

Monday, February 2, 1948

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

PALESTINE DIRECTOR OF JTA INJURED IN EXPLOSION NEAR OFFICE; SEVERAL CASUALTIES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A truck loaded with explosives tonight blew up alongside the building in which the Jerusalem office of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency is located. Several casualties were reported. M.A. Tenenblatt, Palestine director of the JTA, was injured slightly.

The building, which is owned by Salman White, an American citizen, was set afire and the damage is expected to be heavy. The Palestine Post, only English language newspaper in the country, is also located in the building.

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260 VISALESS JEWS INTERCEPTED OFF PALESTINE EN ROUTE TO CYPRUS; BLASTS IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Two hundred and eighty visaless Jewish immigrants apprehended early this morning on a blockade runner off the Palestine coast were this afternoon en route to Cyprus in a British deportation ferry.

The British boarding party met no resistance as it took control of the refugee vessel, named the "Thirty-Five" in honor of 35 Haganah members who died in an Arab ambush near Kfar Etzion in the middle of last month. The transshipment in Safa harbor was also carried out without incident. The refugees, who are reported to have embarked at an Italian port, included 179 men, 89 women and 12 children in their early teens.

Jerusalem, which was fairly quiet Saturday after British troops set up artillery emplacements for light and medium mortars and machine guns opposite the Young Moshe quarter, erupted into violent action today. Four loud explosions rocked the center of the city as Arabs blew up shops in the Jewish business district. Heavy rifle, pistol and machinegun fire broke out after the blasts, which took place in an area where the central police station and the headquarters of a British troop unit are located.

The Haganah today killed eight Arabs and wounded a number of others in a punitive raid following an attack on Mekor Hayim, Jewish suburb of Jerusalem, in which at least one Jew was murdered and one house destroyed. One house in the Arab village of Bet Safafa, from which the Arab attack was launched, was destroyed by Jewish sappers.

Two other Arabs were killed and two wounded seriously when a bus in which they were travelling was attacked by Jews near Tarshisha, in western Galilee. Last night one Arab was killed and several wounded when the Haganah raided the village of Sabri, which had been used as a base for Arab guerrillas who came from Lebanon recently to attack the Jewish settlement of Yechiam, in Upper Galilee.

Between 800 and 1,000 Arabs from several different countries last night entered Palestine from Transjordan, it was reported here today. Arab sources assert that they are equipped with British and German artillery and are being concentrated in the Jerusalem area for an overwhelming assault on the Jewish sections of the city. It was stated that the Arab guerrillas were escorted across the Jordan by units of the Arab Legion, Transjordan troops used by the British for duty in Palestine, and that the British were aware of the crossing.

U.N. IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION PRESENTS FIRST REPORT TO SECURITY COUNCIL TODAY

LIKE SUCCESS, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The first report of the United Nations Implementation Commission on Palestine will be presented to the Security Council tomorrow. The report, a twelve-page document, will be released to the public and its implications will be discussed by Commission members at a press conference in the afternoon. It is expected that the Commission will begin work immediately on a special report on the security situation in the Holy Land.

BRITISH ZIONISTS URGE GOVT. TO ASSIST PALESTINE JEWS IN OBTAINING ARMS

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The British Government was today urged to give the Jewish Agency the facilities for the purchase and transportation of arms to the Jewish community of Palestine in a resolution adopted at a three-day annual conference of the Zionist Federation of Britain and Ireland. The resolution, which pointed out that such action would be consistent with Britain's membership in the United Nations, also endorsed Moshe Shertok's demand for an international police force to enforce partition in Palestine.

The 900 delegates who attended the parley also called on their government to make it clear to the Arab states with which it has treaties of alliance that the formation of Arab guerrilla bands in their territory would not be tolerated because their presence violated the U.N. Charter. The conference also expressed regret that relations between the Jewish and British people had deteriorated within the past few years.

Last night, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, veteran Zionist leader, urged the delegates to seek closer rapprochement with the British and to attempt to obtain more aid from them in the building of the new state. "We must achieve once again that cooperation between Great Britain and ourselves without which a great deal of our work in Palestine, particularly in the early days, could never have been done," Dr. Weizmann declared.

A sharp attack on Great Britain's policy with regard to Palestine was made by Professor Selig Brodetsky, member of the Jewish Agency executive, in an address to the convention. Declaring that the Jewish people are determined to establish a secure Jewish state at all costs, Prof. Brodetsky singled out Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin for chief responsibility for the British stand, which, he said, means that the Jews of Palestine are being frustrated in their attempt to defend themselves while Arab arms and volunteers are pouring in freely from neighboring states.

"This is intervention--whatever interpretation may be placed on it" by the government, Prof. Brodetsky stressed. "If Great Britain, in its treaty negotiations with the Arab states, failed to raise the question of their encouraging lawlessness in Palestine," he asserted, "Britain becomes an accessory after the fact. This is a violation of the whole principle of United Nations responsibility." The Zionist leader said he would like Great Britain to take the view that the U.N. decision on Palestine is an act binding on all peace-loving nations.

Berl Locker, another member of the Agency executive, derided a statement by British chief delegate to the U.N. Sir Alexander Cadogan that Britain had tried to open a port in the Jewish section of Palestine but had failed. He called Cadogan's statement "casualty at its worst." He warned that no force in the world would be allowed to destroy the Jewish state before it is created because the Jews of Palestine "will fight to the very last."

HEAD OF BRITH ABRAHAM ASKS PERMISSION FOR U.S. JEWS TO FORM VOLUNTEER ARMY FOR PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Permission for American Jews to organize a volunteer army for service in Palestine was urged here this week-end by Joseph R. Apfel, grand-master of the Independent Order of Brith Abraham, in an address at the sixtieth anniversary meeting of the Order.

Apfel also appealed to the United States Government and the United Nations to lift the embargo on arms shipments to Jews in Palestine "so that they can defend themselves against Arab attack. There is no question," he declared, "that if the United Nations does not enforce its decision on the partition of Palestine it will meet the same fate as the League of Nations. Only strong measures taken now will prevent further carnage and the outbreak of a major war in the Near East."

ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT DISSOLVES BOARD OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES; NEW PROVISIONAL BODY FORMED

BUCHAREST, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government last week dissolved the board of the Federation of Rumanian Jewish Communities and a new provisional board was inducted today.

The new board is headed by Dr. Maximilian Poper, a professor at the University of Bucharest. H. Serban Leibovici, a prominent lawyer and member of the Communist Party, was elected Secretary-General, replacing Lascar Saraga.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS START INQUIRY INTO KILLING OF DISPLACED JEW BY U.S. SOLDIERS

MUNICH, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Troops were withdrawn this week-end from the Heidenheim DP camp where Israel Gluz, 32, died from bayonet wounds last week and 40 other Jews were arrested in a U.S. Army raid. The Army announced that it considered the incident closed, but officials of Jewish organizations launched an inquiry into charges by the refugees that Gluz was allowed to bleed to death.

William Haber, newly-appointed advisor on Jewish affairs to the European command, and a delegation from the Jewish Central Committee of Germany, are making an on-the-spot inquiry. The Heidenheim DP's claimed that the dead man, who was stabbed while resisting arrest, was bayoneted unnecessarily and that he did not receive medical attention until long after he had been wounded.

An AMG officer in Stuttgart admitted that printing equipment seized in the raid could not have been used for printing counterfeit money, which was the reason the raid was advanced for the raid. He said two small presses found in the camp were probably used to print leaflets.

Jewish DP's Can Leave Europe in May if British Clear Cyprus by Then

Emigration of displaced Jews from Germany, Austria and Italy will begin on May 15th if the British evacuate Cyprus by that date, Dr. Chaim Hoffman, Jewish Agency director for Germany and Austria, declared at a press conference here.

Dr. Hoffman said that emigration cannot begin until August if the British hold up the transfer of the 30,000 Jewish detainees now on the island until May 15th. Once the emigration program gets under way, Hoffman predicted, between 75,000 and 100,000 displaced Jews will leave Europe in 1948 and between 100,000 and 150,000 in 1949, thus completing the emigration of Jewish DP's from the Continent.

Hoffman, who has just returned from Palestine, said that the Jews there are confident that they can defend themselves "for many years, provided they are permitted to buy arms and ammunition freely." A small international police force is necessary in Palestine, he declared, chiefly for the purpose of showing that the United Nations is serious about implementing its partition decision.

TRIAL OF ANTI-SEMITIC LEADER RESUMED IN SWEDEN; CHARGED WITH SPREADING ANTI-JEWISH LIES

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The trial of Einar Aaberg, notorious Swedish anti-Semite, was resumed here yesterday despite Aaberg's absence from court. It is believed Aaberg has gone underground.

The prosecution presented proof that Aaberg's anti-Jewish pamphlets, written in English and mailed throughout the world, consist largely of falsehood. G.O. Widengren, noted Professor of Religion at Uppsala University, was a witness for the prosecution.

I.R.O. PARLEY CLOSES IN GENEVA; RECOMMENDS BARRING OF INTERNATIONAL AID TO NEW REFUGEES

GENEVA, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization ended its fifth session here over the week-end with a "freeze" order barring refugees leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence after today from international aid.

The deadline order, introduced by Great Britain and supported by the United States, was phrased as a recommendation to the future council of the I.R.O. It was attacked at once by representatives of the voluntary relief agencies observing the sessions who charged that it would leave tens of thousands of racial and political refugees without any organized care.

Before adjourning, the Commission approved a program to approach all interested governments to determine what "fair share" of DP's they would admit as immigrants.

Results of the first occupational survey of DP's undertaken by the Preparatory Commission were also disclosed at the final session. The study, which covered 330,000 persons or half of those now receiving I.R.O. aid, indicates that one-third of all the male DP's in Europe are skilled workers and about one-fourth are agriculturists. At the same time, the Commission approved a report calling for an intensified vocational training program.

HUNGARIAN JEWS LAUNCH DRIVE FOR CAPITAL FOR LOAN COOPERATIVE; J.D.C. WILL ASSIST

BUDAPEST, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A 2,000,000 florint campaign for the establishment of a loan cooperative by the Hungarian Jewish community in cooperation with the Joint Distribution Committee was decided upon here during the week-end at a mass meeting attended by many Jews of all economic strata of Hungarian society.

The campaign will be opened formally on Tuesday. The funds of the cooperative will be used to set up small Jewish producers cooperatives and take an estimated 40 percent of the urban Jewish community off relief roles. The rally sent greetings to American Jewry and the Jewish communities of other lands and also to various ministers in the several economic sections of the cabinet.

RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT AGREES TO PERMIT J.D.C. RELIEF SUPPLIES TO ENTER COUNTRY DUTY-FREE

BUCHAREST, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- An agreement which will enable the Joint Distribution Committee to increase and expand its relief and reconstruction activities in Rumania was reached here this week-end between Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, J.D.C. European director, and government officials.

Dr. Schwartz reported that as a result of the agreement all J.D.C. supplies will henceforth be admitted into the country duty-free. Arrangements were also made regarding the transmission of J.D.C. funds into Rumania. After discussions with several members of the government, notably Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Minister of National Economy, and Bucur Schiepu, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Trade, the J.D.C. leader declared that important progress had been made to remedy the technical difficulties which hitherto have hampered the organization's operations in Rumania.

BRITISH COOPERATIVES TO URGE GOVERNMENT ACTION AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM, FASCISM

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Government action against the recent resurgence of fascist and anti-Semitic propaganda will be urged in resolutions to be submitted by nine British cooperative organizations to the forthcoming annual conference of the Cooperative Party, it was reported here today. Another resolution will call for United Nations control of oil resources in the Middle East.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE GETS "BLUEPRINT" FOR \$8,000,000 EXPANSION PROGRAM; OFFICERS ELECTED

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- An \$8,000,000 "blueprint for the future" was approved by the board of governors of the Hebrew Union College during the week-end at its annual meeting here. Included in the long-range expansion program of the seminary, which trains Reform rabbis, are plans for a building program as well as an expanded curriculum.

In outlining the "blueprint" to the board, Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of the college, said the program provides for an expanded rabbinical training program and a college program designed to train Jewish lay leaders. Funds to carry out the plan will be raised through a nationwide drive.

Lester A. Jaffe of Cincinnati was elected chairman of the board of governors, succeeding Dr. Hiram B. Weiss of Cincinnati. Elected vice-chairmen were Frank L. Hell of New York and Fred Lazarus Jr. and Herbert R. Bloch of Cincinnati.

AMERICAN LEGION FAVORS ADMISSION OF DP'S TO UNITED STATES AND PALESTINE, COMMANDER SAYS

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- James F. O'Neil, national commander of the American Legion, declared here over the week-end that the displaced persons problem must be divorced from the general subject of immigration and treated specifically as an emergency matter involving vital humanitarian obligations.

"The American Legion," Mr. O'Neil stated, "recommends that the United States permit the emergency immigration to this country of displaced persons who were officially designated as such on Jan. 1, 1947; less those who have since found haven, in numbers proportionate to our obligation as a member of the International Refugee Organization." He added that the Legion further recommends that "all displaced persons who desire to settle in Palestine be permitted and assisted in doing so." The Legion originally opposed the admission of DP immigrants.

FREE SYNAGOGUE LAUNCHES \$500,000 CAMPAIGN TO COMPLETE NEW BUILDING

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Announcement of a \$500,000 building fund campaign to complete the new structure of the Free Synagogue was made here last night by Frederick L. Guggenheimer, president of the congregation. Construction was interrupted in 1941 by the advent of Pearl Harbor with only the foundation completed. Almost half of the total cost of one million dollars has already been subscribed.

For thirty years, starting in 1910, the Free Synagogue held weekly services at Carnegie Hall. In 1940 it moved to its present quarters pending the construction of its new home.

JOSEPH DE LANGE, BELGIAN JEWISH LEADER, DIES IN ANTWERP; WAS ACTIVE IN COMMUNAL AFFAIRS

ANTWERP, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Joseph de Lange, former president of the Jewish Community in Antwerp and secretary of the Federation of Jewish Charity here, died here at the age of 64. Mr. de Lange, a noted architect, had also been a delegate to the executive of the United Synagogues of Belgium. He died after a long illness.