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TA Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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LAST MINUTE NEWS

COLOMBIA WITHDRAWS RESOLUTION FOR SPECIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION TO "RECONSIDER" PARTITION

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The Colombian proposal for a special session of the General Assembly to "reconsider" its decision to partition Palestine was withdrawn here today after the Colombian representative had made it clear to the Security Council that the chief reason for his action was United States opposition to the measure.

Despite the fact that the U.N. has given Britain a "legal excuse" for surrendering the Mandate, he said his government felt that it might not be a sound idea to have "such an influential member" give up the Mandate. He also asserted that his government did not wish to see the Jewish refugees pushed into a large ghetto in Palestine. Instead, he suggested, the member states of the U.N. should admit more

Council to Resume Discussion on Palestine Tuesday; Arabs Clash at U.N.

Shortly after the Council meeting adjourned, to be resumed Tuesday afternoon, the British released a statement recognizing the Palestine Commission as the legal successor to the Mandatory Power after termination of the Mandate. At the same time the Commission announced that the British were cooperating in the matter of returning to Palestine, before the expiration of the Mandate, political prisoners interned in Syria.

The political clash between the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem and King Abdullah of Transjordan came to the surface here abruptly today, when Omar Dajani, Abdullah's representative, told a press conference that the Palestine Arab Higher Committee was a "fraud" rather than the representative body of the Palestine Arabs. Prior to the press conference, the Arab Office in Washington denied that Dajani represented Abdullah, whose views on Palestine, the Office said, were no different than those of the Arab League.

U.S. POST OFFICE ANNOUNCES IT WILL NOT ACCEPT MONEY ORDERS FOR PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The Post Office Department announced today that it will not accept money orders for Palestine. The action was taken pursuant to a request of the Palestine Government, which this week excluded Palestine from the sterling bloc, a department spokesman said.

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U.S. PROPOSAL MAY JEOPARDIZE PARTITION, SHERTOK TELLS U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- "The partition plan adopted by the General Assembly is to us the last and final compromise and the irreducible minimum of acceptability," Moshe Shertok, speaking in behalf of the Jewish Agency, told the U.N. Security Council today.

"No reduction of Jewish rights under the Assembly's plans, either in territory or in sovereignty, can be accepted by the Jewish people," he declared. "The United Nations, through its various organs, has worked hard in grappling with the Palestine problem. The partition resolution represents the collective wisdom of the international community on this burning issue."

Outlining the attitude of the Jewish Agency toward the American proposal that the Security Council should appoint a Big Five committee to deal with the Palestine problem and to consult with the Palestine Commission, the British, the Arabs and the U.S. concerning the implementation of the partition decision, Shertok said:

"The purpose of the consultation is not clear and the proposal leaves us greatly bewildered. We fear that it may lead to new delays and complications which may jeopardize the implementation of the whole plan and further exacerbate the situation in Palestine." He pointed out that attempts at an agreed settlement of the Palestine problem in the past have been numerous and fruitless.

Asks Translation of Partition Plan to Reality; Urges End of Arms Embargoes

Appealing to the Security Council and to all its members to translate the partition plan into a reality, the Jewish Agency leader said that preparations had to begin at once, including "the revision of indiscriminate embargoes" on arms. He urged that the Security Council consider issuing a call to member states asking them to adopt a policy of supplying arms to those ready to assume defense responsibilities in carrying out the partition decision of the General Assembly and of denying arms to those engaged in resisting these decisions.

Shertok took issue with the Arab contention that the Assembly resolution on partition was a mere recommendation. When the British Government brought the Palestine problem to the Assembly, he said, it was fully aware of the powers of the Assembly and of its own responsibilities with regard to this trust territory. The partition recommendation of the General Assembly, Shertok argued, had been accepted by Britain as the Assembly's "decision."

"It is high time," Shertok declared, "for the representatives of the Arab governments to realize that the Jewish people in Palestine will never submit to the status of a minority on sufferance, which is the lot of the Oriental Jewish communities; that the urge for independence will never be eradicated from Jewish hearts; that as long as Arab states continue to resist by force the attainment of the Jewish national goal, there can be no peace or stability in the Middle East, and that the

long-term interests of all concerned can only be served by mutual adjustment based on equality of status rather than by attempts at suppression and obliteration."

The Arab governments, Shertok charged, are seeking to reduce the Jews to a state of political subjection, "if not actually to confront them with the menace of physical annihilation." He cited a number of instances of open defiance of the Assembly's partition resolution by the Arab governments who are members of the United Nations. Yet this resolution, he said, was itself a compromise, granting only the minimum demands of the Jews.

Charges Britain with "Non-Cooperation Bordering on Obstruction"

The Agency leader also charged the British Government with "non-cooperation bordering on obstruction." Citing a number of instances of such non-cooperation, Shertok said that the British Mandate must be terminated as soon as possible and certainly not later than the fixed date of May 15. As long as the Mandatory Power continues to pursue its present political course, even the slightest revival of a mutual confidence seems unthinkable, he stated.

Pointing out that even a clear recommendation of the United Nations for the opening of a port in the Jewish area of Palestine "had proved of no avail," Shertok also touched on British opposition to preparatory steps for the establishment of Jewish militia. The British Government, he said, has so far impeded Jewish defense activities in Palestine.

The Jews, Shertok continued, never set the formation of an international force as an indispensable condition for carrying out the partition plan. They considered such a force in the event of outside aggression. But if it were not established, they would still be ready to discharge their responsibility although their need for aid would be correspondingly greater.

Belgium Supports U.S. Proposal; Syrian Delegate Opposes It

Belgian delegate Joseph Nisot told the Security Council that he would support the U.S. resolution and called on the Council to avoid a debate on its right to implement the Assembly decision on partition until an early report had been received from the proposed Big Five committee. He then offered an amendment which makes the U.S. proposal even less acceptable to the Jewish Agency. The amendment omits entirely the part of the U.S. resolution which urges the Council to "accept the requests addressed to it by the General Assembly."

Syrian delegate Faris El Khouri, outlining his attitude towards the U.S. proposal, said that any action against the threat to peace was the same as implementing partition and, therefore, would not pacify Arab violence in Palestine. Only "suspension" of implementation could bring peace, he stated. He likewise spurned the U.S. provisions for consultations as useless.

STATE DEPT. DENIES NEGOTIATIONS TO GIVE TRANSJORDAN ARAB PART OF PARTITIONED PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The State Department today denied that the U.S. Government is engaged in any negotiations or discussions with Transjordan for the incorporation of the Arabian part of Palestine into Transjordan. A State Department spokesman said that no representative or agent of King Abdullah of Transjordan has been in contact with the U.S. Government.

The denial was made following a report from Lake Success today that a high emissary of Abdullah is in Washington now conferring on a plan by which the monarch would take over those sections of Palestine set aside for the Arabs in the U.N. partition decision in return for raising no objection to the establishment of a Jewish state in the remainder of the country.

BRITISH INQUIRY INTO JERUSALEM BOMBING OPENS; WITNESSES TESTIFY BRITONS INVOLVED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The public inquiry into the blast which demolished several houses and killed at least 54 Jews last Sunday morning opened here today before a commission of three Jewish lawyers, all members of the English bar. The investigation was undertaken at the behest of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Council.

Among the witnesses heard early in the day were members of a Jewish civil guard detachment who halted the convoy, which was responsible for the blast, as the four vehicles entered the Jewish section of the city. One guardsman, who served in a British unit in the war, positively identified the driver of the armored car as a Briton by his speech and other mannerisms. He reported that the man, in full police uniform including collar insignia, said that he was convoying the other vehicles to Allenby Barracks.

Several persons who were on the scene of the explosion said they saw the drivers of the trucks get out, light the fuses to their cargo of explosives, shoot two Jewish bystanders dead and then run into the armored car and escape. All the drivers wore British Army uniforms, they stated.

Sternists Execute Two Poles; Charge Them With Betraying Jewish Secrets

Two non-Jewish Poles were today found shot dead in Jerusalem. The Sternists announced that they had "executed" the two for betraying Jewish secrets to the Arabs. One of the men was a former Polish consular employee, while the second was the ex-director of a Polish press service bureau here.

About 200 Jews were rounded up and questioned this afternoon by police detachments operating in the area of the Russian Compound, where most of the government buildings are located. The police, assisted by troops with small cannon, searched homes for weapons and tunnels leading beneath government headquarters. Two "Molotov cocktails" were found, but no tunnels. The authorities are apparently worried by underground threats to retaliate for last Sunday's bombings.

In Tel Aviv, some 35 Irgunists entered the Hadassah Hospital and made off with a number of their comrades who were hospitalized last night following a clash with Haganah forces. The militia forces, which are attempting to halt the dissidents from collecting funds for their war chest by "extortionist" methods, used fists, clubs and flash bombs to rout the Irgunists. A Jew was murdered by Arabs today at Magdiel, in the Tel Aviv area.

The headquarters of the Moslem Brotherhood and of a local Arab guerrilla gang were blown up in Haifa last night by a strong Haganah detachment. Later, Arabs kidnapped and held a Jew prisoner for an hour-and-a-half, until the police officially denied a rumor that the Jews had taken an Arab captive.

At Rahavia, a Jew, wounded in fighting which was begun by Arab Legionnaires Wednesday night, died today. Two Legionnaires and two Jewish doctors who attempted to aid the injured were wounded during the gun play, it was learned.

TURKEY DENIES IT IS FORMING LEGION TO AID ARABS IN FIGHT AGAINST JEWS IN PALESTINE

ISTANBUL, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The official Turkish news agency today denied press reports that a Turkish Legion is being formed to aid the Arabs in their fight against the Jews in Palestine. If such a military unit is organized on a voluntary basis, the announcement said, it will have no legal status whatever. The Turkish Government, the news agency said, intends to maintain a strictly neutral policy in the Palestine dispute.

BAVARIAN MINISTER SAYS FEW GERMANS HAVE REPORTED THEY OWN JEWISH PROPERTY

MUNICH, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Warning that the restitution law provides a five-year prison term for persons failing to report they now hold Jewish property, Dr. Philip Auerbach, Commissioner for Persecutees in the Bavarian Government, reported at a press conference last night that few Germans owning such property have notified authorities.

Dr. Auerbach said that it would be impossible to permit German police to enter displaced persons camps to make arrests, as was recently requested, since many former prisoners have managed to join the police force following their "denazification." The commissioner also advocated the enactment of a law which would give concentration camp victims industrial property, such as factories, which were owned and operated by the camps "since this property was paid for by the persecutees with their own blood."

NUREMBERG WAR CRIMES COURT HEARS TESTIMONY ON MASS EXTERMINATION OF JEWS IN OSWIECIM

NUREMBERG, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Philip S. Auerbach, Commissioner for Persecutees in the Bavarian Government, who was confined in the Oswiecim death camp for two years, today told the war crimes court here trying 21 top Nazi diplomats and ministers that he knew from official records that 4,800,000 persons were exterminated in the camp.

Auerbach said he was arrested by the Gestapo in 1940 in France after the Germans overran that country and was sent to Berlin where he remained under arrest until 1943 when he was transferred to Oswiecim. He was assigned to disinfecting fellow inmates, he said.

Another prosecution witness, Mrs. Jeanette Wolf, who is at present a member of the Berlin city council, testified on the terrible conditions in the Riga Ghetto, where 20,000 Jews were held, to which she was sent in 1941. The 60-year-old witness said that on an extremely cold November day, the Nazis rounded up hundreds of children and took them away from the ghetto in open trucks. They were never seen again, she added.

CZECH SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR IMPRISONMENT FOR WARTIME ANTI-SEMITIC ARTICLES

PRAGUE, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Hubert Jecny was sentenced here today to one year imprisonment for anti-Semitic activities carried out during the Nazi occupation. Jecny was found guilty of publishing anti-Semitic articles and broadcasting inciting reports on the Prague radio.

The Jewish cemetery here was the scene of a burial service today for 180 scrolls of the Torah stolen from Dutch Jewish communities by the Nazis. Dr. A. Sicher, chief rabbi of Prague, officiated at the service, which was attended by a large number of local Jewish residents, as well as two representatives of the Jewish community in the Netherlands. The scrolls had been mutilated by the Nazis beyond possible repair.

SIX HUNGARIAN SOLDIERS RECEIVE DEATH SENTENCE FOR MURDER OF JEWS IN 1944

BUDAPEST, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- Six Hungarian soldiers charged with murdering more than 100 Jewish slave laborers in 1944 were sentenced to death today, while four others received prison terms ranging from 15 years to life. A defense plea for clemency was registered and will be acted upon shortly.

GERMANS START "RITUAL MURDER" RUMOR; JEWISH HOME SEARCHED FOR MISSING CHRISTIAN CHILD

MUNICH, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- American military investigators and German police today raided a house in the camp for displaced Jews in Fuerth, a suburb of Nuremberg, looking for a Christian child who disappeared from his home.

The disappearance of the child led to the spreading of rumors among the German population that he was kidnapped by Jews and slain "for ritual purposes." A German boy told German police that he saw the missing child in the house of a displaced Jew. German police and U.S. Army officers proceeded to search the house, but found nothing to support the boy's allegation.

DISPUTED AUSTRIAN FILM ON ANTI-SEMITISM TO BE RELEASED DESPITE PROTESTS

VIENNA, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- "The Trial," an Austrian film touching on the problem of anti-Semitism, will be released for public consumption despite the protest of the Vienna Jewish community, Minister of Interior Helmer declared today.

Helmer said that several Austrian provincial governments had banned the showing of the film on their own authority. He termed their action as "bordering on censorship." The Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction described the movie as a "production of great artistic value and heralding a trend against anti-Semitism." The disputed film depicts a ritual murder in a small Hungarian village during the last century.

STATE DEPARTMENT DENIES EXPORT LICENSE FOR SHIPMENT OF KOSHER MEAT TO PALESTINE JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America charged today that the State Department has refused to grant an export license to an American firm for the shipment of 96,000 pounds of kosher beef to Tel Aviv.

"By some strange oversight no meat quota at all has been granted for Palestine, and therefore the approval of an export license for the shipment of kosher meat has been rejected," Washington officials were reported as stating.

AMERICAN JEWS URGED TO INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- American Jewry must increase its contributions for Jewish education in this country despite the demands overseas, the American Association for Jewish Education urged here at a two-day conference attended by representatives of 100 communities throughout the country.

"We recognize the extraordinary needs overseas, in Palestine, and at home for the new Americans which make up the goal of \$250,000,000 being raised by the United Jewish Appeal," Michael A. Stavitsky, president, said. "All of us, genuinely interested in and devoted to Jewish education, are participating fully in our respective communities with contributions and work towards the attainment of this goal. However, we deplore the short-sightedness of those who would curtail allocations for home needs, such as Jewish education which, at best, has been inadequately financed in the past."

BRITISH ART COUNCIL OPENS EXHIBITION OF FORTY YEARS OF MARC CHAGALL'S WORKS

LONDON, Feb. 27. (JTA) -- An exhibition of 40 years of Marc Chagall's works opened here today in the Tate Gallery, national gallery of British art, under the auspices of the British Art Council, a government-sponsored group.

This is the first time such an exhibition has been arranged for a Jewish painter. A number of Chagall's works have been assembled here for the showing from museums in all parts of the world.