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LAST MINUTE NEWS

U.N. COMMISSION DECIDES TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT IN PALESTINE

LAKE SUCCESS, March 29, (JTA) -- The United Nations Palestine Commission today decided unanimously to proceed with full implementation of the General Assembly decision to partition Palestine.

At the same time, the Commission informed the Jewish Agency that it will attempt to go ahead with plans to set up Provisional Councils of Government regardless of the April 1 deadline of the Assembly decision. However, the Commission made it clear that the Provisional Council will not be able to assume governmental authority before May 16.

U.N. officials indicated that the mere calling of a special session of the Assembly as proposed by the United States, could not stop the work of the Commission until the Assembly reversed its previous ruling. It was also indicated that the Commission is more determined than ever to enter Palestine at the earliest possible date to exercise authority over the Provisional Council it will designate.

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U.S. TO PRESENT TRUMAN REQUEST FOR PALESTINE TRUCE TO U.N. TODAY; SHELVES TRUSTEESHIP

LAKE SUCCESS, March 29. (JTA) -- The United States will formally present tomorrow to the U.N. Security Council its request for an Arab-Jewish truce in Palestine and for the convocation of a special session of the General Assembly to deal with the Palestine question, it was announced here today by a spokesman of the U.S. delegation.

The American delegation will not, however, make a demand for placing Palestine under international trusteeship, the spokesman added. The trusteeship proposal will apparently be shelved until the special session of the Assembly is convened.

The long-awaited instructions from the White House regarding President Truman's request for a truce in Palestine were received here today by the U.S. representatives, it was officially reported by a member of the delegation.

JAFFA BOMBED; IRGUN THREATENS "REVOLT" UNLESS JEWISH GOVERNMENT SET UP BY TOMORROW

JERUSALEM, March 29. (JTA) -- Three bombs were dropped on Jaffa shortly before dawn this morning apparently from a plane, it was officially announced here today. They caused no casualties and only slight damage to a Greek Orthodox school building. Meanwhile, the Irgun Zvai Leumi has threatened to start a "revolution" against the Jewish Agency unless a Jewish Provisional Government is proclaimed on or before March 31.

Seven Jews died during an attack on the Arab village of Mughar, near the Lydda airport, according to a government communique issued today. The communique states that a Jewish armored car blew up during the attack and all its occupants, including one woman, were burned to death.

Some 30 Arabs were killed last night during a Haganah raid on the Arab village of Sandala, near Jenin. Despite strong opposition the Jews forced the Arabs to abandon the village and then destroyed ten houses. Later, Arab reinforcements rushing toward the town met a second Haganah unit which was mining the surrounding roads. A truckload of Arab guerrillas was blown up with heavy loss of life. The Jews returned safely to base without having suffered any casualties.

210 Jews Rescued from Kfar Etzion Trap; 49 Slightly Wounded

The government today issued a warning that it would never again attempt to rescue Jews attacked by Arabs in a situation similar to that of the Jews trapped in the Kfar Etzion ambush yesterday. The statement charged that the Jews set out for Kfar Etzion from Jerusalem without informing the authorities, and when warned not to return along the route to Jerusalem because the Arabs had erected barricades to halt them, the Jews had disregarded instructions. The government press release also revealed that 210 persons were rescued, including 40 who were slightly wounded.

Jewish sources revealed that as one condition for the truce, the Arabs demanded that the Jews surrender all vehicles and weapons to them. This offer was refused, but on orders from the Jewish Agency, the weapons and vehicles were

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rendered to the party of some 20 British police and military officers who arranged the truce. The British subsequently handed the weapons over to the Arabs. The final death toll, according to the Jews, was 21 Jews and 17 Arabs.

According to estimates by Jewish sources, 970 Jews and 2,068 Arabs died by violence during the four months since the U.N. decided to partition Palestine. It was also estimated that some 1,500 Jews and 2,500 Arabs were wounded.

The transshipment and deportation to Cyprus of 737 visaless Jewish refugees apprehended aboard the blockade runner Yechim yesterday was completed without incident in Haifa harbor this afternoon. There were 493 men, 202 women and 132 children among the immigrants.

A Jewish Agency spokesman, commenting this morning on an appeal by the Archbishop of York to the U.N. to take immediate steps to save Jerusalem from destruction, welcomed such moves and added that the Jews would also welcome any move toward a truce from Arabs in whom the Jews can place their trust. Dr. Hussein Khalidi, secretary of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, also commenting on the prelate's appeal, declared: "If danger exists at all to the sacred places in Jerusalem it comes from Zionist aggression."

The Ichud Party last night issued a statement welcoming President Truman's call for a truce between Jews and Arabs in Palestine and accepting an interim U.N. trusteeship with the eventual objective of a bi-national state based on two "equal peoples as equal partners in the government. The statement, signed by Drs. Judah Magnes, Martin Buber and Wezner Senator and several others, also called for a substantial increase in Jewish immigration and the joint development of the country's resources for the benefit of all its inhabitants.

U.S. NOT CONSIDERING WITHDRAWAL OF ARMS EMBARGO FROM MIDDLE EAST, STATE DEPT. SAYS

WASHINGTON, March 29. (JTA) -- The State Department today flatly denied reports that consideration was being given to withdrawal of the embargo on shipment of arms to Middle East countries. A report to this effect was broadcast last night by a Washington columnist who said that the State Department may lift the arms embargo this week.

The State Department also denied a report that the Arabian-American Oil Company had installed an air-conditioning unit at the company's expense in the Washington apartment of Loy Henderson, chief of the Division of Near Eastern and African Affairs of the State Department.

GEN. SMUTS SEES NO ALTERNATIVE TO PALESTINE PARTITION; CONSIDERS U.S. PLAN INTERIM MEASURE

PRETORIA, So. Africa, March 29. (JTA) -- "I see no alternative to partition, but nobody wishes it to be achieved through massacre and international complications, and some interim measure may yet prevent irremediable mischief," General Jan C. Smuts, South African Prime Minister declared today in a cable to Dr. Chaim Weizmann.

Replying to Dr. Weizmann's request to state his views "at this critical moment" when attempts are being made to revise the Palestine partition decision of the United Nations, Gen. Smuts, long known as a friend of a Jewish Palestine, added:

"The American proposal for U.N. trusteeship appears to be intended as an interim measure to prevent a terrible situation such as may arise immediately on the termination of the British Mandate and which has already begun. I myself feel deeply concerned over the possibilities of this situation. Something may happen in that vacuum of public authority--after British withdrawal and before the new regime is in working order--which may shock the world's conscience and even precipitate an inter-

BRITISH GOVT. TO PRESS FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF JERUSALEM U.N. GOVERNOR

LONDON, March 29. (JTA) -- The British Cabinet has instructed the United Kingdom delegation at Lake Success to press for the earliest possible appointment of U.N. Governor for the internationalized city of Jerusalem, it was reported here today.

The Cabinet has also decided to permit Britons in the Palestine police service to join a U.N. force to guard the Holy Places in Jerusalem after the British evacuation is completed. A government spokesman pointed out that neither move affects the evacuation schedule, and that only after the withdrawal is completed will Britain be free to decide whether to participate in any subsequent U.N. trusteeship scheme for Palestine.

During an Easter sermon yesterday, Dr. Cyril Garbett, Archbishop of York, urged the immediate appointment of a U.N. Governor for Jerusalem and the dispatch of an adequate force to protect the city's sacred shrines which, he said, were in the greatest danger. If any sacred place were damaged during a fight between Arabs and Jews after the British withdraw, the prestige of the United Nations would suffer, he said.

British Press Wants United States to Send Troops to Palestine

British newspapers today suggested that the United States should send troops to Palestine to keep the peace there. They also demanded that the British Government make its intentions clear immediately on the reported plan for a "religious partition" of Jerusalem.

The News-Chronicle said in an editorial: "Only firm evidence that the world outside is determined to save the Holy City from the ravages of racial and religious war can prevent the situation from getting still worse. Recent reports speak of a plan by the Palestine Government for a "religious partition" of the city to be maintained by an international force of volunteers. The scheme is believed to have been forwarded already to the Colonial Office for consideration. If a major tragedy is to be averted the government should make its intentions clear immediately. In this it would surely have the support not only of the churches but of all civilized communities."

The Yorkshire Post in an editorial declared: "It cannot be said that American statesmanship has done anything during the last few days to throw a gleam of hope across the picture. Palestine lies near the invisible line of demarcation separating American and Russian interests in the Near East. There is no need to elaborate these facts. They show with sufficient clarity the menacing possibilities of a Palestine whose exhaustion invites intervention.

"Two conditions must be fulfilled if there is to be any hope, however slight, of better things. One is to establish a truce unhampered by conditions of a kind calculated to wreck it before it begins. The other is that the United States prove itself ready to send a full, not merely a token, force to keep the peace. We have urged before that the peace can be kept only by a force which it is manifestly impossible to resist. Such a force the United States alone can supply."

ONE-THIRD OF ROMANIAN JEWS DECLARE YIDDISH AS THEIR MOTHER TONGUE IN NATIONAL CENSUS

BUCHAREST, March 29. (JTA) -- Approximately one-third of Rumania's Jewish population--138,795 Jews--declared that their mother tongue is Yiddish, according to the results of a national census released here today. The census figures for the total number of persons who declared their nationality as Jewish have not yet been released.

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CZECH JEWISH COMMUNAL STRUCTURE TO BE CHANGED; NEW EMPHASIS ON WELFARE, REHABILITATION

BRAGUE, March 29. (JTA) -- The organization of the Jewish communities of Bohemia-Moravia will be overhauled soon to do away with overlapping functions and to place additional emphasis on the social welfare, medical and rehabilitation features of communal service institutions, Dr. Emil Ungar, newly-elected executive chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities of Bohemia-Moravia, today told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Dr. Ungar is also director of the Ministry of Public Health.

The new chairman declared that the Jewish communities will enlist the aid of the OSE Union in developing its program of preventative medicine and social welfare and will call on the ORT's long experience to aid in the rehabilitation of the Jewish population of Czechoslovakia. The Council will also care for all synagogues and will support the religious activities of the Orthodox community. In addition, it will operate the Prague Jewish Museum and will extend Jewish cultural activities in all fields.

As an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, the Council will establish closer contact with Jewish communities throughout the world, Dr. Ungar said. He expressed the hope that Prague would become the center of Congress activity in Eastern Europe. He also hailed the Czech Government's position on Palestine as expressed by Jan Masaryk at Lake Success last year.

RUMANIAN CABINET GETS BILL ON PENSION TO POGROM VICTIMS; MEASURE DEMANDED BY JEWS

BUCHAREST, March 29, (JTA) -- A bill to give disabled survivors of pogroms, and widows and orphaned children of persons murdered during pogroms, the same pension and other rights as dependents of Rumanian soldiers killed during the late war is now in the hands of the cabinet, the last stage before the measure becomes law, it was learned here today.

The legislation has been one of the chief demands of Rumanian Jewry for the three years since the liberation and its enactment has been promised the Jews by a number of leading governmental figures. The law, which extends the benefits to all other victims of "anti-democratic persecutions," has been held up until now because of a shortage of funds.

ORGANIZERS OF JEWISH CLUB IN TURKEY ACQUITTED OF CONDUCTING ZIONIST ACTIVITIES

ISTANBUL, March 29. (JTA) -- A group of young Jews who organized a Jewish cultural club in the city of Izmir were acquitted today of charges of having spread Zionist ideas and helped Jewish youths to emigrate to Palestine, it was reported here.

Zionist activities are not permitted in Turkey, since under Turkish legislation no organization may function within the country if it is affiliated with any movement abroad. Jewish organizations, including the B'nai B'rith, in which many Turkish Jews were at one time members, are not allowed to exist here because of this new restriction.

NEARLY 4,500 DP'S LEFT GERMANY FOR CANADA IN 1947; MAJORITY ARE NON-JEWS

MUNICH, March 29. (JTA) -- Close to 4,500 displaced persons from the British and American zones of Germany left for Canada during 1947, the International Refugee Organization office in Dusseldorf, reported today. The majority of the immigrants were non-Jews. Most of the men accepted for resettlement in Canada were lumber workers while many of the women were domestics.

