

Friday, March 5, 1948

# TA Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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

## LAST MINUTE NEWS

### BLAST CAUSES EXTENSIVE DAMAGE IN HAIFA BUSINESS SECTION; JEWISH WOMAN KILLED

JERUSALEM, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- A shattering blast was heard in Haifa tonight as a huge bomb exploded in the new business section of the city, which is mainly inhabited by Jews.

First casualties were reported to include ten persons, among whom was one Jewish woman killed. The Savoy Hotel, police headquarters, a bank and many offices were damaged in an area nearly 200 yards wide.

A report from Tel Aviv said that one Jewish youth was killed by mortar shells from Arab positions on the other side of the Jaifa boundary line. (See earlier story on following page.)

### JEWISH AGENCY CHARGES BRITISH-ARAB COOPERATION IN ATTACK ON PALESTINE FACTORY

LAKE SUCCESS, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency representative to the United Nations, today submitted to the Palestine Commission evidence of Arab invasion in Palestine, and British-Arab cooperation in an attack last week on the Yotzek factory, near Tel Aviv, in which 11 Jews died. Shertok circulated the charges to members of the Security Council.

The Commission's advance party in Palestine advised the parent body that it had established contact with the British authorities. The members of the party were received by Chief Secretary Sir Henry L. Gurney, while the head of the party, Pablo Piccarate, was received by High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham.

The Palestine Commission today requested Britain to arrange for food imports into Palestine through the Palestine Government trading account up to July 31. Since the Commission is virtually barred from assuming its responsibility by British refusal to admit it to Palestine. The British countered with a plan which would authorize the High Commissioner to continue food imports through issuing import licenses at the expense of Palestine's own hard currency.

The Commission forwarded the Jewish Agency charges as well as a request from Jewish political prisoners in Gilgil, Kenya, to the Mandatory Power.

The Commission expects to submit its next monthly progress report to the Security Council on March 9, taking into account the position of the Commission following whatever action the Council will have taken up to that date.

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## 7 JEWS KILLED IN AMBUSH NEAR JERUSALEM; ARABS ATTEMPT TO STORM HADASSAH HOSPITAL

JERUSALEM, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Seventeen Jews were killed in an Arab ambush today some eight miles from Jerusalem. The Jews, part of a detachment of 23 Haganah men assigned to clear the road from the Kallandia settlement, adjoining the Jerusalem airport, to Ataroth, some 12 miles from this city, were attacked by 300 Arabs.

The battle lasted four hours. At the end of that time 12 Jews had been killed, five captured and six escaped. A short time later, while the Arabs were taking their prisoners to Ramallah for questioning, British troops arrived and the Arabs butchered the five Jews before fleeing.

It is believed that the band was the same one which shortly after midnight attempted to storm the Hadassah Hospital, atop Mt. Scopus. They were driven off by a combined force of British troops and Jewish civil guards after firing several mortar shells at the hospital. As the band retreated, under British mortar fire, it blew up a bridge connecting Mt. Scopus with Jerusalem proper and made off in the direction of Ataroth.

The heavily guarded police headquarters of Haifa was under attack tonight. No other details were available. Earlier, a Jewish worker was killed by Arab snipers. A British officer commanding an infantry detachment escorting the worker and other members of a Jewish group was killed when he went to the aid of the sickened man. A Jewish child and a man were later killed in the port city by other Arab snipers.

A British military court today convicted six Syrians captured near Rosh Pina on February 2 in a battle with troops, and sentenced them to fines of \$2,000 each.

Two British constables have been arrested following an inquiry into the theft Tuesday of 79 revolvers and rifles from a police station inside the Jaffa Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem. The raid was carried out by Arabs from outside the jail, with the assistance of Arab prisoners inside.

## Jewish Agency Welcomes U.N. Commission Advance Party

The six-man U.N. Palestine Commission advance party which arrived in Jerusalem yesterday was welcomed today by representatives of the Jewish Agency by telephone. An Agency spokesman told a news conference that he expected personal contact between members of the party and Jewish leaders to be established within the day.

The Jewish Agency started negotiations with Revisionist, Agudah and Communist leaders with a view towards having those groups represented in the Provisional Council of Government which is to be set up by April 1.

The evacuation of British policemen and their families from Palestine began today when a party of 35 vehicles carrying 150 persons left here en route to Haifa where they will be taken aboard the liner Franconia for the trip to England. The evacuation of police is scheduled to be completed by May 21.

U.S. TO PRESS FOR A VOTE TODAY AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON ITS PALESTINE PROPOSAL

LAKE SUCCESS, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- The U.S. delegation at the United Nations intends to press for a vote tomorrow by the Security Council on the American proposal which makes a distinction between the implementation of the partition decision of the General Assembly and action on a situation in Palestine which may constitute a threat to peace, it was indicated here today by Senator Warren R. Austin, chief American delegate.

Meanwhile it was learned today by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the U.N. Trusteeship Council will withhold action on the appointment of a U.N. Governor for the Free City of Jerusalem until the Security Council has taken action on the overall partition plan.

Jewish Agency representatives today disclosed that of 29 Arab dead left on the field of battle when a large Arab force was repulsed at the Jewish settlement of Be'er Sheva, in the Beisan Valley, February 16, only three were Palestine Arab civilians who had volunteered to fight. Fourteen were Syrians, three Iraqi, seven former members of the Transjordan Arab Legion, one ex-member of the Transjordan Frontier Force and one from the Saudi Arabian Army. They were identified from documents in their possession.

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation today submitted a proposal to the Security Council, urging the establishment of a Palestine Border Commission to be sent at an early date to supervise Palestine's frontiers with its neighboring states. This Commission, the proposal provides, should report to the Security Council "any acts of infringement upon the integrity of Palestine by those states such as open invasion, clandestine infiltration, transport or smuggling of arms, or any other violation of Palestine territory."

FASCIST GROUP OF SERBS IN PALESTINE ADMIT RESPONSIBILITY FOR JERUSALEM BOMBING

LONDON, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Responsibility for the killing of 54 Jews in the Jerusalem bombing of February 22 has been assumed by the "Palestine Branch of the British League of Ex-Servicemen" in a manifesto mailed from Jerusalem to several members of Parliament, it was reported here last night. The British section of the League recently merged with Sir Oswald Mosley's Fascist Union Movement. Mosley today denied that the League was involved in the Jerusalem outrage.

The manifesto, mailed in Jerusalem Monday, says: "In the Church of the Holy Sepulchre our members took a sacred vow to dedicate themselves to a crusade against the Jews. Accordingly, on the 22nd day of February we attacked the centre of Jews in Jerusalem with explosives, inflicting heavy casualties on the gutter-snipes of whom 54 were killed and 200 were wounded. We take pride in announcing no distinction was made between the cowardly, treacherous Haganah gangsters and the murderous Sternists. Jewish women and children, old and young, they will all be annihilated."

The discussion on Palestine which was scheduled to have taken place yesterday at a meeting of the Laborite members of the British Parliament was postponed to next Wednesday, it was reported here today.

HUNGARIAN REGENT, GERMAN PRINCE CLAIM THEY PROTESTED DEPORTATION OF JEWS

MUNICH, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Admiral Nicholas Horthy, former Hungarian Regent and head of the wartime pro-Nazi government, and Prince Philipp von Hesse today claimed that they had unsuccessfully protested against Nazi deportation of Jews from Hungary and Germany to death camps in Poland. They testified as prosecution witnesses at the trial of 21 top Nazi diplomats and officials charged with crimes against humanity.

POLISH CONSUL DENIES REPORTS THAT JEWS ARE NO LONGER PERMITTED TO LEAVE POLAND

NEW YORK, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Polish Consul General Jan Galewicz, in a statement issued today through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, denied American press reports that Jews in Poland are no longer permitted to emigrate from the country. He emphasized that certain modifications have been made in the procedure for issuing exit passports, but said that they apply to Jews as well as to all other citizens of Poland. During the last three months of 1947 more than 1,200 passports have been issued to Jews in Poland for travel abroad, he revealed.

The full text of the statement reads:

"The American press published lately reports which seem to imply that the Polish Government has discontinued the issuance of passports to Polish Jews, making it impossible for them to go abroad. In connection with this, I wish to state that such information are completely unfounded.

"In Poland, like in all other countries, the issuance of passports for travel abroad is subject to special laws and regulations. One of the provisions of these regulations is that before applying for an emigration passport the applicant must present a satisfactory evidence that an entry visa will be granted to him by the country to which he intends to emigrate.

"Until recently, the Polish authorities considered an affidavit as a sufficient proof that a foreign visa would be obtained by the person applying for a passport. It is well known, however, that only a limited number of persons who are in possession of affidavits succeed in the end, and this only after long delays, in obtaining immigration visas. For this reason, it has been lately decided that passports will be issued only upon the presentation by the interested person of a letter with a written promise of an immigration visa. Such written "visa promises" are given, for instance, by the American consulates in all cases in which a favourable decision concerning the granting of a visa had been reached.

"The requirement making the issuance of passports conditional upon the presentation of a written promise of a visa applies to Jews as well as to all other citizens of Poland.

"In view of the above it must be stated that, as far as Polish passport regulations are concerned, no special obstacles exist which would limit or make impossible emigration of Polish Jews to other countries. The best proof of this is that during the last three months of 1947 - 1,218 Polish passports were issued to Jews for travel abroad.

"As far as chances of departure to Palestine are concerned, Poland, who at a number of UNO sessions was the first to stress her approach to the question of Palestine and the Jewish rights to possess a homeland, has certainly no intention to put any barriers before these Jews who in spite of the definite stabilization and progress of Jewish life in Poland and the complete warranting of development in political, economic, religious and cultural life, wish to leave the country."

AMERICAN TROOPS RAID JEWISH DP CAMP IN GERMANY: ARREST 100 JEWS WHILE GERMANS JEER

MUNICH, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- More than 100 displaced Jews were arrested today in a raid by U.S. constabulary troops on a Jewish DP camp at Eschwege, in the northern part of the American zone. A large crowd of laughing and jeering German civilians congregated outside the camp while the Americans searched the barracks and rounded up every Jew who had an excessive amount of goods in his possession.

All of the 100 were subsequently released, some on bail. Official Jewish reports say that the troops behavior toward the DP's was good, with but few, minor exceptions.

NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES REFUSE REPATRIATION, OFFICIAL REPORT SAYS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Estimating the possibilities of repatriating Jewish refugees in Germany and Austria, a report of the Senate Judiciary Committee on the DP situation in Europe states that Jews from Poland, Hungary and Rumania refuse to return to their former countries of residence because of fear of anti-Semitism which, the report says, was intensified by the German occupation of Poland.

The document, submitted to the Senate together with a bill calling for the admission of 100,000 DP's to this country within two years, adds that the "situation with respect to anti-Semitism in Communist-dominated countries is said to have improved in the past six months." It also declares that "the Russian Government is reported to be anti-Semitic."

Discussing the role of Jewish agencies in caring for Jewish DP's, the report states that "it cannot be categorically stated that the migration of Jews from eastern Europe into the American zones of occupation was planned and managed by the various Jewish agencies operating in America and in Europe. Such agencies have actively aided the movements after they started and have contributed money and effort in arranging transportation, food and shelter for many thousands."

In a statement analyzing the bill to admit the 100,000 DP's, Congressman Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, attacked the legislation as "an emasculated measure, 'only being used as a gesture to answer criticism of inaction.'" Criticizing the "whittling down" of the number to be admitted from the originally proposed 200,000, as contained in the Stratton Bill, Celler said that an "unhealthy percentage" of DP's would still remain in camps as a burden to American taxpayers. "When the powerful United States so hems its humanitarianism with restrictions as to render it meaningless," Celler questioned, "then how will less-economically favored countries spend?"

DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT IS INCREASING "RAPIDLY AND CONTINUOUSLY," SEN. IVES SAYS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Discrimination in employment has been increasing "rapidly and continuously" since the end of the war, Senator Irving Ives of New York declared in a report submitted to the Senate to accompany the Ives-Chavez Fair Employment Practices Bill which was favorably reported to the Senate by the Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

The report cites a statement submitted by Henry Epstein of the National Community Relations Advisory Council to the effect that complaints of employment discrimination filed with Jewish agencies in six cities during corresponding periods in 1945 and 1946 increased 93 percent in the latter period.

A study on "Postwar Employment Discrimination Against Jews," presented by the NCRAC to the Senate Committee, is quoted in the report to show the preponderance of discriminatory employment acts in Wisconsin, with its voluntary state law, as compared with New York, whose FEPC statute carries enforcement powers.

PROTEST BANNING OF "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" AND "FOCUS" FROM NEW YORK SCHOOL LIBRARY

NEW YORK, Mar. 4. (JTA) - A protest against the banning from the school library of two novels attacking anti-Semitism in America was made today by the Parents-Teachers Association of De Witt Clinton High School where "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Focus" have been barred.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND I.R.O. TURN OVER ENTIRE CAMP TO ORT FOR TRAINING ACTIVITIES

MILAN, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- The Italian Government and the International Refugee Organization have made special arrangements to turn over an entire DP camp to the ORT for the training of some 900 displaced Jews from 30 schools now scattered over northern Italy, it was disclosed here today.

The arrangements were made following submission of an ORT memorandum to both the government and the IRO, pointing out that the government's proposed transfer of some 8,000 DP's from camps in northern Italy to centers in the southern section of the country threatened to disrupt the ORT training program.

The memorandum stated that the ORT had obtained satisfactory quarters and rebuilt others for training purposes only after surmounting great difficulties, that the same problem would be faced in southern Italy and that many of its highly skilled instructors lived in cities in northern Italy and would not be available to the schools in the south. The government and the IRO agreed with the ORT and turned the Rivoli camp over to it for use as a large school, incorporating all the facilities of the organization's workshops in northern Italy.

JEWISH STATE WILL HAVE TO SUPPRESS IRGUN AND STERNISTS, PALESTINIAN LABOR LEADER SAYS

NEW YORK, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Denouncing the "degenerate and ruthless methods" used by the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Group in Palestine, and warning that ultimately the Jewish State would have to suppress the activities of both groups, Pinhas Lubianker, member of the Jewish National Council of Palestine who has just arrived here, declared at a press conference today that the Jews of Palestine can explain the dissidents' use of "degenerate methods" psychologically, but politically and morally there is no excuse.

Lubianker, who is one of Palestine's leading labor figures, reiterated the Jewish Agency's charge that Britons were responsible for last week's blast on Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem which resulted in the death of 54 Jews. He also reported that Palestinian Arabs are playing a minor part in opposing the partition of Palestine, adding that frequently they warned Jewish communities of forthcoming attacks by Arab marauders.

HUGO VALENTIN, SWEDISH HISTORIAN AND ZIONIST LEADER, APPOINTED HONORARY PROFESSOR

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Hugo Valentin, who has served as chairman of the Scandinavian Zionist Union for many years, has been appointed honorary professor of history at Upsala University, it was announced today by the Swedish Government.

Valentin is the author of a widely-translated book exposing anti-Semitism on scientific grounds. He is one of Sweden's most eminent living historians and has written, among other books, "The History of the Jews of Sweden." At present he heads a campaign in this country in behalf of Haganah.

JEWISH WOMAN GETS AWARD FROM MEXICAN PRESIDENT FOR CONDUCTING STATE ORCHESTRA

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Sarah Kliatchki-Meckler, a Jewish musician, was the recipient here today of a \$2,000 government prize for conducting the Mexican Symphony Orchestra. The prize was presented to her by President Miguel Aleman at a special ceremony.

SOUTHWEST COUNCIL OF UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS FORMED IN DALLAS

DALLAS, Mar. 4. (JTA) -- Formation of a Southwest Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, representing Reform synagogues in Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi and Louisiana, was announced here today by Eugene Solos,