.

"The Jewish Agency for Palestine has the responsibilities of a state about to be born. It must protect the lives and homes of the 700,000 men, women and children of Palestine. The United Nations decision made no provision for an international force but did provide for a Jewish militia to defend the Jewish state and to maintain public security.

"It therefore devolves upon the responsible defense forces of the Jewish community of Palestine to rush preparations in a race against time in view of the threatened Arab aggression in defiance of the United Nations decision and the announced early withdrawal of British troops.

"Accordingly steps were taken to arrange for the legitimate purchase of war surplus material and equipment. To facilitate these purchases the Jewish Agency made dollar credits available. The materials found near Asbury Park on Thursday were to the best of our knowledge, legally procured to await legitimate shipment.

"It has throughout been our understanding that all such transportation was in full conformity with American law. We are proud to give our aid to the embattled Jews of Palestine. We trust that material urgent for their defense may soon be shipped to them legally, and with God's help reach them in time to meet their grave emergency."

U.S. MARINE CORPS COMMANDER DENIES ANY MARINES HAVE BEEN SENT TO PALESTINE

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, speaking here today, denied that any marines were being sent to Palestine. He said that the recent dispatch of 1,000 marines to the Mediterranean was merely a "routine" operation.

ROMANIAN JEWS HAIL ESTABLISHMENT OF REPUBLIC AT MEETING MARKING IRON GUARD MASSACRE

BUCHAREST, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- A mass meeting held last night in the Great Synagogue here adopted a resolution hailing the abolition of the monarchy which "for almost a century--with the aid of the reactionary parties--oppressed Jews, depriving them of their elementary civil rights, while the popular republic is fighting all out to secure and guarantees Rumanian Jewry free development on an equal level with all nationalities in the country."

The meeting was called by the Jewish Community Council and the Jewish Democratic Committee on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the Iron Guard rebellion which "was the prelude to Antonescu's criminal war against Russia, which cost the lives of 400,000 Rumanian Jews." The meeting also heard reports on the growth of anti-Semitism in Western Europe.

Police in the Transylvanian town of Satu Mare have arrested two smugglers named Janos and Guyla on charges of murdering five Bucharest Jews last October while ostensibly guiding them across the border. Police said that the two criminals admitted that the five Jews--three men and two women--were reported to possess large sums of money which they carried on their person. They said they murdered the Jews while they crossed the Rumanian-Hungarian frontier.

(The Rumanian Information Ministry has closed down five periodicals, including the only Jewish weekly newspaper, according to a report reaching Vienna from Bucharest.)

LEFT-WING PAPER CHARGES AUSTRIAN RESTITUTION MINISTRY IS RUN LIKE "NAZI REGIME"

VIENNA, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The Communist newspaper Volksstimme declared yesterday that a "Nazi regime" exists in the Restitution Ministry headed by Minister Peter Krausland. The paper adds that Germans and Nazis who "aryanized" Jewish-owned firms in 1938 are being put into leading positions in the Ministry.

Thirty thousand refugees, including 1,700 Jews, entered Austria between September and November, it was officially revealed today. More than 150,000 displaced persons entered Austria last year, while 42,000 left the country.

DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS TO BE TAKEN AGAINST HUNGARIAN NAZI EXPECTED TO BEGIN HERE SOON

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Deportation proceedings against Ferenc Vajta, 33-year-old Hungarian accused of being a Nazi, are expected to begin here soon. Officials here said that he had violated the immigration laws and is suspected of being a war criminal.

Last week, the United Hungarian Jews of America, speaking in behalf of its 24 affiliated organizations, appealed to President Truman, the State Department and the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, demanding that Vajta be expelled from the country. The Justice Department said that he entered the country through false statements.

CZECH FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS INQUIRY ESTABLISHES NO ARMS SOLD TO ARAB STATES

PRAGUE, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry today announced that it has established that the Skoda munitions works has delivered no arms to Syria or other Arab states, as had been reported here. The announcement said that Skoda and other Czech firms had been negotiating with Egypt for the sale of varied armaments, but that no deal had been consummated.

TRUMAN FORESEES EARLY ACTION BY CONGRESS TO ADMIT DP'S IN MESSAGE TO USNA PARLEY

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Early action by Congress to authorize the admission of displaced persons to the United States was foreseen today by President Truman in a message to the annual meeting of the United Service for New Americans.

Rep. William Stratton, of Illinois, sponsor of a bill at the last session of Congress to admit 400,000 DP's over a period of four years, told the meeting, which was attended by more than 1,000 persons, that he believed that such legislation would be adopted at the present session. Speaking last night, Assistant Secretary of State Charles Saltzman said that the State Department favored allocation by the International Refugee Organization of \$75,000,000 to transport 400,000 DP's to the U.S. and believed that the U.S. contribution to the IRO should be adequate to cover the costs.

The text of the President's message read as follows:

"Ever since the end of the war it has been my desire that our country afford sanctuary to a substantial number of the men, women and children who lost their homes and all they held dear during years of persecution in the Old World. I have felt that in this way we can give an opportunity to worthy people to rebuild their lives as Americans, and can exemplify the practical meaning of the ideals of humanitarianism and individual liberty which the United States upholds before the world.

"In planning a hospitable policy toward the homeless, it has been most reassuring to know that those admitted to our shores are welcomed and assisted by well-organized and skillfully conducted programs carried on by United Service for New Americans and other voluntary agencies and supported by the private generosity of our people. Happily, it is now possible to hope for early action by the Congress to authorize the admission of our country's fair share of the homeless. This will greatly increase the tasks of the voluntary welfare agencies.

"It therefore gives me particular pleasure to extend greetings and good wishes to United Service for New Americans and to the warmhearted and public-spirited men and women who cooperate so effectively in your program, on the occasion of your annual meeting. I know your deliberations will result in a further strengthening of the work."

William Rosenwald Predicts Breaking of Log Jam on Immigration

Early "break-up of the log jam" that has kept hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children in the status of displaced persons was foreseen by William Rosenwald, honorary president of United Service and national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, in addressing the meeting. "The gates are beginning to open, and the United States is leading the way," Mr. Rosenwald declared. Since the displaced persons are Catholics, Protestants, and Jews, the problem is of equal importance to Americans of all faiths, Mr. Rosenwald said, adding that it was being handled in "closest harmony and with the utmost mutual helpfulness" by agencies of all faiths.

Enactment of the Stratton or Ferguson Mills to admit 400,000 displaced persons to the United States was urged by Mr. Saltzman. Emphasizing that this country was lagging in letting other countries "take the active lead in alleviating" the conditions of displaced persons, and is "actually in a better position to receive a substantial number than any other nation," he declared that the Administration "strongly

ndorses the proposal to admit these people and will continue to urge that suitable legislation be passed at the earliest possible time."

The activities of USNA were hailed by Mr. Saltzman and Rep. Stratton, as well as by Watson B. Miller, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, who spoke this afternoon. Maj. Gen. Walter A. Wood, chief of the Preparatory Commission of the IRO also spoke. Messages were received from Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Mayor William F. Dwyer and Henry Morgenthau, Jr., national chairman of the UJA.

The board of directors reelected Edwin Rosenberg as president and Mrs. Irving M. Engel, as chairman of the board of directors. Other officers elected for 1948 were as follows: William Rosenwald, New York, Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, Detroit, honorary presidents; Prof. Joseph P. Chamberlain, New York, honorary chairman of the board; Alexander S. Keller, Hartford, vice-chairman of the board; Mrs. Louis Brodido, New York, first vice-president; Erwin Schwarz, New York, second vice-president; Mrs. Herman B. Levine, third vice-president; Mrs. Simon E. Sobeloff, Baltimore, secretary; Mrs. Walter A. Hirsch, New York, associate secretary; Carlos L. Israels, New York, treasurer; Mrs. Mortimer Schwager, New York, associate treasurer.

#### JUDGE DENIES NEW TRIAL IN LIBEL VERDICT AGAINST CHICAGO SENTINEL; PAPER TO APPEAL

CHICAGO, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- Jack Fishbein and Jack Feldman, publishers of the Chicago Jewish Sentinel, announced over the week-end that they would appeal the decision issued on Friday by Superior Court Judge Donald McKinley denying their application for a new trial on the libel suit against them by several accused seditionists, including Joe McWilliams, Lawrence Dennis, Elizabeth Dilling, which resulted in a \$24,100 verdict against the paper.

In denying the application, Judge McKinley said that "this is just another case, another trial, another loss and the verdict was not excessive." He held that there was no prejudice shown by the jurors. His decision will be appealed to the Illinois Appellate Court, and to higher tribunal, including the U.S. Supreme Court, if necessary, Fishbein and Feldman said.

#### "NATIONAL CABINET" BEING FORMED TO DIRECT UNITED JEWISH APPEAL CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- A "National Cabinet" to direct the \$250,000,000 United Jewish Appeal campaign is in the process of formation, it was disclosed today with the announcement by the UJA that Mrs. Katherine S. Falk, of New York, had been named a member of the "cabinet" to head the national speakers committee. Mrs. Falk is a prominent philanthropist and communal leader.

The UJA also announced that 31 prominent business and industrial leaders, headed by Rudolf G. Sonneborn, of New York, have agreed to accept posts of leadership in the national trade and industry division of the drive.

#### JEWISH COUNCIL TO AID RUSSIAN REHABILITATION ANNOUNCES ITS DISSOLUTION

NEW YORK, Jan. 11. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Council to Aid Russian Rehabilitation will terminate its activities, it was announced today by Louis Levine, national president of the Jewish Council. Organized at the beginning of the war as an affiliate of Russian War Relief, the Jewish Council collected, purchased and shipped vast quantities of clothes, medicines, hospital and children's homes supplies and equipment directly and on behalf of thousands of landsmanshaften, religious, fraternal and other groups, when these supplies were vitally needed, Mr. Levine stated.