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# JTA Daily News Bulletin

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## JEWISH AGENCY ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO REVISION OF PARTITION; DEMANDS IMPLEMENTATION

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 26. (JTA)--The Jewish Agency for Palestine today issued a statement denying reports that it is prepared to agree to a revision of the partition decision of the United Nations and to make new concessions on the Palestine issue.

"These reports are entirely without foundation," the Agency statement said. It emphasized that the Jews await "a loyal and faithful implementation" of the U.N. partition decision.

"At the time the partition plan was discussed before the General Assembly last October," the statement pointed out, "the Jewish Agency stated that the plan of partition which was proposed involved enormous sacrifice on the part of the Jewish people, which in all justice should not have been demanded of it. But in order to help solve the grave international problem and as evidence of its willingness to join with the community of nations in an effort to bring peace to the troubled land, the Jewish Agency stated that it most reluctantly accepts that sacrifice. 'Beyond it,' it declared, 'we cannot, we will not go.'"

"This position remains unchanged," the statement emphasized. "The Jewish people has accepted the decision of the United Nations. It means loyally to cooperate with it. It awaits a corresponding loyal and faithful implementation of that decision by the United Nations."

In issuing the statement the Jewish Agency made it clear that its views on the United States proposal, presented to the Security Council this week, as well as to other proposals which may be presented, will be submitted to the Security Council within the next few days.

### Lie Warns Failure on Palestine Perils United Nations

U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie, addressing a press conference, today asserted the legal responsibility of the United Nations for Palestine. He added that failure to discharge that responsibility would be a blow to the prestige of the U.N., and would undermine the confidence of member states in the organization. Mr. Lie emphasized the following points:

1. The proposed committee of the Big Five would have no overriding power in relation to the Palestine Commission which comes under the "guidance of the Security Council."
2. The Jerusalem police force could not be used beyond its defined function to protect the Holy Places. No use could be made of it for overall implementation of the partition decision of the General Assembly.
3. Even the establishment of the free city of Jerusalem must wait on certain preliminary stages of partition, such as the setting of frontiers.

4. The Arab demand for constitutional ratification of partition by individual member states is spurious, since such ratification is applied only to conventions and treaties.

Assistant Secretary-General Arkady Sobolev, speaking at the same press conference, said that the Security Council was "free to accept or not to accept" the partition decision of the General Assembly. The same opinion was expressed by [unclear], who added that it was clear from the U.S. declaration before the General Assembly that the American Government had accepted the Assembly's partition decision.

Former Governor Herbert H. Lehman today called for a reversion by our government to its "high moral leadership" of last November on the Palestine issue. He urged that it take the leadership in the creation of an international police force and such other measures as may be necessary so that the partition plan may be carried out "in peace and stability." He also urged the lifting of the embargo which, he said, is of help only to the Arabs.

The Governor spoke at an emergency conference on Palestine called by the American Association for the United Nations of which he is a board member, and which more than 60 national organizations were represented.

The Palestine Commission today heard U.N. economist John Reedman report growing crisis in the Palestine food situation. Reedman, who just returned from London, reported that the British Government has virtually guaranteed an adequate food supply in Palestine until May 15, the date of the Mandate's termination, but advised the Commission to begin stockpiling food supplies beyond that date.

MARSHALL REFUSES COMMENT ON PALESTINE; SAYS AUSTIN WILL DISCUSS U.S. POLICY AT U.N.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Secretary of State George C. Marshall today refused to comment on the Palestine situation at a press conference, announcing that further declarations outlining U.S. policy would be made by Warren Austin, chief U.S. delegate at Lake Success. At the same time, the Secretary denied receipt of any communication from Arab League countries threatening to cut off American oil supplies in reprisal for U. S. support of partition in Palestine.

Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York today introduced a resolution into the House calling for an investigation of the State Department's Near Eastern Office. He charged that the office, headed by Loy Henderson, was ignoring the "will of the people" on the Palestine issue.

Sen. Claude Pepper, on the floor of the Senate, called for lifting the embargo on the Jews of Palestine as a measure which might eliminate the necessity for an international police force in Palestine. He also called on the government to back the U.N. on partition.

The United States should abide by the partition agreement reached by the U.N., CIO President Philip Murray told President Truman, in a letter released today. "The disturbing current trend in affairs in Palestine impels me to urge that our nation avoid even the appearance of compromise in this all-important problem," Murray wrote to Truman. "Our representatives in the United Nations should most certainly abide by the decisions which they originally urged in U.N. Councils, and which were later approved by the United Nations General Assembly."

BRITISH GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES BILL IN COMMONS TO TERMINATE PALESTINE MANDATE

LONDON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- A bill proposing the termination of Britain's mandate in Palestine was formally introduced in Commons today.

ARABS KILLED ATTEMPTING TO STORM HADASSAH HOSPITAL AND HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- Some 30 Arabs were killed and a like number wounded today when a force of 300 Arabs attempted to storm Mt. Scopus and overwhelm the Jewish defenders of the Hadassah Hospital and Hebrew University.

Opening their attack at dawn, the raiders scaled the heights under cover of rough terrain and with Arab mortar shells flying overhead. The Haganah permitted Arab riflemen to approach within close range before they opened fire. Within a short time the Arabs were in full retreat down the slope.

After several more attempts the Arabs fell back on their base in a village in Wadi Joz valley. The Haganah pursued them and in the village surrounded and destroyed several houses in which the leaders of the band had gathered. This operation caused considerable casualties among the Arabs. British troops entered the battle of Mt. Scopus in its latter phases.

Although the Arab mortar shells are reported to have fallen on the hospital grounds, damage to the buildings is believed to have been light. Nine medical personnel were injured, but the Haganah has not listed its complete casualty total. In the counterattack on the Arab village, the Jews lost one dead and six wounded. Before the battle was ended, the Jews and the Arabs had both brought machineguns, mortars and small arms into play in one of the most intense battles to be fought in the environs of Jerusalem.

The Arab Higher Committee this afternoon issued a statement charging the Jews with using the hospital and the university as a base for military operations and threatening to attack such institutions in the event that they continued to be used for military purposes. The committee also charged the British with partiality toward the Jews in reporting battles involving the Jews and Arabs.

British Plane Fires on Jews; Irgun and Haganah Clash in Tel Aviv

A British plane fired on a group of underground Jewish fighters who attacked several army vehicles in the Petach Tikvah area. Two Jews are reported hit by the aerial patrol and three Britons were injured when their truck was overturned by the incidents.

The Irgun and the Haganah clashed in Tel Aviv last night when members of the former group solicited funds publicly for their war chest. The Irgun also accused the Haganah of having disarmed some of its members after an operation which the dissidents had carried out against the British. A repetition of such behavior will result in the Irgunists opening fire, the underground threatened.

In Haifa, where the British spend considerable time searching for arms in Jewish homes, another Jew was found murdered in a Moslem cemetery. Another Jew, a driver of a city truck, was kidnapped at gunpoint by a small band of Arabs and has not yet been heard from.

A government spokesman today issued a new denial that British forces were responsible for last Sunday's explosion in Jerusalem which killed some 50 Jews. He asserted that Jewish Agency charges that British security forces were involved in the incident injured the Jewish cause because they engendered anti-British sentiment. He labelled the Jewish charges "premature," and foundationless and purely circumstantial, adding that the fact that the perpetrators wore uniforms had little meaning because for the last two years many terrorists had used British uniforms as a disguise. He concluded by pledging that the government would pursue the inquiry into the explosion with the greatest energy.

Two hundred yards of water line between Jewish settlements in the Negev were blasted last night at a point near the Imara police station.

VICTIMS OF JERUSALEM BOMBING TO BE BURIED IN COMMON GRAVE IN ANCIENT SANHEDRIN TOMB

JERUSALEM, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The Palestine rabbinate today decided to bury the victims of Sunday's explosion on Ben Yehuda street in a common grave in the ancient tomb of the Sanhedrin, located in the small Sanhedria quarter. The tomb, burial place of Jewish judges, was last used during the period of the Second Temple.

The action was taken as a result of the British refusal to supply a military convoy for a funeral cortege to the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives. Thousands of Jerusalem citizens lined the streets as the first burial procession got under way for the 54 Jewish men, women and children who lost their lives in the outrage.

Meanwhile, a military court began a secret trial of a British sergeant major charged with abducting four Jews and turning them over to Arabs, who executed them.

GERMAN JEW CALLED TO TESTIFY AGAINST TOP NAZI DIPLOMATS IN NUREMBERG TRIAL

NUREMBERG, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- A 64-year-old German Jew was called on today to testify in the trial of 21 top German diplomats and ministers who are charged with war crimes against humanity.

Dr. M. Mossee, who was dismissed from the German civil service in Berlin in 1933 because he was "racially unreliable," told the court he served as legal consultant for the Jewish community after his dismissal until 1943 when he was sent to the Theresienstadt concentration camp.

Describing the deportation scenes in Berlin, Mossee said the Nazis confiscated valuable personal possessions belonging to the deportees, paying "ridiculously low, token sums" for them.

He charged that 35,000 Jews from all parts of Europe died in the Theresienstadt camp which held a total of 140,000 inmates. The remaining 95,000 were deported to the death camps in Poland, he added. Mossee also described how the Nazis produced a "phony movie and staged an inspection tour of the camp to impress a group of visiting Scandinavians."

The court will decide next week on whether to permit testimony relating to persecutions dating back to the period before 1939. The first international tribunal here ruled that all testimony pertaining to pre-1939 persecution was not valid.

POWERFUL BRITISH LABOR UNION URGES GOVERNMENT TO BAN ORGANIZATION OF FASCIST GROUPS

LONDON, Feb. 26. (JTA) -- The executive council of the influential Electrical Trades Union today asked Home Secretary James Chuter Ede to press for legislation to effectively ban the organization of anti-Semitic and fascist groups in Great Britain, it was revealed here with the release of a letter from the union to Ede.

The council's action followed the receipt of letters from members and resolutions from local branches of the organization protesting the growth of local fascist groups. The latest wave of protests followed the organization recently of a new Union Movement under the leadership of Sir Oswald Mosley, pre-war British fascist head.

NEW CZECH GOVERNMENT LIFTS BAN ON EMIGRATION; WEAKENING OF PROPERTY RESTITUTION FEARED

PRAGUE, Feb. 26. (JTA)--One of the first steps of the new Czech Government was the issuance today of an order by the Ministry of Interior rescinding an existing ban on the emigration of Jews from this country. The order provides for the issuance of exit permits to Czechoslovakian and alien Jews wishing to leave the country.

Meanwhile, it was revealed here that a number of proposals have been submitted to the Social Committee of the Czechoslovak National Assembly which, if adopted, would in effect eliminate the restitution claims of many Jews who lost agricultural holdings during the Nazi occupation of the country and diminish the value of other agricultural and industrial holdings.

One such proposal would exempt from restitution proceedings agricultural holdings officially classified as small farms. Since many of the agricultural parcels illegally transferred or seized from Jews were later broken up and sold or handed out by the Nazis and their collaborators in small lots, the Jews who suffered the loss would have no legal claim.

Another proposal, submitted by the Colonization Office and the National Rehabilitation Fund, would prohibit the return in kind of seized agricultural lands or industrial property for which no claim was filed within 60 days of publication of the proposed new law. In the event that application is made later, an indemnification will be paid in lieu of restitution, a procedure which has in the past month been an actual loss for the owner.

Jewish communal organizations have entered strong protests against all the proposed changes. They point out that a 60-day deadline is unfair to relatives of the Jews who were robbed and who may have died since then or to organizations which are entitled to inherit the property when it is established that the rightful owner died heirless. In general, the Jews point out, the latest drafts of the restitution law have the effect of slowing up and hampering the entire process of returning property to its former owners. A similar protest has been made in Bratislava by Slovak Jews against restitution courts in the province which are notorious for hindering rather than aiding the restitution process.

UNION OF RUMANIAN JEWS REUNITES WITH OFFSHOOT AFTER THREE-YEAR BREAK

BUCHAREST, Feb. 26. (JTA)--The Union of Rumanian Jews and its left-wing faction, the Democratic Rumanian Jewish Union, have reunited after a split of nearly three years, it was made known here today. The Union's function has been to protect the civic rights of Rumanian Jews since the first World War.

The break occurred in June, 1945 when Dr. William Filderman, head of the Union, rejected an offer of cooperation from the Jewish Democratic Committee, composed of left-wing Zionists and Jewish Communists and Socialists. M.A. Saraceanu, then general secretary of the Union, led the organization's left-wing faction out of the Union and immediately joined the Democratic Committee.

Negotiations for the merger of the two groups lasted a year, beginning immediately following the resignation of Filderman as head of the Union and his succession by Dr. Edgard Manolescu. The merger agreement, which was reached unanimously at a joint meeting of the two groups, calls for Manolescu and Saraceanu to serve as co-presidents and for the re-united Union to cooperate with the Democratic Committee.

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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY EXTENDS NEWS SERVICE TO SO. AFRICA; PUBLISHED BULLETIN

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Feb. 26. (JTA)--The first issue of the South African edition of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency News Bulletin appeared today following the establishment of a South African bureau of the JTA.

The bureau will furnish the Jewish press of South Africa with Jewish news assembled daily from all parts of the world and will keep local Jewish organizations informed of the latest communal and political developments. At the same time, the new JTA office will relay South African news of interest to Jews to all countries served by the JTA cable set-up. The bureau chief, Edgar Bernstein, has served as JTA correspondent for the past five years.

The initiation of the new service was hailed by South African Jewish organizations and was particularly welcomed by the Jewish Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation.

W. LEHMAN URGES U.S. TO TAKE LEAD IN SOLVING DP PROBLEM BY INCREASING QUOTA

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA)--Citing the contributions of immigrants to the development of the United States, former Governor Herbert H. Lehman today urged the U.S. Government to take the lead in solving the displaced persons problem overseas by increasing the number of DP's admitted to this country.

Speaking at a dinner honoring Judge Simon H. Rifkind, of the U.S. District Court for the southern district of New York and former advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. command in Europe, Lehman pointed out that men like David Sarnoff, Joseph Pulitzer, and Albert Einstein were originally immigrants seeking refuge in the United States.

OLDEST SYNAGOGUE IN INDIANA CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY; SPECIAL SERMONS SCHEDULED

FORT WAYNE, Indiana, Feb. 26. (JTA)--The 100th anniversary of the founding of Congregation Ashduth Vesholom here is being celebrated by a special four-month series of sermons devoted to the theme of "Religion at the Crossroads Today," it was announced by Dr. Fredoric A. Doppelt, spiritual leader of the congregation.

Pointing out that the temple was the first synagogue established in the state of Indiana, and the second oldest in the midwest, Dr. Doppelt said that "during its one hundred years of service, the Congregation has ever sought to translate the faith of Israel into a way of life for American Israel by keeping abreast of the times and keeping pace with advance in the realm of religious thought."

Dr. Julian Morgenstern, who recently retired as president of Hebrew Union College, will preach the final sermon in the centenary series on May 7 on the subject of "The Future of Reform Judaism in the United States."

NEW EDITION OF UNIVERSAL JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA IS PUBLISHED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. (JTA)--A new edition of the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia appeared today, it was announced by Jacob Monsky, president of the company which publishes the ten-volume work. Containing more than 6,000,000 words in more than 12,500 articles, the encyclopedia, which was first published in 1939, includes over 4,200 illustrations, charts and maps. Louis Rittenberg is the executive editor.

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