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JEWISH AGENCY HEADQUARTERS WRECKED BY EXPLOSION; 10 REPORTED KILLED, 90 WOUNDED

JERUSALEM, Mar. 11. (JTA)--The American Consulate here today launched an investigation into an explosion which partially wrecked the Jewish Agency building and killed ten persons and wounded 90 others. Witnesses established that the explosives which blasted the heavily guarded building were brought into the Agency courtyard by a car flying the American flag and probably driven by the regular Arab chauffeur employed by the consulate.

The chauffeur, Anton Daoud, has disappeared. He reported to the consulate this morning and picked up the car, despite the fact that this was his day off. Although many persons saw him before the blast, no one at the consulate has seen him since. Consular officials also revealed that one of the staff cars was stolen yesterday and another last week.

The major damage was inflicted on two stories of one wing of the building. The offices of the Palestine Foundation Fund were completely demolished and Leib Jaffe, 72, its director, was killed. Jaffe was well-known in the United States where he worked for the Foundation Fund during the war years. Isaac Ben Zvi, president of the Jewish National Council, who was in the Council's office in another wing of the building, was unscathed.

No member of the Agency executive was among the casualties. All of them have been in Tel-Aviv for a number of days meeting on plans for the formation of a Provisional Jewish Government.

Immediately after the explosion Haganah squads were rushed to all strategic areas of the Jewish sections of Jerusalem and took control. All passersby, including drivers and passengers of vehicles, were halted and their identities were checked. Among the thousands temporarily detained were a number of newspapermen who came under suspicion because according to one rumor the car which transported the dynamite carried a "press" ticket.

Work Resumed In Undamaged Sections of the Building; Valuable Documents Safe

Within several hours, workers in the undamaged sections of the structure were back on the job and repairmen had reconnected telephone lines and were hard at work returning other installations to service. Thousands of valuable documents pertaining to the history of the Zionist movement were safe in an underground vault.

Eye-witness accounts told of a number of persons being buried under falling masonry as parts of the building collapsed in the midst of a terrific flash of flame. Almost immediately, the structure, one of the most closely guarded in the city, was on fire. But firefighters managed to subdue the flames within a short time. One witness said that the scene was similar to that of the Ben Yehuda Street blast on February 22.

An official version said that two explosions badly damaged the interior of the building. The car was checked through the guard post in front of the Agency

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headquarters without inspection because the driver and an Arab passenger were wearing arm bands identifying them as "Consular Corps" employees. They placed two boxes of explosives in the hall of the building and fled. The car in which the explosives were carried was completely destroyed.

Following is a partial list of casualties in the explosion compiled by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency:

KILLED: Leib Jaffe, Bernard Spitzer, Tamar Neuman-Geller, Alice Lasker, Michael Raami, Joseph Nazari, Haim Polto. Three others are still unidentified.

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED: Zvi Laquer, Dr. Ephraim Forder, Dr. Fritz Ulmann, Shimon Ashuri, Itzhak Cohen, Debora Samuel, Gershon Hirsh, Zion Mizrachi, Chief Rabbi Herzog's daughter-in-law, Ora, Joseph Kramer, Jacob Kramer, Rivka Kimmel, Benjamin Jaffe (son of Leib Jaffe, who was killed), Dr. Nathan Michael-Gelber (noted historian of the Zionist movement), Yochanan Ben Israel, Alexander Kutcher, Naphtali Berlinski, Joseph Ben Nissan, Shaul Bar-Chaim, Esther Ehrlich, Yehuda Alshech, Joseph Karini, Anna Eventov, Eva Reader, Benjamin Liberman, Abraham Levi, Joseph Sohn, Yehoshua Katz, Batseva Dashevski, Hayim Chamiel.

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED: Dr. Walter Eytan, director of the Agency's School for Diplomats; Pesach Litwak, Representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee in Palestine; Edwin Samuel, director of the Palestine Broadcasting Service; Reuben Galani, who has long been active in the Agency's diplomatic service; Zalman Cutler, well-known Jewish writer who resided in the U.S. for many years; Klara Laufer, Yehuda Rothstein, Eliezer Ephrat, Asaf Kornberg, Avraham Avivi.

Also, Reuben Oiser, Miriam Ronan, Gideon Makodi, Ben Shemesh, Shalom Arazi, Chaim Mizrachi, Itamar Ben Hur, Shalom Borochoy, Shlomo Antebi, Abraham Arest, Yahu Sasson, Ben Zion Shemtov, Ora Cohen, Jaffa Aviad, Itzhak Shtiber, Aviezer Etchomer, Eliahu Garad, Itzhak Yard, Ruth Mogilevski, David Goldstein, Arish Weinsein, Shulamith Cohen, Itzhak Cohen, Lea Kalmanov, Avraham Karri, Ruth Karpovski, El Silberstein, L. Sucherman.

Twelve Arabs Killed in Jerusalem Battle; Jews Evacuated from Suburb

Shortly after the blast an Arab band attempted to penetrate the Mekor Haim section of Jerusalem, but were driven off with twelve dead after a several-hour-long battle. The clash was finally ended when British troops arrived on the scene and fired on both the Jews and the Arabs. There were no Jewish casualties.

Haganah units were kept on the alert tonight following the receipt of reliable reports indicating that the Arabs were massing for attacks on the Talbiya quarter of Jerusalem and areas facing the Jewish Rehavia section of the city. Several Jewish houses in the Talbiya quarter were ordered evacuated for 24 hours today by the British commander who set up gun posts in the buildings to guard against possible attacks.

JOINT AND U.S. REPRESENTATIVES CLASH ON PALESTINE AT U.N. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

LAKE SUCCESS, Mar. 11. (JTA) -- Sharp differences of opinion developed today between the American and Soviet delegates at the U.N. Economic and Social Council on a proposal to elect three members of the Joint Economic Board for a partitioned Palestine at this session.

The proposal was introduced by Soviet delegate A. Arutunian. The American delegate Leroy Stinebower argued against it and urged that the elections be held at the next session of the Council in July. After severe attacks against the U.S. policy in Palestine by the delegates of the U.S.S.R., Poland and Byelorussia, the Council voted 9 to 3, with six abstentions, to postpone the elections.

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GRYMKO TELLS BIG FOUR HE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE ON ARAB-JEWISH CONCILIATION TALKS

NEW YORK, Mar. 11. (JTA)--Soviet representative Andrei Gromyko today made clear at a meeting of the Big Powers on Palestine that he would categorically refuse to participate in direct talks on conciliation with the Jewish Agency, or the Palestine Arab Higher Committee.

Gromyko argued that all efforts to bring about Arab-Jewish conciliation have been exhausted. In addition, he pointed out, the Security Council eliminated conciliation from the U.S. resolution which turned over the Palestine issue to the Big Four--to establish whether the present situation in Palestine constitutes a threat to peace.

Gromyko's point-blank statement widened the existing gap between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on implementation of the U.N. partition decision. The American delegation is still proceeding with its plans in the hope that Arab-Jewish conciliation may be possible.

British representative Sir Alexander Cadogan, appearing today at the meeting on behalf of the Mandatory Power, seemed to support the Soviet rather than the American view. In answering six questions put to him at the meeting, he indicated that Britain believes that no modification of the details of the partition plan would be acceptable to the Jews or the Arabs. Britain, he said considered all bridges between the Jews and Arabs destroyed when she brought the Palestine case to the United Nations.

British Representative Doubts Partition Can Be Implemented Peacefully

Sir Alexander also expressed doubt that partition can be implemented by peaceful means. He reiterated Britain's determination not to change its time-table for evacuation from Palestine. He informed the Big Four that about 7,000 foreign Arabs have invaded Palestine. Two days ago, he said the figure was about 1,700.

Fletcher Cooke, Palestine advisor to Sir Alexander, told the parley that on April 15 there will be no funds left in the Palestine treasury for the use of the U.N. Palestine Commission which is to take over the administration of the country. He revealed that, despite reports to the contrary, the Arab Legion has not yet been withdrawn and would not be withdrawn until April 15.

The meeting then formulated ten questions to the U.N. Palestine Commission requesting further clarification of several issues and adjourned till tomorrow. U.S. delegate Warren Austin asked many questions about the establishment of a Jewish militia, indicating that the American delegation is greatly interested in this problem.

U.S. Delegation Denies America Wants Palestine Federalization

The American delegation at Lake Success today denied press reports that the United States is inclined to support a federalization scheme in Palestine instead of partition. "No hints of a change in the U.S. policy have been made by any U.S. spokesman, because the policy has not been changed," the statement said. "The policy remains as stated by Sen. Warren Austin in the Security Council on February 24 and subsequently."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver conferred with Sen. Austin prior to the opening of the meeting of the Big Powers. The substance of the conversation was not disclosed.

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Following the conference, Dr. Silver left for the headquarters of the Jewish Agency report on his talk.

Jewish Agency Issues Statement Rejecting Federalization as Compromise

A statement issued by the Jewish Agency expressed satisfaction with the American delegation's denial. The Agency added: "The position of the Jewish Agency in Palestine on any proposal to alter the partition resolution was made perfectly clear by Dr. Silver and Mr. Shertok -- spokesmen of the Agency -- in their statement before the Security Council.

"The Partition plan was a compromise which the Jewish Agency accepted as the irreducible minimum. Beyond that it cannot go. It should be made clear that the term 'Federalization' is a misnomer to conceal the true character of what is intended. It would in fact be an Arab state where Jewish immigration and territory would be sharply restricted and the Jewish sovereignty denied. The Jewish community would be a permanent minority at the mercy of the Arab majority. No such plan is acceptable to the Jewish Agency."

TRUMAN DENIES ANGRILY PRESS REPORT THAT HE SAID NEW YORK JEWS WERE DISLOYAL TO U.S.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11. (JTA) -- President Truman opened his press conference today with an emphatic and angry denial of what he termed a vicious statement by a columnist in a New York paper that the President had said the Jews of New York were disloyal.

The President, flushed and with extraordinary vigor, said he had thought he would not have to add another liar's star to the crown of the fellow who made the statement, but found it necessary to do so. He reiterated that it was just a lie out of whole cloth.

(The President's denial apparently refers to the story carried by Drew Pearson which read as follows: "President Truman was talking to a New York publisher about Palestine. Pounding his desk, he made remarks about '... New York Jews. They're disloyal to their country. Disloyal!' he cried. 'Would you explain that further, Mr. President?' interrupted the publisher, whose wife happens to be Jewish. 'When you speak of New York Jews are you referring to such people as Bernard Baruch? Or are you referring to such New York Jews as my wife?' Truman glared, assured his visitor he did not mean to include Baruch or the publisher's wife; then abruptly changed the subject.")

41 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ASK MARSHALL FOR CLARIFICATION OF U.S. STAND ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11. (JTA) -- Forty-one Democrats in the House and Senate have written a joint letter to Secretary of State George C. Marshall asking that he clarify the present attitude of the U.S. Government towards the Palestine situation.

The letter charges that U.S. Delegate Warren Austin's statement before the U.N. Security Council "appeared to make distinctions so fine as to leave unanswered the question of our willingness to participate in the implementation of the Partition decision."

The letter asked the Secretary to clear up the apparent contradiction between this statement and the one made by U.S. Deputy Delegate to the U.N. Herschel Johnson to the General Assembly last fall "which clearly indicated our recognition of the possibility of using force and indicated as clearly our willingness to do so."

The letter states that there have been reports that the U.S. Government has made informal representations to certain foreign governments and to the Jewish Agency with a view to slowing down Jewish immigration into Palestine.

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AMERICAN CONSULATE IN AUSTRIA READY TO REVIEW REJECTED APPLICATIONS FOR U.S. ENTRY

V. ENNA, Mar. 11. (JTA)--American consular officials here today indicated that they are willing to review the case of DP's who have been denied immigration applications for reasons of error or possible injustice.

The consular authorities again listed the necessary qualifications of persons desiring to enter the United States under President Truman's order facilitating migration of refugees. Primarily, the applicants must prove that they have been living continuously in the American zone of Germany or Austria or the American or British sectors of Berlin or Vienna since April 21, 1947.

In addition, they must be able to prove that they fall under one of the following categories: 1. That they are non-German nationals involuntarily brought to Germany or Austria for forced labor; 2. That they are aliens of any nationality who are victims of a Nazi, fascist or Axis-dominated government; 3. That they are persons who have reasonable grounds for fearing to return to their native lands because of the likelihood of persecution on account of race, religion or political views; or 4. That an alien is the wife, unmarried minor child, minor dependent, brother or sister of an alien eligible under one of the first three categories.

CZECH JEWRY SHOCKED BY MASARYK'S DEATH; PURGE OF JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERS STARTED

PRAGUE, Mar. 11. (JTA)--Czechoslovak Jewry, deeply shocked by the death of Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk, is preparing to participate in the official nationwide mourning ceremonies. It was learned here today that Masaryk had made plans for a visit to Palestine in the near future.

Meanwhile, the Actions Committees organized within the Council of Jewish Communities and the Prague Jewish community have made a number of changes in the leadership of the organizations. Ernst Frischer, chairman of the Council, has been removed and the position has been offered to Julius Lederer. Frischer remains a member of the Council's executive board. Kurt Wehle, former secretary of the Council and chairman of the Czech-Moravian Zionist Federation, has left the country. Three representatives of Sub-Carpathian communities have resigned from the Council.

Karel Stein, former official of the Prague community, has been named executive vice-chairman of the Council. Stein is a Zionist leader. Hashomer Hatzair leader and Prague representative of the Jewish Agency Eugene Fischgrund has been elected to the Actions Committee.

Jews Fleeing Czechoslovakia Will Not Be Considered Displaced Persons

MUNICH, Mar. 11 (JTA)--Officials of Jewish relief organizations here today said that they knew of only a "handful" of Jews who had fled from Czechoslovakia into Germany during the past week, following the Communist seizure of the Prague government. They declined to venture a prediction whether much larger numbers could be expected to slip across the heavily guarded frontier.

Those arriving here will be treated by United States army officials in the same manner as German refugees who arrived from the Sudetenland from which they were expelled. They will not receive any kind of favored treatment, officials said, and will have to earn a living within the German economy, just like the Romanian and Hungarian Jews who arrived here after April 21, 1947.

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S. JEWS MUST ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR JEWISH RECOVERY, DR. SCHWARTZ SAYS

NEW YORK, Mar. 11. (JTA)--Declaring that although the future of Europe's Jewish survivors will in the last analysis be determined by the effectiveness of the U. N. Palestine decision, the Marshall Plan and the passage of legislation which would admit additional displaced persons to the United States, Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee asserted yesterday that American Jews must be prepared to assume major financial responsibility for implementation of these developments.

Addressing a group of New York Jewish communal leaders at a meeting arranged by the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York at the Hotel Biltmore, Dr. Schwartz, who returned to this country last week for consultations, said: "We can look forward, at this time, with some degree of hope, to the establishment of a Jewish haven and a homeland in Palestine and a concomitant increase in European Jewish immigration in that country. This situation creates an urgent and immediate need for tremendous sums of money for transportation to Palestine, for the resettlement and rehabilitation of immigrants, and for the defense and security of the Jewish community there."

AMERICAN GROUP PLANS TO ESTABLISH \$5,000,000 RAYON PLANT IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Mar. 11. (JTA)--A \$5,000,000 rayon factory using the most modern American machinery, will be established in Palestine as soon as engineering experts have determined the site of the plant, Leo Rosenstein, president of the Palestine Rayon Corporation, declared today at a press conference at the Hotel Roosevelt following his return from a two-month study of industrial conditions in Palestine. He said that land options have been taken by his corporation in Rehovoth, Petach Tikvah and Hadera.

"The need for a rayon plant in Palestine becomes obvious," he stated, "when one considers that the country now grows no cotton or wool, and that the entire present textile industry is based upon imported basic raw materials. The only necessary import for rayon manufacturer would be wood pulp. All other requirements are available within Palestine."

HENRY MORGENTHAU PRESENTS MAYOR O'DWYER WITH SILVER BIBLE SENT HIM BY BEN GURION

NEW YORK, Mar. 11. (JTA)--Mayor William O'Dwyer today received a hand-tooled silver Bible sent to him by David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency and Premier-Designate of the Provisional Jewish Government. The presentation was made at the Mayor's official residence by Henry Morgenthau Jr., general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.

The gift for O'Dwyer was given by Ben Gurion to the U.J.A. delegation which returned recently from a month-long tour of the Jewish DP camps in Europe and of Palestine. Mr. Morgenthau was accompanied by David Ha-Cohen, Palestine's leading builder who constructed Britain's Middle East defenses during the war and who is now touring the U.S. on behalf of the current U.J.A. campaign.

THREE-DAY CEREMONIES MARK INAUGURATION OF DR. NELSON GLUECK AS E.U.C. PRESIDENT

CINCINNATI, Mar. 11. (JTA)--Close to 1,000 Jewish communal leaders from all sections of the United States are expected to attend the three-day ceremonies marking the inauguration of Dr. Nelson Glueck as the fourth president of Hebrew Union College. The ceremonies will begin tomorrow.

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