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U.S. PALESTINE POLICY ATTACKED IN CONGRESS; RECOGNITION OF JEWISH STATE URGED

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- A sharp debate broke out in both houses of Congress today as a number of Senators and Representatives attacked the American reversal on Palestine partition and espousal of a plan for a U.N. trusteeship for the mandate.

The high points of the debate came when Rep. Leo Isaacson, American Labor Party of New York, demanded that the United States recognize the de facto Jewish state in Palestine and Rep. Jacob K. Javits of New York introduced a bill to legalize the shipment of arms and munitions to Palestine despite the State Department embargo. Isaacson also urged that the Administration return to its former pro-partition stand.

In the Senate Irving M. Ives, Republican of New York, asserted that he knew that "this wobbly, catch-as-catch-can, will-o'-the-wisp policy does not represent the character of the American people." He asked why the United States should decide to abandon the plan for partition on the basis that it is "hazardous and dangerous." The trusteeship plan, he insisted, appears to be "just as hazardous." Sen. Homer Capehart, Republican of Indiana, concurred in Ives' statements.

Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas, California Democrat, said that the Administration had been "vacillating and dishonest" in handling the Palestine problem from the day the United Nations voted for partition." Chet Holifield, Republican Congressman from California, called the U.S. reversal "the last and culminating blunder of a weak and confused leadership." Rep. Emanuel Celler, of New York, also blasted the Administration.

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor of New York, charged that the State Department's present Palestine policy is an "integral part" of the European Recovery Program. He added that persons who supported E.R.P. and at the same time protested the latest American change regarding Palestine were "talking out of both sides of their mouths."

Rankin Supports U.S. Reversal on Palestine; Klein Demands Inquiry

In support of the Administration's trusteeship proposal was Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, who said that the President "ought to be applauded" by members of both parties for his latest stand. The U.N. had no more right to set up a Jewish state in Palestine than they would have to set up a "Negro state in Harlem or a Mexican state in Texas," he said. He was joined by Rep. Ed Gossett, of Texas, who said that 90 percent of the Congress would support Truman.

Rep. Lawrence Smith, Wisconsin Republican, said the decision to partition Palestine had been a "tragic mistake" which was now being corrected. Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan said the American people are "getting tired of going to war for minority groups."

Rep. Arthur G. Klein, Democrat of New York, announced today that he plans to introduce a bill tomorrow calling for an investigation of the State Department's Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, which handles the Palestine problem.

TRUCKLOAD OF EXPLOSIVES BLASTS ARAB STREET IN HAIFA; AT LEAST 17 KILLED, 50 WOUNDED

JERUSALEM, March 22. (JTA) -- The explosion of a truckload of dynamite today levelled at least eight houses in one block in the Arab section of Haifa. At least 17 persons are known to be dead and 50 wounded, and the casualty figures are expected to go much higher. Buildings were damaged for several blocks in all directions, and several fires raged in the area tonight.

The blast is believed to be the work of Sternists in retaliation for yesterday's bombing of the Solel Boneh building in Haifa. Eye-witnesses said that two men driving a three-ton military type truck abandoned the vehicle in crowded Iraq street and sped off in a jeep which proceeded into the Arab neighborhood. All four men involved were dressed in British uniforms.

After the bombing, Arab mortars opened fire on the Jewish section, but the only known casualties were a British policeman killed and a second wounded when a shell fell into the courtyard of the central police station. Armored cars raced into the area to prevent possible riots or attacks on Jews or Britons. A number of Arabs made attempts to steal weapons from the British soldiers in the cars.

Repel Major Attacks on Two Jewish Colonies By 1,700 Arabs

Haganah forces today drove off an Arab band of 1,000 men which had entrenched itself around Hartuv, in the Judean hills between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, after an all-night attack. At least 40 Arabs were reported slain.

The British commander of a 700-man Arab band and 20 Arabs were killed in another fierce, night-long battle which took place around the settlement of Nizanim, in the Negev, Haganah reported this morning. The band, led by a Briton allegedly of high military rank, approached the colony for an all-out attack, but was spotted in time by Haganah guards. The raiders attacked the colony in several continuous waves, but fell back and fled before the intense Jewish fire.

A large band of Arabs attacked a Jewish convoy near the Arab town of Ishdud, built on the site of the ancient Philistine city, Ashdod, and according to an official communique, 13 Jews were killed and 16 are missing. Haganah headquarters denied the report, declaring instead that Haganah men beat off an Arab attack on the convoy, killing six and wounding three attackers.

Haganah added that later a British police unit attacked the Arab band, killing three of the marauders and wounding four. Another guerrilla band, rushed in to relieve the first group of attackers, met with heavy Haganah resistance and was driven off after suffering several casualties.

Jewish convoys travelling from Ataroth to Jerusalem and from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea were also attacked, but there were no reports of casualties. Mekor Haim and Rehavia came under Arab sniper attack early this morning. Sporadic fighting in Jerusalem resulted in slight damage to the Belgian Consulate here, but no casualties.

Arab snipers opened fire in the center of Jerusalem, killing one Jew outside a movie and losing two men when Haganah members returned the fire. Smaller engagements between Haganah and Arab units flared up on the outskirts of the city, the biggest of which occurred near Neve Jacob, where Jewish armored cars blocked the road leading to the settlement to prevent Arab reinforcements from reaching an Arab band attacking the colony. Two Arabs and one Greek were killed by the Jews.

The parents of approximately 300 Jews detained in Kenya began a hunger strike today protesting the continued detention of their sons. At the same time, a letter from the deported Jews to the Jewish National Council declaring they will begin a hunger strike today was made public. The detainees urged the United Nations to investigate the situation in the camp.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS MOBILIZE TO FIGHT U.S. GOVERNMENT'S "ACT OF BETRAYAL" ON PALESTINE

NEW YORK, March 22. (JTA) -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all sections of the Zionist movement in the United States, today announced a nationwide program of action to fight the Truman Administration's reversal of policy on Palestine.

The Jewish War Veterans, which is cooperating with the Emergency Council, will hold a protest parade and demonstration on Sunday, April 4, while combined orthodox rabbinical and lay organizations have proclaimed a day of prayer Thursday, April 8, to be observed in approximately 6,000 synagogues throughout the country. A similar program for a day of divine intercession and prayer is being planned by the Synagogue Council of America and the Rabbinical Assembly of America.

"The U.S. Government's reversal of its position on Palestine is nothing less than an act of betrayal," said the statement issued by the Zionist Emergency Council. "It is a betrayal of all the solemn commitments and pledges of every American administration since the time of Woodrow Wilson, and more especially, of the repeated promises and declarations of the Truman Administration. It is also a betrayal of the high objectives to which our Government is committed in world affairs, and underlines faith in the noble utterances of our official spokesmen with regard to the rights of small nations and the sanctity of international covenants. In striking this cruel blow at a small and persecuted people, the Truman Administration has shaken the very foundations of the United Nations and has seriously compromised the future effectiveness of international organization to preserve and maintain world peace."

"The citizens of this country will call the Administration to account for its action. American public opinion must now demonstrate whether it is willing to have its foreign policy dictated by oil imperialists and British agents, or whether it wishes to maintain the moral integrity and national honor of this country. The citizens will surely make their feelings known to an Administration which employed the haphazard procedure of going through the motions of consultation on the implementation of partition, while waiting for the opportune time to spring this shocking reversal of policy."

CONFERENCE OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS APPEALS TO TRUMAN TO RECONSIDER TRUSTEESHIP DECISION

ATLANTA, March 22. (JTA) -- A resolution calling upon President Truman "to reconsider and reverse" the United States decision to ask for an international trusteeship for Palestine was adopted here at the closing session of the 13th annual conference of the Southeastern Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

"We are deeply shocked and disappointed that the State Department has seen fit to reverse its policy with regard to Palestine," the resolution declared. "It is the sense of the delegates to this conference that such action will not promote a peaceful solution of the Palestine problem and will likely cause even greater bloodshed."

Pointing out that the decision on trusteeship was "not consistent with the established policy of the U.S. to serve justice and humanity and protect the down-trodden without fear or favor," the resolution requested the President to abide by his earlier stand "supporting and implementing the partition of Palestine."

The resolution came as the climax to a two-day discussion dealing with all aspects of Jewish community life and problems concerning the 1948 responsibilities of American Jewry in meeting overseas, national and local needs. Marx J. Borod, president of the Memphis Federation of Jewish Charities, was elected regional president; Louis L. Permutt of Birmingham, and Fred Kullman of New Orleans, vice-presidents.

ISH JEWS IN AUSTRIA DISCUSS RETURN TO POLAND AS RESULT OF NEW U.S. STAND ON PALESTINE

VIENNA, March 22. (JTA) -- The news that the U.S. Government has abandoned Palestine partition came as a great shock to the 22,000 Jewish refugees in Austria. It resulted in discussions among Polish Jews of the possibility of returning to Poland.

Rumanian Jewish refugees are, on the other hand, flatly refusing even to consider the idea of returning to Rumania. They say that the latest information reaching them from home reveals that the economic situation of the Jews in Rumania is growing worse from day to day. Letters from relatives in Rumania speak of drawing the attention of Jewish leaders abroad to the fact that the situation of the Jews in Rumania is "alarming."

Nevertheless, informed circles here expect a decrease in the influx of Rumanian Jews to Austria. They point out that now, when America has changed its stand on Palestine, it would be easier for Jews to find their way to Palestine from Rumania directly rather than through the American zones of Austria and Germany.

SCOW SAYS U.S. NEVER INTENDED TO CARRY OUT THE U.N. DECISION ON PALESTINE PARTITION

LONDON, March 22. (JTA) -- The Moscow radio charged today that "neither Britain nor America ever intended that the U.N. partition decision on Palestine should be carried out."

Referring to the new American proposal for international trusteeship, the broadcast said: "The decision of the United States Government to withdraw support from the U.N. partition resolution is the logical culmination of the State Department's previous policy. To justify this decision, the U.S. representative at the Security Council claimed that it was impossible to carry out the program by peaceful means. The real reason is a lack of desire of certain powers to implement this decision."

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FAVORS CONCILIATION IN PALESTINE, MINISTER TELLS PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA, March 22. (JTA) -- Louis St. Laurent, Minister for External Affairs, has clarified the Canadian Government's attitude toward the present Palestine situation as one of favoring conciliation. "Even at this late hour conciliation must be tried," he told Parliament, "for surely the realization must be growing upon both communities in Palestine that the present course of violence and inflexible resistance against one another can only bring chaos and mutual destruction."

Canada's Socialist party, the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, has called on Britain to aid the U.N. implement the partition decision in Palestine, in a resolution made public here today. The C.C.F. also urged the Security Council to take speedy and vigorous action to carry out the General Assembly's decision.

SENATE GETS BILL TO ADMIT ADOPTED CHILDREN AS NON-QUOTA IMMIGRANTS

WASHINGTON, March 22. (JTA) -- Senator Brien McMahon, of Connecticut, today introduced a bill to enable children under 21 who have been adopted by U.S. citizens to enter the United States as non-quota immigrants and to become naturalized citizens within two years of entry.

ORGANIZATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN RUMANIA EXPECTED UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION

BUCHAREST, March 22. (JTA) -- A reorganization of the Jewish Councils in Rumania will take place as a result of the new constitution, the drafting of which has been completed.

Under the new constitution, freedom of religion will be guaranteed, but religious communities will no longer be supported by the state. The constitution provides that no religious schools are to be established by national groups. On the other hand, it permits national minorities to establish schools where instruction may be conducted in the group's native language. Such schools will be maintained by the state.

Other important changes with regard to the structure and the legal status of the Jewish Community Councils are expected as a result of the new constitution. Anticipating these changes, the Jewish Democratic Committee is now mapping plans for the establishment of courses for Yiddish teachers and for publishing Yiddish textbooks, since it is certain that the Jewish schools which will enjoy government support will conduct their classes in Yiddish.

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT LIQUIDATES OFFICE FOR TRACING HEIRLESS JEWISH PROPERTY

BUDAPEST, March 22. (JTA) -- The liquidation of the office established by the Hungarian Government for the tracing of heirless Jewish property was announced here today. Laszlo Nogoradi, Under-Secretary of State in the Prime Minister's office, was in charge of the liquidation program.

The office, which has been in existence for about three years, accomplished very little and was under constant criticism. The Budapest Jewish Community is now making preparations to continue the work of tracing abandoned Jewish property for the purpose of securing its transfer to the Jewish Fund for helping rehabilitate Jewish survivors.

Moses Bisselichos, a Jewish industrialist and one of the oldest Zionists in the country, was elected yesterday as president of the Hungarian Zionist Federation. He succeeds Mihaly Salamon, who resigned.

GERMAN GOVERNMENT IN BAVARIA CHARGED WITH "DISSIPATING" JEWISH PROPERTY

MUNICH, March 22. (JTA) -- The charge that property belonging to Jews and others who were persecuted in Germany during the Nazi regime is now being "dissipated" by the Bavarian Government was made today by Dr. Philip Auerbach, Commissioner for Racial and Political Persecutees in Bavaria.

In a protest submitted to the Bavarian Minister-President Hans Ehard, Dr. Auerbach pointed out that the Kugelfischer firm in Schweinfurt will receive 120 machines from the Bavarian Ministry of Economics, which, he said, came from the Dachau concentration camp and belong to former camp inmates.

The Leipzig Radio, a German station in the Soviet zone, today reported that the German zonal Ministry of Justice is preparing a uniform restitution law for the entire zone. The broadcast added that the new law would replace the various measures now in effect in the zone and that it would probably be modeled on the American restitution law.

