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# JTA

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### LEBANESE REPRESENTATIVES APPROACH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL FOR SEPARATE PEACE

TEL AVIV, May 27. (JTA)--Lebanese emissaries have approached the Provisional Government of Israel to find out the terms for a separate peace between the two nations, it was learned here today in authoritative quarters.

The chief reason for the move is believed to be the grave concern in Lebanon that further warfare on the northwestern front may lead to the total collapse of the Lebanese Army, which has already retreated before every Israeli thrust.

Reports received here from Beirut point to the possibility of the formation of a Christian state in Lebanon along the lines of the state of Israel, with Lebanon resigning from the Arab League. The latter move is considered highly probable if the Arab League states hold to their refusal to cease-fire and force a continuation of the war which will undoubtedly bring an invasion of Lebanon by the Jewish armed forces. Since the Lebanese invasion the Jews have crossed the border three times.

### JWS INFLECT HEAVY DAMAGE, CAPTURE TWO VILLAGES IN NEW OFFENSIVE AGAINST EGYPTIANS

TEL AVIV, May 27, (JTA)--The Israeli Army today captured two Arab villages south of Rehovoth in what appeared to be the opening of a major offensive against Egyptian positions in the south Palestine coastal region. The villages, near Yibne, are Zarnouka and Kubeiba.

A Haganah communique this morning reported twin blows at Arab concentrations in the south last night. An advance Egyptian position at Beth Hanoun, ten miles northeast of Gaza, aimed at the Negev settlements, was wiped out last night by a force of Jewish commandos. The fleeing Egyptians left 30 dead behind as well as three heavy pieces of artillery and a large quantities of light arms.

A second, and stronger, Israeli force struck at the town of Majdal, 17 miles north of Gaza, which has become a major Egyptian invasion base. The town was penetrated and a number of buildings and ammunition storehouses were blasted before the raiding force withdrew. The Haganah stated that the unit returned safely to base. Jewish planes also struck at troop concentrations in the Gaza area last night.

Tel Aviv was subjected to a two-hour dive bomb attack by Egyptian Spitfires last night. Estimates of damage and casualties resulting from this first major night attack by Arab planes over the Israeli capital were not immediately available.

Egyptian and Transjordan troops have been completely cleared from the Ramath Rachel area and the Bethlehem Road, invasion route to Jerusalem, which the suburb commands. Egyptians have also been blasted out of the Mar Elias Convent further south along the same road. In the last stages of the Ramath Rachel battle, which lasted more than four days, the Jews used a heavy mortar of their own manufacture to blast Arab concrete machine gun and artillery positions.

The same weapons proved effective in silencing Arab Legion batteries in the Sheikh Jarraah quarter. During the past two days artillery and mortar fire

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from Arab positions in the Old City and in Sheikh Jarrach has decreased noticeably. A Swedish school in the Mousrara quarter was set afire by shells.

#### Jewish Planes Bomb Arab Bases In Jerusalem Area; Abdullah Visits Jerusalem

King Abdullah of Transjordan today visited Jerusalem. The fierce one-sided battle between his Legion and some hundreds of Jewish defenders holding down about 200 square yards of territory in the Old City of Jerusalem continued throughout the day with the Arabs again forecasting early surrender by the Israelis. Egyptians, Transjordan and Palestine Arab units launched new attacks also on the new city from the southeast, but gained little ground.

Jewish planes were active in the Jerusalem area last night. They caught an Arab armored column en route from Ramallah to Jerusalem and blasted it. They also bombed troop and supply concentrations in Ramallah and Shaafat, in the same area. During the same period Jewish artillery shelled a supply cavalcade and knocked out five or six armored trucks.

On the road between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv a Jewish settlement, Maale Hamisha, was shelled by Arab heavy guns. A Jewish unit was forced to retreat from a nearby radio station adjoining Kfar Biddu, north of the main road, after a strong early morning attack by Arabs. The station was originally held by the Arabs and captured by the Israeli. Later, other positions at Kfar Biddu were bombed by Israeli planes. Another fierce battle took place at Latrun, on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

In the Jordan Valley Jewish units counterattacked and drove Iraqi troops out of positions in the vicinity of Geshor. At the same time, Arab artillery shelled Samakh and Shaar Hagolan, south of Lake Tiberias. On the northeastern front the Jews raided Haran, a village in Syria. Five persons were killed by planes and Arab artillery based in Syria when the Jewish settlement of Ramath Naphtali was shelled.

The Israel Land Office was reopened here today with a ceremony during which the first transfer of land -- 100 acres -- was made to the Jewish National Fund.

The Revisionist executive has informed the government that it has named three representatives to the Provisional National Government. The three men are Dr. Arish Altman, Baruch Weinstein and Zvi Segal.

#### TRUMAN SAYS U.S. CANNOT LIFT ARMS EMBARGO UNTIL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSENTS

WASHINGTON, May 27. (JTA) -- President Truman said today at his press conference that the Security Council requested the Middle East arms embargo several months ago and implied that until the Council rules that it be lifted the U.S. can take no action to modify the ban.

The President also said that Israel has made no formal application for a loan that he is aware of and that if such an application is received, it will have to go through the regular channels just like any other loan application.

(The President apparently referred to the General Assembly resolution of last November 29, rather than to any request of the Security Council. The Assembly appealed "to all governments and all peoples to refrain from taking any action which might hamper or delay the carrying out of these (partition) recommendations." This paragraph was interpreted by the State Department as a U.N. request to refrain from sending military supplies to either side.)

BRITAIN PROPOSES NEW TRUCE PLAN; WILL ARM ARABS UNLESS U.N. ORDERS WORLD EMBARGO

LAKE SUCCESS, May 27. (JTA) -- Britain today informed the Security Council that unless the United Nations clamps a world-wide embargo on arms shipments to both Jews and Arabs, it will continue to send military supplies to Egypt, Iraq and Trans-Jordan, "in completion of its existing contracts."

Sir Alexander Cadogan made the long-awaited declaration and introduced a new resolution which would call upon both sides to accept a four-week cease-fire during which immigration of "able-bodied men of military age" and all war materials shall be barred from Palestine.

The U.N. mediator, a truce commission, and a staff of military observers would supervise the observance of these provisions and, after consulting both sides, the mediator would be asked to recommend an eventual settlement to the Security Council. Under the British plan the mediator would report to the Council once a week.

The statement attempted to white-wash the British role in Palestine and the role of Abdullah's Arab Legion. It was the Stern group, Cadogan said, which had broken the truce in the Old City of Jerusalem negotiated by the British High Commissioner before he left Palestine. Cadogan declared that 21 British officers serving with the Arab Legion would be recalled but that the remaining 16, including Legion Commander Abd al-Razik, "have now terminated all connection with British service."

Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko introduced a draft resolution, which said that, according to the account that the cease-fire resolution of May 22 had not been complied with, and that military operations had been intensified and casualties were on the increase, the Council determines the existence in Palestine of a threat to peace and security within the meaning of the U.N.C charter and "orders" the governments involved in the Palestine struggle to cease military operations there within 36 hours after the adoption of this resolution.

Sen. Warren R. Austin declared that the U.S. position had not changed. He added that in view of the failure of the U.S. resolution to halt the struggle in Palestine, it was the Council's responsibility to take more effective measures. This time, however, the United States was not prepared to take the initiative. "Perhaps it would be more successful if some other member outlined the course we should take," he said.

He added it was futile for the Arabs to talk of justice when men were killing one another and while churches, mosques and synagogues in Jerusalem were being desecrated. He warned against toleration of the present fighting.

Late tonight the Israel delegation issued a statement rejecting the British proposal and stating that this new move indicates clearly that Britain is in alliance with the Arabs and is attempting to give them four weeks additional time to intensify their aggressive plans.

SENATE AMENDS DP IMMIGRATION BILL; WANTS 200,000 ADMITTED WITHIN TWO YEARS

WASHINGTON, May 27. (JTA) -- The Senate today voted 40 to 33 to adopt an amendment to the proposed Wiley immigration bill which would provide for the admission of 200,000 DP's to the United States within the next two years rather than the original 100,000 figure in the measure.

Toward the end of the day Republican Majority Leader Kenneth Wherry appealed to the legislators for a night session in which to complete consideration of more than 15 amendments still outstanding. The Senators, however, refused to hold a late session and the bill will not be discussed again before next Tuesday.

BRITISH CABINET MEETS ON ARAB DEFIANCE OF U.N. CEASE-FIRE ORDER; BEVIN SEES U.S. ENVOY

LONDON, May 27. (JTA)--The new Palestine situation created by last night's Arab rejection of the U.N. Security Council's cease-fire order was discussed here at a special meeting of the British Cabinet today.

Well-informed quarters here believe that Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin made no new proposals for ending the fighting when he gave the Cabinet a review of the problem. It was reported that the principal aspect discussed by the Cabinet was the possible withdrawal of British officers serving with the Transjordan Arab Legion.

Immediately before the meeting Bevin conferred with Lewis Douglas, U.S. Ambassador to Britain, for the fourth time in six days. He also spoke with Douglas at the end of the session. Although a Foreign Office spokesman today declined to confirm or deny a press report that the U.S. has asked Britain to withdraw the officers with Abdullah's Army, observers believe that Douglas made this suggestion.

It is known that the matter has been under review at the Foreign Office for the past week. It is believed that the Britons will be withdrawn from the Arab Legion, but an official announcement to this effect is not expected immediately. Any new definition of British policy in the light of the Arab replies would, a Foreign Office spokesman disclosed, probably be made known at today's Security Council session. The spokesman revealed that the British government's first reaction to the latest Arab notes was that they left the door open for further negotiations. Douglas and Bevin were reported to have discussed this point too.

Asked by Anthony Eden, Conservative leader, in the House of Commons today whether he had any statement to make on Palestine, Bevin answered negatively. He added that he might have a complete statement tomorrow or Monday.

Later today, Bevin was in audience with King George at Buckingham Palace. There was considerable speculation here that Bevin's visit presaged his resignation. The King earlier heard a first-hand account of the Palestine situation from Sir Alan Cunningham, former High Commissioner for Palestine, who formally relinquished his appointment during his interview with the King. Meanwhile, the Jewish Agency here issued a statement comparing Bevin's denial that Britons were directing the Arab Legion operations in Jerusalem with a London Times report today that a British major directed the bombardment of the Notre Dame Hospice.

BIDAULT CONFIRMS BEVIN ASKED FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO DELAY RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

PARIS, May 27. (JTA)--At a Cabinet meeting today Foreign Minister Georges Bidault confirmed a report that British Foreign Secretary Bevin has asked the French Government to delay recognition of Israel because Britain wishes the Anglo-American negotiations, now being held in London, to conclude before France defines its attitude. It was reported here.

Three members of the National Assembly--Moro Giafferi, Rassemblement de Gauche, a left of De Gaulle party; Andre Philip, Socialist, and Florimond Bonte, Communist,--called on Bidault this morning to request immediate French recognition of Israel. Dr. Julian Weil, Chief Rabbi of France, telegraphed to the Papal Nuncio and Pastor Marc Boegner, the highest Protestant authority in France, asking that they do their utmost to bring about the cessation of fighting in Jerusalem.

Nahum Goldmann, diplomatic representative of Israel, conferred for one hour this morning with Count Folke Bernadotte, U.N. mediator in the Palestine conflict, and reported on the latest developments in the Jewish-Arab conflict as well as the situation of recent immigrants to Palestine.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ASKS STATE DEPARTMENT TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES AGAINST BRITAIN

WASHINGTON, May 27. (JTA) -- The House Appropriations Committee has asked the State Department for a full-dress investigation of charges that Britain is diverting American funds for Arab armies invading Palestine.

This brings to three the number of Federal agencies checking claims that Marshall Plan dollars are finding their way to the Transjordan Arab Legion. Paul Hoffman, European Recovery Program Administrator, earlier promised the Senate Appropriations Committee he would make a survey of the situation, and W. Averell Harriman, roving E.R.P. ambassador, made a similar pledge yesterday.

Announcement that the House finance group asked the State Department for similar action was made by Rep. Karl Stefan of Nebraska. The House committee has been conducting closed meetings on the \$5,300,000,000 for E.R.P. A simultaneous development was the disclosure by Rep. Adolph Sabath, dean of the House of Representatives, that he is associating himself with other Congressmen who demand that no monies reach Britain until charges British aid to invading Arabs have been checked.

Israeli Minister in Washington Warns Against Prolonged Palestine War

Eliahu Epstein, Israeli Minister to the United States, told a dinner sponsored by the Jewish War Veterans here that "if the fighting in Palestine is allowed to continue for a long period, the consequences may indeed be grave. Israel will survive," he declared, "but a great blow will be struck against the peace-enforcing machinery of the United Nations."

Asserting that "we do not believe that the world will stand idly by and approve these brutal acts of aggression," Epstein said: "Israel will stand. This 2,000-year-old dream, now a brilliant reality, will not be effaced by mere force of arms. We will triumph in our attempts to establish a peace-loving, progressive, democratic state." He emphasized Jewish achievements in Palestine.

U.S. SENDS SECOND PROTEST TO LEBANON ON DETENTION OF AMERICANS EN ROUTE TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, May 27. (JTA) -- The United States Government today sent a second protest to the Lebanese Government over the detention near Beirut of 41 American citizens from the American ship The Marine Carp. The American Jews were among 69 men en route to Israel who were forcibly removed from the vessel.

In making the announcement, State Department spokesman Michael J. McDermott said the Department had not yet received any word from American Minister to Lebanon Lowell C. Pinkerton on the results of a poll he was taking of the 41 Americans in conjunction with a Lebanese offer to release all those who would return directly to the United States.

The Department has not yet received replies to protests made over the weekend to the Governments of Egypt and Syria stating that the U.S. refuses to recognize the declaration of a blockade of Palestinian coastal waters imposed by the two governments.

McDermott said the Department had no comment whatsoever on the talks now going on in London between American Ambassador Lewis Douglas and British Government officials on the subject of Palestine.

A punitive American tax of 100 percent on all British imports to the United States was demanded today by Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York who introduced a bill in the House to inflict this duty "until Britain ceases aid directly or indirectly to Arab armies now guilty of incursion to Palestine."

PROBLEM OF DP'S CAN BE SOLVED WITHIN YEAR WITH ADDITIONAL \$50,000,000, STUDY SHOWS

NEW YORK, May 27. (JTA) --Asserting that the Jewish displaced persons problem in Germany "can be licked in less than a year," Herold Glasser, director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds' Institute on Overseas Studies today called upon Congress to provide an additional \$50,000,000 to the International Refugee Organization to finance the mass resettlement of 100,000 Jewish DP's to Israel.

Glasser, who just returned from a seven-week study of European DP camps, declared at a press conference that such action would result in the speedy closing of Jewish DP camps. While in Europe he visited camps in Germany, Austria and Italy. He also spoke with numerous DP's, representatives of Jewish communities in western Europe, top leaders of the American military occupation, and representatives of international and private relief agencies.

Glasser declared that the I.R.O. must carry out its assigned responsibilities for the Jewish DP's. He said that the present appropriation of \$71,000,000 would "not solve the problem" but would merely keep the DP's alive. "With an additional \$50,000,000," he added, "the Jewish DP problem can be solved once and for all."

Glasser declared that the recent statement issued by the I.R.O. that it must await U.N. approval before sponsoring immigration to Israel, is "questionable from a legal point of view." The fact that Israel has been recognized by the United States, the chief financial support of the I.R.O., and a growing list of countries, should convince the I.R.O. of the responsibility of the new state and of the necessity for immediate direct negotiations to resettle DP's, he said.

"The I.R.O. and the Government of Israel should get together immediately to agree on a program which will move the Jewish DP's out of Germany in an orderly and humane manner and as fast as the operation can proceed," he asserted. Discussing other emigration possibilities for Jewish DP's, Glasser said that the bulk of the group, about 100,000 of the DP's in camps, will want to go to Israel immediately. A minority would prefer to settle temporarily or permanently in western Europe, he added. Some 25,000 would be eligible to enter the United States in the next 12 months if Congress passes current proposals to admit 200,000 DP's, he pointed out.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER HAILS PREMIER SMUTS DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, May 27. (JTA)--Max J. Spitz, chairman of the South African Jewish Appeal, which in partnership with Joint Distribution Committee, conducts aid operations on behalf of distressed Jews in Europe and elsewhere, at a press conference here today hailed Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts' de facto recognition of Israel as "an important element in the establishment of peace in that troubled area."

South African recognition of the new Jewish state, the first extended by a British Commonwealth nation, Spitz declared is "completely consistent" with the views of Prime Minister Smuts who has been "a staunch supporter of the Zionist ideal for many years." The 100,000 Jews of South Africa, in common with the American Jewish community, are "absolutely confident in the ultimate victory of the people of Israel, and will do their utmost to contribute to it," he said.

Reporting on the Jewish Appeal campaign in his country, Spitz announced that, in addition to contributions of money, South African Jewry continues to forward substantial amounts of clothing and food to needy Jews overseas. The primary purpose of his visit to America, he explained, is "the mapping out of the ways and means by which South African Jews, together with the great American Jewish community and the Jews of other free communities, can help bring about most effectively the speedy rehabilitation of the continent's Jewish survivors." He lauded the coordinated operations between his organization and JDC.

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