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SHERTOK BEGINS DISCUSSION ON TRUSTEESHIP; MEETS WITH JEWS AND ARABS ON JERUSALEM TRUCE

LAKE SUCCESS, April 27. (JTA) -- The U.N. Political Committee today concluded its general debate on the future government of Palestine and began a discussion on the draft of the trusteeship plan proposed by the United States.

At the same time the Trusteeship Council today began its deliberations on plans for safeguarding the city of Jerusalem. After discussing a French plan to establish immediately a police force of 1,000 volunteers in Jerusalem under a United Nations commander, the Council held a closed session with Arab and Jewish representatives for the purpose of sounding out both parties on the projected Jerusalem truce.

British Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones, addressing the Trusteeship Council, spoke of the "difficulties" involved in leaving Jerusalem merely under a police force. He suggested that a "military" force might be required to protect the city's supply lines in view of its generally perilous situation.

Speaking for the Arabs, the Iraqi delegate indicated Arab acceptance of the principle of a truce in Jerusalem on humanitarian considerations but stipulated that such a truce must be divorced "from political maneuvers to entangle this with the partition decision."

## Shertok Rejects U.S. Trusteeship Plan; Terms It "Totally Unreal"

Moshe Shertok, addressing the Political Committee, declared that the U.S. proposal for Palestine trusteeship was tantamount to a reversal of the partition decision of the General Assembly. The American trusteeship plan, he said, is from a Jewish standpoint "totally unreal."

Shertok pointed out that under the trusteeship proposal the Jews were expected to forgo the independence and statehood already accorded them; they would not even have the guarantees in the Mandate designed to promote and protect the Jewish National Home; above all, the right of Jews, as Jews, to immigrate and settle in Palestine was no longer to be valid. He asked whether an attempt to set aside the Assembly's resolution might not be at variance with international law.

While the present Special Assembly was deliberating, Shertok emphasized, the position in Palestine was changing. Systematically or otherwise, partition was being carried out. A Jewish Central authority was already in operation, and a Jewish militia was already in action, fighting battles daily. To impose a trusteeship, he said, was no longer a matter of substituting one resolution for another, but of contending with an established fact.

Declaring that Jewish fears of invasion by armed forces from neighboring Arab countries had materialized, Shertok stressed the fact that since the first Arab wave of invasion by volunteers and small groups had turned out a fiasco, the Arab countries were now considering the use of regular armies, with the Arab Legion of

nsjordan as their spearhead. If the British-supported Arab Legion did move into Palestine, as reported, for conquest, then Britain and Transjordan would be jointly responsible, he said.

Shertok warned that the Jews of Palestine were making every possible preparation to meet this threatened invasion with their own force. The Arab Legion, he said, was not invincible, and the Jews would, if necessary, meet the challenge of that force. "Our strength may be limited but there is nothing that a people conscious of its past and cherishing its future will not do in defense of its life and liberty," he stated.

#### Gromyko Questions Legality of Discussing Trusteeship Plan

In a showdown move on the choice between trusteeship and partition, which allowed Shertok's speech, Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko declared that before the United States or any other delegation had submitted a proposal to revoke partition, which was accepted by a two-thirds majority, no consideration of the U.S. trusteeship proposal was legally or politically possible.

Dr. Julius Katz-Suchy, of Poland, said he did not know what political reasons prevented the U.S. from introducing a resolution to revoke partition, but whatever they were, the U.S. would have to introduce such a resolution before its proposal could be considered.

Neither the State Department nor the Arab states are prepared for an immediate showdown since most delegates agree it would be impossible to muster a two-thirds majority at this time. Charles Malik, of Lebanon, promptly intervened to suggest that the trusteeship proposal be referred at once, as U.S. delegate Philip C. Jessup had suggested, to the Trusteeship Committee for technical study.

The chairman of the committee, Sir Carl Berendse of New Zealand, said delegates were begging the big question--whether to adopt trusteeship or to let partition stand. The American proposal, he said, was the antithesis of partition and furthermore, if adopted, would impose trusteeship without a time limit until a majority of the Arabs and Jews agree on a settlement. He also supported a request by Gunnar Agglof, of Sweden, that the big powers "lay their plans for enforcement on the table."

After a lengthy procedural debate, the Political Committee this afternoon decided by a vote of 38 to seven, with seven abstentions, to begin discussion of the U.S. proposal for a temporary trusteeship for Palestine.

Dr. Jorge Garcia Granados, of Guatemala, introduced a resolution which said that as it was impossible to discuss the question of trusteeship before knowing whether it was desired by the population of Palestine, and whether it can be implemented, the Political Committee should establish a sub-committee which should consult with the representatives of the Mandatory Power, the Jewish Agency, the Arab Higher Committee and with legal and military experts of the U.N. Secretariat, and report its findings back to the Committee. The Guatemalan proposal will come up for discussion when the Committee meets again tomorrow morning.

#### BRITAIN WILL RESIST ARAB INVASION OF PALESTINE BEFORE MAY 15, FOREIGN OFFICE SAYS

LONDON, April 27. (JTA) -- The Foreign Office asserted today that Britain will resist any Arab invasion of Palestine before the termination of the Mandate on May 15. The spokesman denied, however, that the regular forces of Transjordan or any other Arab state have entered Palestine, as was reported yesterday.

At the same time, the spokesman confirmed receipt of a note from King Abdullah by Palestine High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham announcing his intention of intervening in Palestine after May 15.

JEWISH AGENCY PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH ABDULLAH ON QUESTION OF PALESTINE ARABS

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency today indicated that it is prepared to negotiate with King Abdullah of Transjordan on all questions concerning Arabs of Palestine, but will not have any dealings with him on the basis of ultimatums such as he issued yesterday when he called on the Palestine Jews to place themselves under the protection of a Palestine Arab unitary state.

An Agency spokesman stated that the Transjordan parliament has formally decided to dispatch forces to Palestine and has called for a general mobilization throughout the country. This action has been taken in agreement with the other Arab states, he stressed. He pointed out that since the other Arab states are encouraging and supporting Abdullah in his threatened aggression they must bear full responsibility before the United Nations and cannot hide behind the fact that Transjordan is not a member state of the U.N.

Meanwhile, a government spokesman said that all Transjordan troops in Palestine are under British military control and "their conduct is not in question." He added that the government has no information concerning a declaration of war, let alone an actual invasion, and considers such an act most unlikely. However, one report received here says that Transjordan troops have taken up positions on both sides of the Allenby Bridge, which crosses the Jordan northeast of Jerusalem.

An official British Army spokesman in Jerusalem said one company of the Arab Legion "under British army orders" had entered Jericho on specific duties. "When their duties are finished," he said, "they will be withdrawn."

(Several Egyptian Army units have been sent to the Palestine-Egyptian border for "training," it was reported here today. Another report to the effect that the Egyptian force had crossed the frontier was denied in government quarters.)

Haganah-Irgun Pact Goes into Effect; Fighting Continues in Jaffa

Haganah and the Irgun Zvai Leumi have signed an agreement merging the two forces, it was announced in Tel Aviv tonight. The merger becomes effective immediately. Irgun forces meanwhile renewed their assault on Jaffa after a 12-hour lull in the fighting. British reports said that Jaffa Arabs were fleeing the city at the rate of 20 packed vehicles per hour. An Irgun dispatch from the scene of the battle at the center of Jaffa claimed that the Jews had captured "several well fortified strongpoints" and had "penetrated deeply" into the seaport city.

Jewish extremists this morning staged a daring robbery in Tel Aviv, making off with \$1,000,000 from Barclays Bank. Depositors were informed that the bank is closed until further notice."

AIR MAIL SERVICE TO PALESTINE SUSPENDED, POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES

WASHINGTON, April 27. (JTA) -- All air mail service to Palestine was terminated this afternoon, effective immediately, the Post Office Department announced here. The action was taken because Lydda Airport has not been functioning since early yesterday, a spokesman declared.

At the same time, a State Department representative stated that the Department has no information concerning an invasion of Palestine by King Abdullah of Transjordan.

JEWIS FREED AND REPATRIATED TO POLAND FROM SOVIET CAMPS; MANY MORE EXPECTED

WARSAW, April 27. (JTA) -- A group of 700 Polish Jews who were arrested during the war and held in various prison camps in the Soviet Union for several years were repatriated to Poland today. They were brought to the Russo-Polish border near Litovsk, together with 800 non-Jewish Poles, and released by their Russian guards. The entire group immediately crossed the frontier into Poland.

Freed under the terms of a general amnesty for Polish citizens, the repatriates are expected to be the first of a wave of Polish Jews now held in the Soviet Union for various offenses who will return shortly to Poland. There are no available figures on the number of Polish Jews imprisoned in Russia at the present time, but it is held possible that the future Jewish repatriates will increase considerably the Jewish population of this country.

The condition of the repatriates could not be immediately ascertained, but news of their arrival in Poland provoked great interest in the Jewish community here. The amnesty applies to all Polish citizens not charged with espionage, treason or perjury.

RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT TO RETURN TO ALL JEWS APARTMENTS FROM WHICH THEY WERE OUSTED

BUCHAREST, April 27. (JTA)-- Jews ousted from their homes and apartments by pro-Nazi regimes during the war and who have not yet recovered their living space have been given the legal power to do so in a new housing bill just adopted by the cabinet and published here today.

The bill gives applicants 60 days within which to file for dispossession of present tenants. Most Jews who lost their apartments or homes have recovered them under previous legislation, but this bill wipes out special categories of tenants from whom the Jews could not recover their apartments. These included non-Jewish widows, orphans and disabled persons.

A group of 60 Jewish emigrants sailed from Constanza today en route to Palestine. The passengers, all of them Rumanian Jews, hold April immigration certificates.

HUNGARIAN COURT INCREASES SENTENCE OF JUDGE WHO ORDERED EXECUTION OF CHANA SZENES

BUDAPEST, April 27. (JTA) -- The Council of Hungarian Peoples Courts, the appellate tribunal in all war crimes cases, has sentenced Gyula Simon, the judge who condemned Chana Szenes to death during the war, to a seven-year prison term.

The appeals court's decision, which was published here today, is based on its findings that Simon did not give the Jewish heroine, who parachuted into Hungary to organize the escape of Jewish slave laborers from the country, a fair trial and ordered her execution without publicly announcing sentence. A lower court originally sentenced Simon to one year and then suspended sentence under a general amnesty decree.

Simon, who headed the military court trying Szenes for espionage, based his sentence on an order from Feketealmi Czeydner, chief of the Hungarian general staff, for the immediate execution of Szenes. The appeals court ruled that as a judge he should not have obeyed an obviously illegal order. Czeydner was executed in Yugoslavia for ordering a massacre of Yugoslav civilians by Hungarian occupation troops during the war.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM ADVISES MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO 5 RELIEF GROUPS; OMMITS J.D.C.

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism today advised members to contribute to organizations "devoted solely to relief," but the Joint Distribution Committee was omitted from the list of organizations approved by the council.

Referring to a resolution adopted at the recent annual conference of the Council, held in St. Louis, which instructed its officers "to find ways in which contributions may be made solely for humanitarian purposes," the Council informed its members that in the judgment of the executive committee, only five organizations meet the requirements of the St. Louis resolution. They are: The Refugee Assistance Fund; the American Friends Service Committee; American Overseas Aid and the United Jewish Appeal for Children.

The St. Louis resolution called upon all Americans of Jewish faith for generous support of the relief, resettlement and general humanitarian needs of distressed Jews, Christians and others. It instructed the president and the executive committee to negotiate with relief agencies, and in particular, with the Joint Distribution Committee, for the establishment of procedures or a separate fund that will make possible the widest support of those in distress without any moral constraint due to what is described as "the present commingling of funds for humanitarian purposes with those that are expended for political and foreign governmental purposes in the United Jewish Appeal."

Lessing J. Rosenwald, president of the Council, today informed the members that a special committee of the Council conferred with officials of the Joint Distribution Committee but "was unable to effect an arrangement in accord with the spirit of the St. Louis resolution." In explaining the reason, Rosenwald stated that "quite apart from the merits of our contention, the contracts existing between the J.D.C. and the U.P.A. and contracts between the J.D.C. and the various local welfare funds, make it impossible for the J.D.C. to accede to our request."

Rosenwald advised the members that the executive committee decided that the Council itself should become a collector of relief funds "only as a last resort" and embarked upon an investigation to find other organizations that would qualify. The result was that five organizations were listed. Members were advised that contributions should be sent direct to the organizations. At the same time, Rosenwald emphasized that "the American Council for Judaism recognizes that the choice of organizations to which contributions are made is one reserved for each individual." He said that "the Council as an organization takes no position for or against giving to the United Jewish Appeal."

MEIR GROSSMAN, AMERICAN REVISIONIST LEADER, NAMED CHAIRMAN OF PARTY'S WORLD EXECUTIVE

PARIS, April 27. (JTA) -- Meir Grossman, American Revisionist leader, was today named chairman of the World Executive of the Revisionist Party at a meeting of the World Revisionist Party Council, which is meeting here now with delegates from all parts of the world in attendance.

Other members of the executive are: Dr. Arish Altman, Aaron Propes, Jacob Rubin, Joseph Klarman, Eliezer Shostak, Beruch Weinstein, Drs. David Bukspan, Shimon Yonitchman, Stephen Klinger and Herzl Rosenblum. Drs. Emanuel Kohn and Reuben Hecht were named deputy members of the group.

