

Thursday, June 3, 1948

JTA Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

SENATE ACTS ON DP IMMIGRATION BILL; CURBS NUMBER OF VISAS AVAILABLE TO JEWS

WASHINGTON, June 2. (JTA) -- The Senate today adopted an amendment to the Wiley-Revercomb immigration bill which would make fewer visas available for displaced Jews. It also voted down a number of amendments which would have liberalized the proposed legislation to admit 200,000 DP's within a two-year period.

The last development came late this afternoon when, by a voice vote, the legislators accepted an amendment by Sen. C. Wayland Brooks of Illinois to give priority in admissions to persons who bore arms for the Allied cause in the last war and who refuse to return to their native countries. Since most of the displaced Jews were either in concentration camps or in areas from which they could not escape to fight with the Allies very few of them will be eligible under this amendment.

Brooks admitted that his amendment is aimed at clearing a way into this country for Poles and Czechs who refuse to return to their homelands. Illinois has a large Polish population. Passage of the amendment followed an appeal by Majority Leader Kenneth Wherry to the Senators to give the proposal "the utmost consideration" and to approve it.

Earlier, Chapman Revercomb of West Virginia led a successful fight against an amendment to set April 21, 1947 as the deadline for residence in a DP camp in order to be eligible for admission. As the bill now stands DP's who arrived in camps after December 22, 1945 are ineligible. Revercomb threatened that passage of the amendment would "destroy" the entire bill.

The second amendment killed was one which would have given an American Displaced Persons Commission, contemplated by the bill, power to select, transport and resettle displaced orphaned children. Also turned down was an amendment by Sen. Irving Ives of New York which would have permitted the admission outside the 200,000 figure of DP orphans under 14 adopted by American citizens.

(As the Bulletin went to press the Senate had more than 15 amendments to consider. It was expected that the Senate would remain in session until late tonight to vote on the amendments and the bill.)

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ISRAELI ARMY REPORTS ARAB VIOLATIONS OF U.N. CEASE-FIRE IN ALL PARTS OF PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, June 2. (JTA) -- Despite acceptance of the U.N. Security Council's cease-fire by both Jews and Arabs, and notwithstanding the fact that the truce was scheduled to go into effect by 3 A.M. this morning, a special Israeli communique today listed a number of Arab violations on all fronts. The Jewish Defense Army also reported that the Arab Legion shelled Jewish areas of the new city of Jerusalem all through the night and far into the day.

Among the Arab violations of the U.N. order were an artillery attack on the settlement of Dan from Banias, across the border in Syria; also, two Egyptian attacks, as well as a new counterattack by Iraqi forces east of Jenin, toward which the Israelis were driving when the cease-fire order halted them. In Jewish military headquarters the problem of coping with the Arab violations was receiving top priority, with consideration being given to reopening Israeli offensives against the Jenin-Tulkarm-Nablus triangle, Ramallah, and the Egyptian forces south of Tel Aviv, behind whose lines Jewish guerrillas have recently become more active.

The Egyptian blows this morning fell at Negba, in southern Palestine, where infantry supported by tanks and artillery opened an attack. At Hulda, on the Latrun front, Egyptian planes dropped bombs on Jewish positions. At the same time Arab sources reported that an Israeli task force had crossed the Transjordan frontier and attacked a rural police station at Chores Safi, eight miles behind the frontier at the southern end of the Dead Sea. Eight of the garrison were reported killed in the sortie, the Arab report said.

The Jewish Defense Army's headquarters announced that last night, prior to issuing the cease-fire order, its planes bombed enemy concentrations in the Tulkarm and Jenin areas and that its land forces were less than three miles from the latter city. Jewish planes also raided Arab barges at the southern end of Lake Tiberias, while Jewish artillery shelled Banias yesterday. Arab planes bombarded Petach Tikvah and several Jewish villages in the Negev yesterday. In the latter action one plane was shot down in Jewish territory and one made a forced landing behind the Arab lines, near Gaza. Jewish offensive operations on this front resulted in the capture of two Arab villages yesterday.

A Jewish military spokesman, presenting a picture of the situation on the Jerusalem supply highway, stated that from Jerusalem to Bab el Wad the road was and is in Jewish hands and that Latrun has become a no-man's land. The Arabs have been driven out of the Latrun monastery and police station and control the villages of Deir Youb and Yalu, to the north of Latrun, while the Israelis hold Beith Jis and Beith Suhin, to the south.

In Jerusalem the Hadassah Hospital and Hebrew University buildings on Mt. Scopus have been hit again by Arab shells, while Rabbi Iser Zalman Meltzer, 87-year-old world-renowned Torah authority was seriously injured in yesterday's shelling in the city.

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U.N. SATISFIED WITH TRUCE REPLIES; AUTHORIZES ITS MEDIATOR TO SET CEASE-FIRE DEADLINE

LAKE SUCCESS, June 2. (JTA) -- The United Nations Security Council today authorized Count Folke Bernadotte, the Assembly-appointed mediator in Palestine, to set a deadline after which all fighting in Palestine will cease for four weeks.

Acting on a suggestion made by Bernadotte, himself, in a cablegram received here today, the Council agreed without voting to let him settle that contentious point after consultations with Arab and Jewish authorities on the spot.

Russia and the Ukraine announced that they could not associate themselves with this decision. A spokesman for the Provisional Government of Israel commented: "Once again we have been placed in the position by the Security Council where we must go on shooting."

A wrangle over the various reservations and assumptions made by the Arab League states and the Israeli Government in their replies to the sixth consecutive U.N. cease-fire appeal was cut short by Faris el Khoury of Syria, Council president for June, who ruled that both replies represent unconditional acceptance of the Council's bid for peace. "These comments are not conditions," el Khoury said. "They are put forth by both parties as safeguards for implementation."

Aubrey Eban of Israel, after pointing out that his government had issued a cease-fire order three times in one week, sacrificing the military initiative on the mistaken assumption that Arab armies would also comply, warned the Council that this time no such order would be issued until the Arabs announce their readiness to abide by the Council's request. He also demanded that the new cease-fire should become effective in daylight. He pointed out that the Israelis ceased firing last night when Jewish forces were pressing their offensive on every sector of the front, at a risk to Jewish lives and to military advantage only to find out that the Arabs had no intention of stopping.

Cease-Fire Arrangement May Not Come Into Effect for "Some Days"

Count Bernadotte's message, asking the Council to let him set the new deadline, in order to allow a delay of "some days" for the establishment of a control system to check compliance by both sides, revealed "too great an interest in technical perfection," Eban added, in view of the fact that both sides had agreed to a cease-fire.

The Israeli representative emphasized that the arms embargo imposed by the Council's resolution last Saturday must apply to British military stockpiles in Arab countries. This view was accepted by Sir Alexander Cadogan of Britain who told the Council: "I am authorized to say that my government puts exactly the same interpretation on this matter as does the Jewish Agency."

Cadogan added that the two parties were far apart in their understanding of some essential points of the resolution, but he agreed with el Khouri that their acceptance was unconditional and that the cease-fire should go into effect as soon as possible. The British delegate suggested that the existing differences, of which immigration was the most important, should be conciliated by Count Bernadotte in Palestine, rather than by the Security Council at Lake Success. He proposed that the U.N. mediator should decide how to define the terms "fighting personnel," and prepare control regulations for checking compliance with the Council provision.

Eban's statement that Israel would not compromise on its independence and that it must be considered a sovereign state, equal to any of the Arab countries, drew an immediate response from Jamal el Husseini of the Arab Higher Committee. "It

is my duty to say that the Arabs cannot enter into political discussions on the basis of a Jewish state in Palestine," he declared.

Although Dr. Alfonso Lopez of Columbia and Warren R. Austin of the U.S. felt that the cease-fire should not be delayed for more than three days, they supported the decision authorizing Bernadotte to set the "effective date" for cessation of hostilities.

Charles Malik of Lebanon informed the Council that all the Arab governments had banned any communication between their Jewish nationals and "the Zionists on May 15." So long as Jews living in Arab countries avoid communications with Palestine, he said, they will be "physically safe."

ISRAEL GOVT. ISSUES STATEMENT AMPLIFYING AND EXPLAINING ACCEPTANCE OF U.N. CEASE-FIRE

TEL AVIV, June 2. (JTA) -- Moshe Shertok, Israeli Foreign Minister, today issued a statement further amplifying the Israel Government's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council's four-week cease-fire, and warning that if the Arabs violate the resolution as interpreted by the Jews, the Israelis will be free to follow any course of action they decide.

The statement also pointed out that the Israelis are aware that the arms embargo provision of the U.N. order works to the benefit of the Arabs, but that the Jews accepted it as part of an overall agreement. The statement emphasized that if new Arab forces enter Palestine in contravention of the truce arrangement, Israel will know it, as it has learned of similar movements in the past, and assumes that U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte will also be informed.

Shertok also announced that the Stern Group has officially entered the Israel Defense Army and that the Irgun Zvai Leumi has indicated its readiness to do the same. The announcement follows by less than a week formal establishment of the Defense Army and the banning of independent armed organizations.

Last night, Shertok announced that Nahum Goldmann, diplomatic representative of Israel, has been sent to London to protest to the British Government against British assistance to the Arab states in their war on Israel. He added that Goldmann has been instructed to present fullest evidence of such activities to the British Government.

U.N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ADOPTS DECLARATION ON RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS EQUALITY

LAKE SUCCESS, June 2. (JTA) -- The U.N. Human Rights Commission today adopted by a vote of nine to five, with two abstentions, the section of the draft Declaration of Human Rights which reads:

"1. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as race, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, property or other status, or national or social origin.

"2. All are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law without any discrimination, and against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration or incitement to such discrimination."

JASSY TRIAL TO OPEN BEFORE RUMANIAN COURT OF APPEALS THIS MONTH; GENERAL HEADS DEFENDANTS

BUCHAREST, June 2. (JTA) -- The trial of more than 50 persons implicated in the Jassy massacre of 1941 in which some 14,000 Jews lost their lives will open before the Rumanian Court of Appeals here on June 14, it was officially announced here today. Among the more than 50 defendants who will stand trial are one general and five colonels of the Rumanian army.

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HUNGARY RECOGNIZES ISRAEL; BULGARIA WILLING TO RECOGNIZE THE JEWISH STATE

BUDAPEST, June 2. (JTA) -- The Government of Hungary today announced its recognition of Israel. The announcement was broadcast by the Budapest radio.

The Bulgarian Government is willing to recognize Israel if the Jewish state will formally ask for such recognition, it was reported here today from Sofia. A statement to this effect was made by the Bulgarian Foreign Minister to Shmuel Lev Hacohen, representative of the Jewish Agency.

(From Amsterdam it was reported today that the Dutch Parliament voted unanimously in favor of a motion welcoming the creation of Israel. However, the government announced that recognition must be withheld because of objections to Israel in Dutch territorial possessions abroad.)

JWS, NON-JWS CHEER PRESIDENT WEIZMANN IN PARIS; FRENCH CABINET DISCUSSES PALESTINE

PARIS, June 2. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jews and non-Jews today welcomed President Chaim Weizmann at the St. Lazare station here when he arrived from Cherbourg. Zionist youths carrying Israeli flags sang the Hatikvah and Chief Rabbi Isaiah Schwartz led the delegation which greeted him. Dr. Weizmann intends to remain in France for two weeks.

The Palestine situation was discussed at this morning's Cabinet meeting. Foreign Minister Georges Bidault said the French Government is satisfied with the Jews' and Arabs' acceptance of the U.N. truce order, emphasizing that the French delegation at Lake Success has always worked towards a mutually agreeable solution to the Palestine problem. The National Assembly's foreign affairs committee decided to place the Palestine issue on the agenda of its next meeting.

SHIP CARRYING AMMUNITION FOR LEBANON SAILS FROM FRANCE; DOCKMEN IGNORE UNION'S ORDER

PARIS, June 2. (JTA) -- The Italian freighter San Carlo sailed from Marseilles late last evening for Beirut carrying a large supply of ammunition and military equipment for Lebanon. Notwithstanding orders to the contrary from their left-wing union leaders, the French longshoremen were persuaded to disregard the union's orders by Arab dock workers and, after earlier having refused to load the vessel, decided to go ahead with the scheduled loading.

Working feverishly to beat the U.N. Security Council's cease-fire deadline, the longshoremen hauled aboard a cargo of 1,200 cases of gunpowder, 300 cases of cartridges, 47 cases of field gun ammunition, 158 cases of hand grenades, 140 cases of bombs and 84 cases of detonators. The entire consignment is addressed to the Minister of National Defense of the Lebanese Government.

SEVEN NAZI DOCTORS HANGED FOR KILLING HUMAN BEINGS IN MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

MUNICH, June 2. (JTA) -- Seven Nazi doctors and Gestapo officers were executed in the Landsberg Prison today for crimes against humanity. The doctors included Karl Brandt, Hitler's personal physician.

All seven were convicted by an American military tribunal last August of having been responsible for or participated in the use of human beings as guinea pigs in medical and surgical experiments which killed and maimed hundreds and perhaps thousands. Many of the victims were Jews who died in high altitude, malaria, gas and sterilization tests.

BEVIN HOPES CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCES OF U.N. CEASE-FIRE WILL NOT STYMIE PEACE TALKS

LONDON, June 2. (JTA) -- Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, commenting in the House of Commons today on the acceptance by both the Israelis and Arabs of the U.N. cease-fire, said he hoped there were no detailed conditions which would prevent the cease-fire from operating.

"I am glad the reports indicate that both parties have accepted the four-weeks cease-fire and have agreed that discussions should proceed with the mediator," he declared. "There are indications that there are qualifications in the acceptance, but I am not yet in possession of the full qualifications of both sides. In any case I am sure I voice the feelings of the House when I say we hope there are no detailed conditions which will prevent the cease-fire operating and discussions proceeding."

Britain, he stated, will give the utmost assistance to the U.N. mediator in his arduous and difficult role. "I am convinced," he added, "that a large majority of Arabs and Jews would welcome the prospect of a just and lasting peace. If the two peoples can live together, this will play a great part in the sorely-needed economic development and progress of the Middle East."

Bevin asserted that Britain's subsidy to Transjordan will be continued. He explained that Transjordan had not invaded any territory allotted to the Jewish state and said Transjordan was invited by "fellow Arabs" in the non-Jewish area of Palestine to enter the territory set aside by the U.N. for an Arab state.

Furthermore, Gen. John Glubb Pasha, Arab Legion commander, severed his connection with the British Colonial Service on May 15 and remained in the employ of the Transjordan Government, Bevin declared. His position is different from that of the other Britons who fought with the Legion until last week and were "seconded" to return to Transjordan where they are now serving as instructors, he stated.

Arab States Have Confidence in Bevin, Feisal Says in London

LONDON, June 2. (JTA) -- Complete confidence of the Arab states in Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin was voiced here by Prince Emir Feisal, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, speaking at a press conference today, following a meeting he had this morning with Bevin. Feisal, who is en route home from Lake Success, where he heads the Semi Arabian delegation, emphasized that no Arab would accept the existence of the state of Israel.

"Mutual understanding is the main thing," he said. "It is more important than signed treaties, because we witnessed so many treaties signed and violated." Feisal added that Bevin is fully aware of the Arab Governments' attitude in the Palestine issue and he had "nothing further" to inform the Foreign Secretary. He declined, however, to divulge the exact nature of his present visit to London.

Asked if he intends to purchase arms and military equipment in Britain, Feisal replied that purchases of military equipment from Britain have been taking place for a considerable time. He added that British officers are at present training the Semi Arabian Army, and said that some of these British-trained units are participating in Arab military operations in Palestine.

Meanwhile, members of the Jewish Agency executive here held an urgent meeting today. Although the subjects touched upon were not divulged, it is understood here that Agency officials are in touch with the British Government. Some circles predict the talks might result in important political developments.

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DROPSIE COLLEGE ESTABLISHES INSTITUTE TO TRAIN CONSULAR PERSONNEL FOR ISRAEL, MIDDLE EAST

PHILADELPHIA, June 2. (JTA) -- Establishment of the Institute for Israel, Palestine and the Middle East as a new division of Dropsie College was announced here today by Dr. Abraham A. Neuman, president of the College, at the institution's fortieth annual Founder's Day observance.

Designed to "prepare scholars and historians in Middle East studies with emphasis on the contemporary scene, the Institute will also train personnel for consular, administrative or other government or commercial service in the countries of the Middle East," Dr. Neuman said. He announced that the faculty will be augmented by specialists in Middle East affairs, among them Edwin Samuel, the principal and founder of the Middle East College of Public Administration in Jerusalem.

"It is our hope," continued Dr. Neuman, "that the new Institute for Israel, Palestine and the Middle East will make a valuable contribution to the cultural, economic and administrative development of the entire Middle East, as well as the new state of Israel, and that it will be a force for the creation of better understanding and greater cooperation among Christians, Arabs and Jews who make their homes in the Holy Land and the surrounding countries."

Samuel will arrive in the United States in the fall of 1948, and classes at the new Institute will be inaugurated in October. The Institute will offer the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Middle East Studies and will specialize in such courses as the political, social and economic aspects of contemporary life in the Middle East countries. Courses will also be given in Hebrew and Arabic, both ancient and modern, the anthropology, ethnology, geography and history of the Middle East countries and the problems of civil and political administration.

The only college in the U.S. offering graduate courses leading only to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Dropsie College today conferred four degrees in course and two degrees honoris causa. The honorary degrees were conferred upon Justice Horace Stern of Philadelphia, and Prof. Alexander Marx of New York, professor of history and librarian at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FORRESTAL ENDORSES UNITED JEWISH APPEAL; PRAISES ITS OBJECTIVES

NEW YORK, June 2. (JTA) -- Praising the objectives of the United Jewish Appeal, Secretary of Defense James Forrestal today endorsed the nation-wide \$250,000,000 campaign of the U.J.A. in a statement addressed to Henry Morgenthau Jr., general chairman. The statement reads:

"Americans have never failed to respond to appeals for the alleviation of distress. Whether it is a flood in China, an earthquake in Japan, or a famine in Russia, the generosity which lies deep in the American consciousness has always made itself manifest. The United Jewish Appeal is a typical American response to the distress of less fortunate people and I wish you the utmost success in this effort on behalf of uprooted and dispossessed people of the Jewish faith."

"You have set yourself a goal of almost unprecedented size, but it is a goal commensurate with the scale and depth of the problem itself: To help the survivors of one of the tragedies of human history--to help them to some degree to mend the broken patterns of their lives. Most important of all, perhaps, is the opportunity it will give them to shape new lives which shall have as their foundations the hope, the security of faith and of opportunity, that are the natural birthright of all men."

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27 CONGRESSMEN FAVOR CURTAILMENT OF U.S. FUNDS TO BRITAIN; FEAR DIVERSION TO ARAB STATES

WASHINGTON, June 2. (JTA) -- Twenty-seven Congressmen today announced themselves in favor of curtailing American funds to Britain which the latter may use to injure Israel. The legislators supported a resolution by Rep. Adolph Sabath of Illinois calling on Congress to take action to prevent the diversion of European Recovery Program funds by Britain to the Arab states now warring on Israel.

A State Department spokesman today told newsmen that the detention of 41 American citizens by Lebanon after their seizure aboard an American vessel in Beirut harbor was still under discussion between the two governments and no decision had been reached yet whether to take the matter to the International Court of Justice. Labeling the Lebanese action "illegal," the spokesman said that the agreement of the 41 Americans, all Jews, to return to the U.S. rather than remain interned in Lebanon did not alter the legal aspect of the problem.

U.S. PREPARED TO START POSTAL SERVICE FOR ISRAEL; AWAITS NOTICE FROM TEL AVIV

WASHINGTON, June 2. (JTA) -- The U.S. Post Office today informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that it is ready to resume postal relations with Israel "immediately, as soon as we are informed that a postal system is functioning there."

A Department spokesman said service could be resumed "within 48 hours" after the receipt of such notice. The service was suspended when the British left Palestine three weeks ago. Just before suspension, Americans were sending large quantities of relief packages to friends and relatives in Palestine.

B'NAI B'RITH PRESIDENT CRITICIZES UNITED NATIONS; URGES U.S. TO GRANT LOAN TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, June 2. (JTA) -- Frank Goldman, national president of B'nai B'rith, told 500 delegates at the closing session of the 72nd annual convention of District Five that the U.N. Security Council has "thus far failed Israel." He urged President Truman to make a "reasonable" loan to Israel to "strengthen the magnificent and statesman-like step" he took in granting it recognition.

Dr. Maurice A. Goldberg, of Washington, was elected president of the men's group of the District and Mrs. Nat Levy, also of Washington, was chosen president of the women's group. Both groups adopted resolutions thanking President Truman for his prompt recognition of Israel while the women's group also resolved to set aside special funds to open an emergency eye clinic in Tel Aviv for Haganah soldiers.

ZIONIST YOUTH AND LABORERS PICKET BRITISH EMPIRE BUILDING IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, June 2. (JTA) -- Several hundred members of youth and Labor Zionist organizations in the metropolitan area today picketed the British Empire building for the second time in two weeks in protest against Britain's aid to the Arab states. Placards denouncing British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin and the U.S. arms embargo to Palestine were carried by many of the demonstrators.

PARENTS OF LATE GEORGE BUEHLING PERMIT REMOVAL OF FLIER'S BODY TO ISRAEL FOR BURIAL

MONTREAL, June 2. (JTA) -- The parents of George Buehling, famed Canadian war ace who was killed in a plane crash near Rome while on route to Israel to fight for the Israeli air force, today granted the Israeli Government permission to transport the body of their son to the Jewish state for burial. A message from Haganah headquarters in New York asking the parents' permission said of the late flier: "He died in the line of duty, reflecting honor and courage on the family name and leaving with his comrades the inspiration to carry on."