

Thursday, February 5, 1948

# JTA Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

## SENATE DECIDES TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON ENTRY OF DISPLACED PERSONS TO U.S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Congressional action on the Stratton Bill to admit 400,000 displaced persons to the United States within four years may be postponed until after March 1st as a result of a decision by the Senate today.

The Senate unanimously agreed that the report of the Judiciary Sub-Committee on immigration and displaced persons should be taken up on March 1st instead of next Tuesday, as originally scheduled. Agreement for the postponement was given by the Senate at the request of Senator Alexander Wiley, chairman of the Judiciary Committee. A draft of the sub-committee's report was submitted only yesterday to the full committee.

## U.N. COMMISSION MAPS PLANS FOR SENDING UNIT TO PALESTINE; TAKES UP AGENCY'S CHARGES

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Plans for sending an advance party to Palestine were mapped out today by the U.N. Implementation Commission following the submission yesterday of a note to Great Britain protesting the British refusal to allow the Commission to enter Palestine until two weeks before the termination of the Mandate on May 15.

The advance group may leave within ten days. It will consist of Secretariat personnel and administrative experts. An unofficial suggestion that the party may include a military expert was discounted here today. The Commission staff is expected to make its headquarters in Jerusalem.

The Commission continued today preparation of its special security report for submission to the Security Council. It is understood that the report will recommend the sending of an international police force to Palestine. The report is expected to be ready early next week.

Charges of aggression which the Jewish Agency filed yesterday against Lebanon and Syria will be taken up tomorrow by the Commission. Composition of the advance party will also be discussed tomorrow.

(In Jerusalem, David Ben-Gurion reiterated at a press conference today the demand of the Jewish Agency for the speedy establishment of a Jewish militia which, he said, should be supplied with arms and ammunition by the United Nations. Such a demand, he declared, is justified, since the British are unable to maintain law and order. The Jewish militia, he added, would be ready to maintain order in the whole of Palestine, and would guard the frontiers, if the Palestine Arabs would not be willing to establish their own militia.)

Authoritative circles in London today declared that the formal request of the Commission for an earlier entry to Palestine, submitted last night at Lake Success through the British representative at the United Nations, will be "studied carefully" when received in London. Its implications, it was emphasized, will be considered on an inter-departmental level, and, if necessary, on a Cabinet level.

BRITISH REFUSE ARAB ATTACK AT PALESTINE-SYRIA FRONTIER; CAPTURE IRAQIS AND SYRIANS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- One Arab was killed and several wounded in a fight between British frontier troops and an Arab unit dressed in military uniform which attempted to cross from Syria into Palestine to attack Jewish settlements in the Hishmer Hayarden area. Two Iraqis and four Syrians were captured in the battle, while the others retreated into Syria.

The Jewish Agency today reiterated its demand for the immediate withdrawal of King Abdullah's Arab Legion from Palestine, following the killing last night of five Jews, including one woman, and the wounding of twenty by members of the Legion firing on a Jewish convoy near Haifa.

The convoy was attacked from the Arab Legion camp outside of Haifa after a bomb exploded in the city, killing four Arabs and wounding three yesterday. An official government statement claimed that the Legion was fired on by Jews in the convoy, and the Arabs merely returned the fire. The Jewish Agency termed the official communique an "utter fabrication."

Three Jews were killed today when they repulsed an Arab attack on Migdal Zedek quarries, near Petach Tikvah. Another Jew was shot and killed by British soldiers at the Haifa port allegedly for refusing to be searched. The victim was a worker at Haifa harbor. Haim Weinberg, one of the Jews injured during the explosion this week of the building where the offices of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Palestine Post were located, died today. He recently arrived here from Russia and participated in guerilla warfare against the German Army during the war.

Attacks on Convoys in Various Parts of Palestine Continue

Six Jews were wounded today when an armored bus in which they were traveling to Haifa was ambushed in the Khalisa quarter and raked with gunfire, it was officially reported, while seven Jews were wounded this afternoon when a Jewish convoy en route to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv was attacked near Babelwad. One Jew was wounded by Arabs in Tiberias.

British troops, retaliating for the killing of a British soldier last night at the Manshieh quarter, on the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border, today demolished one Arab and one Jewish house since they were "not certain whence the fatal shot was fired." Meanwhile, Arabs this morning blew up a Jewish house in the Manshieh quarter and also destroyed a section of the railway line between Athlit and Zichron Jacob.

The attack which Sternists carried out last night on three British policemen in Rehovoth - killing two of them and seriously wounding the third -- was made in reprisal for the killing of a member of the Stern Group a fortnight ago by the police, and not in revenge for the explosion of the Palestine Post building which the Sternists attributed to fascist members of British police units, it was revealed today.

Jaffa Customs guards today seized five boxes containing 100 pistols and 20,000 rounds of ammunition addressed to an Arab in Jaffa. The contraband was smuggled in aboard the S.S. Peksah. Customs officials said that six of the pistols are "missing."

The official casualty list for the month of January, released today, said that 160 Jews, 222 Arabs, 19 British soldiers and police and 19 other civilians were killed. In addition, 317 Jews were wounded, as were 507 Arabs and 71 Britons. The Jewish casualty figures include civilians and settlement police while the Arab totals include civilians, police and one member of the Transjordan Frontier Force.

WEIZMANN CONFIDENT U.S. WILL "PLAY ITS FULL PART" IN IMPLEMENTING PARTITION DECISION

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Confidence that the United States, as a member of the United Nations, will "play its full part" in the implementation of the Palestine partition decision of the U.N. General Assembly, was expressed here today by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, leader of the world Zionist movement, upon his arrival in New York at the urgent request of the Jewish Agency.

In a statement issued following his landing from the "Queen Mary," Dr. Weizmann warned that "unless due preparations are made for Jewish defense, the Jewish population of Palestine will be exposed to grave danger when the Mandate is terminated." He appealed to Britain to fulfill its promise of "loyal acceptance" of the U.N. partition decision, and emphasized that when the Jewish State is established, it will find means to cooperate harmoniously with the Arabs.

"The purpose of my visit," he said, "is to do whatever lies in my power to help clarify the problems which the United Nations faces in carrying out the resolutions adopted at the General Assembly on the future of Palestine. I am well aware that the implementation of this project raises many difficulties, but these difficulties are as nothing compared with the dangers which would arise if the United Nations policy were to be altered by force. If that were to happen, which I do not believe, one result would be the discredit and decline of the United Nations and a grave blow to the very idea of international authority. Another result would be the prolongation of conflict in Palestine.

"I am confident," Dr. Weizmann continued, "that the United Nations, and especially those states which sponsored the United Nations resolution, cannot allow these consequences to come about. For that reason, I have no doubt that the United Nations, with the support of the United States Government and other governments concerned, will find the means of overcoming the difficulties which have been raised through a violent attempt to overthrow a just and lawful international decision."

Paying tribute to the "steadfast courage" of Palestine Jewry and expressing the hope that he will soon be in Palestine, the Zionist leader said: "The Jews of Palestine have a right to expect that the civilized world which has endorsed their title to national independence, will not leave them in the lurch, in the face of a murderous attack which is being openly prepared against them by forces of extremism in the Arab world. I am convinced that once the Jewish state is established, it will find means to cooperate harmoniously with the Arabs. The urgent task now is to convince Arab opinion by tangible facts that the Jewish state cannot be prevented from coming into existence. Least of all can this be prevented by methods which the United Nations Charter forbids. Anything that any of us can do to defend the rights of Palestine Jews, including their right of effective self-defense, will be no more than they merit, as they stand almost alone in defense of United Nations prestige."

MARSHALL SAYS 150 COMMUNISTS "INFILTRATED" JEWISH REFUGEE SHIPS; SOURCE OF INFO NOT CLEAR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Marshall said today that the State Department has information that between 150 and 200 Communists were among the 15,000 Jewish immigrants on the Pan York and Pan Crescent.

Asked at his weekly press conference whether the information came from the British Government or was independently secured by the State Department, Marshall replied he was unable to answer, since the information was merely handed him on a typewritten sheet with no indication as to its source. He said he would inquire into the source, however.

Later, M. J. McDermott, special assistant on press relations to Marshall, said "The Department has thus far received only preliminary reports from the British Government with regard to Jewish refugees on the Pan York and Pan Crescent. These refugees are now on Cyprus. Most of these refugees are Rumanian Jews. The incomplete character of the preliminary reports does not warrant further comment at this time."

17 SHIPS CARRYING VISALESS JEWS ELUDED BRITISH BLOCKADE SINCE V-E DAY; 40 OTHERS FAILED

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Seventeen ships carrying visaless Jewish immigrants to Palestine broke the British blockade of Palestine since V-E Day and landed their passengers, it was disclosed today during a debate on Palestine in the House of Commons. A total of 57 ships carrying "illegal" immigrants attempted to break the blockade, but of these 40 were intercepted by the British authorities, it was revealed.

Earlier, Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones, in response to a demand by E. Janner, Laborite, that Britain do something effective to stop the invasion of Palestine from Transjordan which "is a complete transgression against the U.N. Charter," said that it is exceedingly difficult to guard all of Palestine's frontiers. Janner did not receive an answer when he proposed that Britain end the sending of funds to Transjordan and other Arab countries which, he said, are using them for equipping military forces to attack Palestine.

Simultaneous with the disclosure of the number of Jewish ships which have broken the British blockade of Palestine, Creech-Jones announced that the cost of running the Cyprus detention camps, from their inception until November, 1947, had reached \$10,000,000, which the Palestine Government was paying. Janner interrupted at this point to ask if the "Colonial Secretary will allow those poor devils to go to Palestine where they won't cost anybody anything."

Creech-Jones also revealed that the British Government and the U.N. Implementation Commission were conferring on the subject of closing down the Cyprus camps and transferring the more than 31,000 Jewish internees now on the island to Palestine.

In reply to a query, Defense Minister Alexander said today in Commons that, despite its embargo on the shipment of arms to Jews and Arabs in Palestine, the British Government will continue to send arms to Arab states. The British will do so "under existing contracts which have been undertaken as a result of our treaty obligations to certain Arab governments," he said, adding that the British have "no reason to suppose that the material supplied by them under such contracts will be used in Palestine." He also said that plans for the military and administrative withdrawal of Britain from Palestine have not been altered.

Asked why British authorities sold a number of planes to the Jews, Alexander said the planes were demilitarized and in unserviceable condition, but admitted they could be adapted to military use. He stated that steps have been taken to halt all such sales "so long as there is danger of civil war" in Palestine. The same precaution, he said, was being taken with respect to other war-like material.

SENATE HEARS CRITICISM OF U.S. POLICY ON PALESTINE; LIFTING OF EMBARGO IS ASKED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Criticism of the State Department's "mixture of unbecoming timidity toward the Arabs and thinly-disguised disapproval towards the Jews," was voiced in the Senate today by Sen. James Murray of Montana. The Senator declared that the imposition of the embargo on shipment of arms to the Jews in Palestine was a step in the direction of "hindering rather than implementing" the U.N. partition decision.

Sen. Murray saluted "the brave American boys of Jewish parentage" who have thrown themselves into the fight in Palestine. He accused the United States Government of "unfriendly demonstrations" in carrying out official policies with reference to Palestine.

TIME BOMB EXPLODES IN SANTIAGO JEWISH CENTER; NO CASUALTIES REPORTED

SANTIAGO, Chile, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- A time bomb exploded early today inside the Israelite Club in the center of Santiago, causing damage but no casualties.

COMMANDER'S VIOLATION OF REGULATIONS LED TO KILLING OF JEWISH DP, I.R.O. CHARGES

MUNICH, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The death of a displaced Jew in the U.S. Army raid of the Heidenheim DP camp last week was described today by Paul Edwards, director of International Refugee Organization in the American zone in Germany, as "completely unnecessary."

"The local Army commander failed to use the proper, prescribed channels before entering the camp, which require an I.R.O. official to accompany troops raiding a camp," Edwards said. "Furthermore, this is the first time that raiding troops used bayonets against unarmed people. As far as I am concerned, the only guilty party in the entire incident is the officer responsible for the staging of the raid," he said.

MORE THAN 3,000 JEWISH DP'S AT LECHFELD TURN OUT TO WELCOME U.J.A. DELEGATION

MUNICH, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 displaced Jews from the Lechfeld DP camp, near here, turned out today to welcome the United Jewish Appeal delegates touring Europe and Palestine to study at first-hand the requirements of the Jews in Europe and the Jewish state in Palestine.

Earlier, the Jews in the Landsberg camp told the 26 American Jewish communal leaders comprising the delegation: "You have helped us splendidly with material aid, now you must help us get out speedily."

The delegates expressed admiration of the neatly-kept quarters in the Lechfeld camp, as well as for the good spirits of the refugees and later toured several vocational retraining projects. A banquet in honor of the delegates was held last night by the Jewish Central Committee of Germany.

At a press conference today Irving Rhodes, head of the delegation, declared that the Jewish displaced persons in Europe must be helped to emigrate and all possible aid must be provided for them while they are still in the DP camps.

Speaking in behalf of the entire delegation, Rhodes, who is publisher of the Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle in Milwaukee, said that American Jewry was confident that it would meet the U.J.A. 1948 quota of \$250,000,000 despite the fact that the Jewish community in the United States had already raised \$300,000,000 for the relief of the Jewish survivors and the upbuilding of the Jewish state. Denying that Communism was an issue in the problems of the Jewish DP's, Rhodes said that most of the displaced Jews would not have left Soviet-dominated countries if they were communists.

POLISH JEWS BUILDING PLACE FOR THEMSELVES IN COUNTRY'S ECONOMY, W.J.C. LEADER REPORTS

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Many of the Jews of Poland have succeeded in finding a place for themselves within the country's new economic set-up, Dr. Noah Baron, World Jewish Congress leader who just returned from a trip to Poland, told a press conference here today.

He reported that the Jews have established efficiently-operated cooperatives, particularly in the western districts of the country which were obtained from Germany after the war. He said that there was still a strong inclination among the Jews to immigrate to Palestine, but that this sentiment was chiefly concentrated among Jews living in areas where their families had been slaughtered by the Nazis.

DR. ERNST WOLFF NAMED HEAD OF GERMAN SUPREME COURT IN BRITISH ZONE

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Dr. Ernst Wolff, formerly president of the Berlin Bar Association who has been living in England since 1933, has been appointed president of the German Supreme Court in Cologne in the British zone, it was announced here today.

BRITISH WAR VETERANS READY TO SEND EXPERTS TO PALESTINE TO AID IN FIGHT FOR JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- A list of expert technicians who will be available to leave for Palestine at a moment's notice is being prepared by the Jewish War Veterans, it was announced today. The list consists of highly-skilled persons who will proceed to Palestine to aid in the fight for the Jewish state if they are summoned by the Jewish community of Palestine.

At the same time it was announced that the J.W.V.'s national commander, Col. Julius Klein, and executive director, Col. Charles Schottland, will leave shortly for a visit to Palestine to determine what American Jewish veterans can do to aid in the establishment of the Jewish state.

BRITISH SCIENTIST SAYS JEWS WANT TO LEAVE PALESTINE; ATTACKS U.N. PARTITION DECISION

MONTREAL, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- "Dirty international politics" rather than local issues were the deciding factors in the United Nations decision to partition Palestine, Prof. F.E. Jessop, British philosopher and psychologist, charged here in an address before the local branch of the Royal Empire Society.

Prof. Jessop spent several years in the Middle East as an advisor to the British Government. He said that "like almost every Englishman who has lived here," he came back with "almost no sympathy for the Jewish cause." Declaring that many Jews who had fled to Palestine because of Nazi persecution had no political interests there, Jessop said they desired nothing more now than to get out of Palestine, "but dare not say so."

ARAB PURCHASING MISSION IN ARGENTINA REPORTED BUYING ARMS FOR PALESTINE ARABS

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Reports that an Arab purchasing mission which came to Argentina last September to buy arms for Arab countries is actually shipping arms to Arab groups in Palestine are circulating in Jewish quarters here. The reports say that the transactions are being conducted through private firms here with the full knowledge and sanction of Argentine authorities.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ADOPTS \$470,000 BUDGET FOR 1948; WILL EXPAND PROGRAM

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The largest annual budget in the history of the National Council of Jewish Women--providing for expanded overseas and community service programs--has been approved for the current year by the board of directors, it was announced today by Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, national president.

Totaling \$470,494, the current budget represents an increase of \$50,000 over the 1947 appropriation. The 1948 budget allocates \$197,941 to the overseas service program and provides \$166,460 for community service. The increased allocation for services in this country will provide for expanded programs in social legislation, international relations for peace, contemporary Jewish affairs, social welfare and service to foreign born.

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MAPS PLANS FOR COMBATING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- A program for "eliminating the pattern of segregation and discrimination based on racial or cultural differences, and developing fellowship and understanding between church leaders and groups across racial lines," was mapped by the Race Relations Department of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, at its 26th annual meeting held here this week.