

Friday, February 13, 1948

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

LAST MINUTE NEWSPALESTINE SECURITY REPORT WILL BE READY TODAY, U.N. COMMISSION ANNOUNCES

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The special report on the security situation in Palestine will be completed tomorrow, it was announced late today by the Implementation Commission.

A spokesman said that all five members of the Commission had agreed unanimously on the fundamental issues involved in the implementation of the U.N. partition decision. The report will be submitted to the Security Council over the week-end and will be made public on Monday.

Immediate lifting of the United States embargo on arms to Palestine and full American backing of an international force was demanded today by Clark M. Eichelberger, head of the American Association for the United Nations. Should the U.N. fail in this "most crucial crisis" said Eichelberger, "every major blame will be placed upon the Government of the United States."

A treaty to outlaw genocide as an international crime punishable under an international penal code will be ready for action by the next U.N. General Assembly session in September, according to a schedule outlined in the Economic and Social Council today. As proposed by the U.S. delegation, all drafts of a convention to outlaw the crime will be placed in the hands of a sub-committee which will unify them into one treaty for submission to the next Council meeting in July. The Council is expected to give its final approval to the convention in time for the matter to be passed on to the Assembly.

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ARAB ATTACK ON TEL AVIV REPULSED; JEWS USE LIGHT ARTILLERY; HAGANAH REMAINS ALERT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Tel Aviv was on the alert today after a night of beating off attacks from all directions.

For the first time the Arabs used heavy concentrations of mortar fire in an attempt to break through the city's perimeter defenses. However, they were completely unsuccessful and were repulsed by Haganah counterattacks supported by light artillery fire. There were no Jewish casualties in the fray, but it is believed that the Arabs suffered a number of wounded and dead.

Two Jews were killed and a third injured, as was a British soldier, when Arab guerrillas attacked a work party repairing a power line near Hadera. Five Arabs were killed and five others injured when a landmine exploded under an Arab-owned bus in the vicinity of Safad. Witnesses said that the bus was attacked by a party of Jews using small arms. A Jew was killed and two others wounded by snipers near Holon.

In Jerusalem, Abraham Kirshenbaum, who was wounded in repulsing an Arab attack Tuesday when he blew up six invaders attempting to break into the Yemin Moeshe quarter, died of his wounds today. Another Jew was seriously wounded this morning by fire from the Arab quarter of Sheikh Jarach and Arabs blasted an unoccupied Jewish house in a burned out section of the commercial center of the city.

Eight Jews were injured when Arabs fired on a bus travelling between Jerusalem and the suburb of Talpote. A Haganah squad blew up four Arab homes in the village of Kheria, near Ramleh, from which Tel Aviv-bound traffic has been attacked recently.

Haifa was the scene of two attacks on Jews today. In one a bus was fired on and six Jews were wounded, while a hand grenade was thrown at a Jewish-owned cafe and a British soldier was injured in the blast. One Jewish political prisoner escaped when all the Jews in the Latrun detention camp were transferred to Athlit. In Tel Aviv a band of Jewish youths escaped with nearly \$100,000 worth of jewelry after robbing a diamond factory.

Govt. Appeals to Jews and Arabs for Truce in "Economic War"

The district commissioner for the Lydda district today proposed a truce in the "economic war" between the Jews of Tel Aviv and the Arabs of Jaffa. The British official pointed out that there were some 1,400 tons of goods destined for Jaffa which is standing on Tel Aviv docks where it was unloaded and some 600 tons of freight in Jaffa which is intended for the Jewish city. Thus far, the workers in both cities have refused to touch cargo destined for the other and the district commissioner warned that much of the material is perishable foodstuffs.

No instructions have been issued to divert all American shipping from the port of Tel Aviv to Haifa for inspection for smuggled arms and ammunition, it was officially announced last night, but individual vessels may be rerouted at the discretion of the British port manager at Tel Aviv.

TRUMAN REFUSES TO COMMENT ON PALESTINE POLICY RIFT; REITERATES SUPPORT OF U.N. DECISION

WASHINGTON, FEB. 12. (JTA) -- President Truman said today that the United States Government is supporting the United Nations on Palestine. Asked at his weekly press conference about a disposition to soften the decision for partition, the President reiterated the American policy of supporting the U.N., adding that that was as far as he could go.

The President was first asked whether he could say anything on the controversy about the American policy regarding Palestine. In reply he stated that he had no comment.

Earlier it was reported that the President, replying to a letter by Rep. Frank Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, wrote that Palestine "is now in the hands of the United Nations and this government is backing the United Nations in the settlement they have suggested."

"Palestine has been a matter of considerable disturbance to me since the Japanese surrender," the President's letter read, "and I've been endeavoring to get the matter worked out."

In a letter released today, Senator Francis J. Myers, of Pennsylvania, disclosed that he had urged the President to abandon America's "so-called neutrality" policy by lifting the embargo on the shipment of arms to Palestine. Myers wrote that if the United States devotes the same determination "to finding a solution for the constabulary problem in Palestine" as it did in helping to secure the U. N. partition decision, a solution for the Palestine problem can be found.

"I am convinced," Myers added, "that if the U.N. is not enabled to make effective the partition plan it has recommended, the entire concept of a United Nations to keep the peace is doomed and we are once again thrown into the sort of international anarchy which developed from Manchuria and Ethiopia into World War II."

U. S. Oil Interests Will Not Be Effected by Palestine Unrest, Executive Says

Disturbances in Palestine will not affect the construction of the Trans-Arabian pipeline and it is expected that it will be finished on schedule in 1950, B. E. Hull, president of the Arabian American Oil Company, said in a report made public today.

Because of the disturbances some construction personnel have been transferred from Syria and Lebanon to Saudi Arabia, the report states, but production has not been seriously affected since over 80 per cent of the pipeline lies in Saudi Arabia and only a small part of it in Palestine. King Ibn Saud has assured the company that commitments to American oil companies will be fulfilled, the report stated.

SEN. BILL PROPOSED TO CREATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Rep. Walter B. Huber, Ohio Democrat, today introduced a bill that would create a permanent congressional committee to study civil rights and violations of those rights.

The Committee proposed by Rep. Huber would consist of five members of the House and five members of the Senate and would have the power to subpoena witnesses and compile official records.

AUSTRIAN JEWS MUST WAIT ANOTHER HALF-YEAR FOR RETURN OF THEIR APARTMENTS

VIENNA, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Some 2,000 Jewish victims of Nazism, who have waited three years for the return of apartments from which they were ousted, will have to wait another half-year, it was reported here today.

A new restitution law, which is in draft form at present, would provide for the return of rental and lease rights to racial and political persecutees. The measure, which has met with a number of objections, must be passed in its final form by the Austrian Cabinet and then approved by the Allied Council.

The Organization of Former Concentration Camp Inmates has demanded that the law be amended so that it would apply in all cases where persecutees were dispossessed by the Nazis rather than that each case should be settled individually as the measure now provides. Thus far, the government has refused to make the change.

The measure now stipulates that after six months the Organization of Former Concentration Camp Inmates may claim all rental rights to which persecutees who died heirless would have been entitled. The organization will then lease the apartments to other persecutees as a form of general restitution. Individual claims are valid if filed within one year after final passage of the legislation.

Under the proposed legislation only persons present in Austria can claim the return of rental rights, but even on that basis it is expected that a good-sized share of the Jewish community will be able to live in more habitable quarters. At present thousands of Jews are living in municipal barracks because of the severe housing shortage and the government's refusal to evict Nazis and turn over their apartments to Jews and other victims of Nazism.

TWO NAZIS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH OF THOUSANDS OF JEWS GET DEATH SENTENCE IN POLAND

WARSAW, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- S. Pawlowsky, one of the top officials of the Sachsenhausen and Dachau death camps, who was responsible for the death of some 65,000 persons, mostly Jews, was sentenced to death today by the Stettin war crimes tribunal. At the same time, the district court in Wroclaw announced the death sentence of Joseph Kasianezuk, a Ukrainian, who played an active part in directing the massacre of the Jews of Brody, in Eastern Poland.

Meanwhile, Kurt Alfred Fischer, who drew up the plan for liquidating the Warsaw Ghetto, which resulted in the death of 58,000 Jews, has been brought here to stand trial for his crimes. After V-E Day, he succeeded in persuading the occupation authorities that he had been anti-Nazi and was appointed commandant of a German P.O.W. camp at Darmstadt, but was arrested when he was recognized by a former inmate of the Buchenwald concentration camp.

I.R.O. OFFICIALS IN ITALY PROPOSE 40 HOURS OF UNPAID LABOR MONTHLY FOR ALL DP'S

ROME, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- International Refugee Organization officials in Italy today proposed to the Organization of Jewish Refugees in Italy that all DP's contribute 40 hours of unpaid labor monthly toward the maintenance of the camps in which they reside.

The reaction of the leaders of the Jewish refugee organization has not yet been made clear, but it is expected that the DP's themselves will oppose the request. Previously a large number of the regularly employed DP's served on camp administrative or maintenance staffs.

JEWISH COOPERATIVES IN POLAND DEVELOP LARGE-SCALE ACTIVITIES; AIDED BY GOVERNMENT

WARSAW, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The "Jewish Cooperative Union," which serves 202 Jewish cooperatives throughout Poland, did an annual business last year of close to one billion and a quarter zlotys, and netted more than 100,000,000 zlotys, it was announced here today by Dr. M. Parnas director of the Union. He added that in 1948 the group expects a turnover of more than three billion zlotys.

Organized in 1946 with a 50,000-zloty loan from the Central Jewish Committee, the Union has credit totalling 336,000,000 zlotys in government, J.D.C. and Central Committee bank accounts. Workers in the Union's cooperatives include tailors, shoe makers, leather and building trades workers, locksmiths, weavers, textile, electrical and mechanical workers.

In addition to the assistance rendered it by the Joint Distribution Committee and the Central Jewish Committee, the Union receives full support from the government, which in 1947 supplied it with raw material from government factories valued at over 500,000,000 zlotys. The government also supplied numerous factories and buildings in Lower Silesia. These included flour milling machines in Wroclaw, a weaving factory in Walbrzych, a sawmill in Szczegom and a soap factory in Stettin.

Superior Quality of Jewish Products Attracts Non-Jewish Buyers

The Union operates 21 retail outlets in Warsaw, Lodz, Wroclaw, Katowice, Stettin and Cracow. Principal customers of the Union's products are Christians, "who buy from the Jews because of the superior quality, appearance and low price of the merchandise," Dr. Parnas said.

Raw materials are also imported from many parts of the world. Last year, for example, the Union imported 75,000,000 zlotys worth of wool from Australia, 6,000 sheepskins from South Africa, and \$15,000 and \$6,000 worth of leather from Belgium and Palestine, respectively. The materials imported from abroad were brought in through the J.D.C. To a limited degree, the Union exported some of its products, including \$50,000 worth of pig's hair to the United States, handkerchiefs to Belgium and France, and orange crates to Palestine.

Thanks to low manufacturing costs in Poland, a plan to import woollens from Palestine to be manufactured into clothing in Poland and then exported to Scandinavia has been worked out. The Ministry of Industry, taking into account the special problems of the Jewish cooperatives, recently decided not to include the Jewish cooperatives in its reorganization program, thus permitting them to maintain their present autonomous character.

Due to the manpower shortage, the employees of the Jewish cooperatives now include 20 percent non-Jews. Most of the cooperatives are located in Lower Silesia, Warsaw, Lodz, Katowice and Stettin.

POLISH GOVERNMENT BANS NEW YORK JEWISH NEWSPAPER; BANS TWO OTHER PUBLICATIONS

WARSAW, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Polish Government today banned the circulation in Poland of a number of Jewish publications published abroad. They include the Jewish Daily Forward of New York, the "Unzer Shtime," a Paris newspaper, and the "Zionistishe Shtime," a Jewish DP newspaper published in Munich.

TRANSPORT OF JEWISH CHILDREN FROM POLAND LEAVES FOR PARIS; RAISED IN MONASTERIES

PRAGUE, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A transport of 191 Polish Jewish children have left here for Paris where they will await transportation to Palestine, it was announced today by the Joint Distribution Committee, which provided food and lodging for them during their stay here.

The children were brought up in Christian homes and monasteries in Poland during the occupation. Most of them do not remember their Jewish background or even their parents. Several of the children were taken directly from monasteries and put aboard the train.

AUSTRALIAN JEWS LAUNCH \$1,000,000 DRIVE FOR JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Australian Jewish community today announced the opening of a campaign to raise \$1,000,000 for the Jewish state in Palestine.

PROFESSOR EINSTEIN NAMED WINNER OF "ONE WORLD AWARD" FOR 1948

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Prof. Albert Einstein was named as winner of the 1948 One World Award, according to an announcement yesterday by Jacques F. Ferrand, chairman of the award committee.

Ferrand, who revealed that the selection of Einstein was unanimous, said he was chosen because he "brought to the world more than a new conception of cosmos" and because he expressed, long before the rise of Nazism, "his world citizenship and his hatred of militarism, dictatorship and violence."

BARUCH RECEIVES PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD IN LINCOLN DAY CEREMONY

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Bernard M. Baruch today received the Lincoln Award for public service at a ceremony held in Abraham Lincoln High School here. He was selected as recipient of the annual prize by a vote of the student body.

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ANNOUNCES OPENING OF SCHOOL IN LOS ANGELES

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish Theological Seminary has established a new School of Jewish Education in Los Angeles, offering graduate and undergraduate courses, as the first unit in a projected West Coast University of Judaism, according to an announcement made today by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Seminary.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN BRITAIN ESTABLISH WARSAW GHETTO MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- A committee to establish a Warsaw Ghetto memorial in Britain was organized today at a meeting of representatives of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the World Jewish Congress, the Federation of Polish Jews, the Association of Jewish Journalists and Authors, and several Polish Jewish groups. Dr. Noah Barou and Ben Zion Margulies will serve as joint chairmen of the committee.

SERGEI EISENSTEIN, NOTED SOVIET FILM DIRECTOR, DIES IN MOSCOW

LONDON, Feb. 12. (JTA) -- Sergei Eisenstein, internationally famous film director and producer, died in Moscow yesterday at the age of 50, according to a Moscow radio announcement. The son of a Jewish merchant, he won many honors in the U.S.S.R. including the coveted Order of Lenin for his film achievements.