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LAST MINUTE NEWS

U.N. NOTIFIED OF ISRAELI AND ARAB ACCEPTANCE OF TRUCE; CEASE-FIRE BEGINS FRIDAY

LAKE SUCCESS, June 9. (JTA) -- Count Folke Bernadotte, the United Nations mediator for Palestine, today confirmed the unconditional acceptance by Israel and the Arab League countries of his nine-point truce plan. In a cable to Secretary-General Trygve Lie, Bernadotte reported that the cease-fire will go into effect at two A.M. Friday, New York time.

"I take this opportunity," the mediator said in a message to the governments of Israel and the Arab states, "to express my deepest gratitude for the splendid co-operation which has been given to me in this difficult task and my warm appreciation of the high motives which have led your government to accept the proposals of truce."

It was considered notable in U.N. circles today that the Arab Higher Committee which, in the past, had been consulted as an "interested authority" in much the same position as the Jewish Agency, before the Jewish state was proclaimed, was not consulted by the mediator.

Mediator's Headquarters to Be in Rhodes; U.S. Ships May Patrol Palestine

Secretary-General Trygve Lie, speaking at a press conference this afternoon, declared that Count Bernadotte will turn his attention immediately to the broader problem of securing Arab-Jewish agreement on a peaceful adjustment of the Palestine situation. His headquarters will be set up on the Dodecanese Island of Rhodes, a former Italian colony now administered by Greece.

Considerable importance was attached to Lie's disclosure that Harold Evans, the U.N.-appointed Municipal Commissioner for Jerusalem, will leave Cairo for the Holy City on Friday to take up his duties there. The Philadelphia Quaker has been in the Egyptian capital for three weeks now.

The first task before the mediation staff, Lie said, would be to supervise the observance of the four-week truce. He revealed that Count Bernadotte is negotiating with the governments of Belgium, France and the United States to secure the use of six coastal vessels for controlling the waters of the Eastern Mediterranean. Three of the ships would be American, two French and one Belgian.

DR. JOSEPH LOTH LIEBMAN, AUTHOR OF "PEACE OF MIND," DIES OF HEART ATTACK

BOSTON, June 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph Loth Liebman, one of America's outstanding rabbis whose book, "Peace of Mind," has been a best-seller for more than two years, died here late this afternoon at his home of a heart attack at the age of 61. He had been ill since Sunday. He served as spiritual leader of Temple Israel for the past nine years.

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ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS TRUCE DECISION; OFFERS "OBSERVATIONS" TO U.N. MEDIATOR

TEL AVIV, June 9. (JTA) -- The Provisional Government of Israel today informed United Nations mediator Count Folke Bernadotte that it has accepted his truce proposal. A cease-fire order will be issued to all Israeli commanders to go into effect for four weeks on Friday, June 11, at six A.M., G.M.T. (two A.M., New York time), providing the Arabs do the same.

A note from Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok to Count Bernadotte, advising him of Israel's acceptance of his decision, as well as of its readiness to issue a cease-fire for four weeks, was released here. Shertok's statement said that "while not attaching any conditions to this decision, the Provisional Government of Israel finds it necessary to make the following observations":

1. In the past 48 hours, the Arabs have had opportunities for further oral consultations with Count Bernadotte in Cairo, while the Jews have not.

2. The Provisional Government of Israel will regard as unjustified any attempt to interfere with the normal flow of Jewish immigrants to Israel, since the Security Council's resolution did not envisage any preventing or delaying measures in connection with the entry of Jewish immigrants to Israel, irrespective of age or sex.

3. The Provisional Government of Israel assumes that any attempts by the Arab Governments to impose a commercial blockade against Israel by confiscating or holding up the flow of normal supplies to Israel will be regarded by the mediator as a war-like act and will be prohibited.

4. The provision about the form in which relief will be administered, the Provisional Government of Israel assumes, will not affect those parts of Jerusalem which are in Jewish hands and which may have been secured by Jewish forces at the time the cease-fire and truce begin.

5. The Provisional Government notes with satisfaction Count Bernadotte's acceptance as valid the Jewish contention that it is unwarranted to institute strict control over the movement of Jewish immigrants during the initial truce phase, while simultaneously leaving unchecked possible troop and war materiel movements from one Arab country to another or into Palestine. The Provisional Government of Israel welcomes Count Bernadotte's assurance he will "adjust policy on this matter."

6. If Count Bernadotte's cease-fire and truce proposals are rejected by the Arabs, and the whole matter is consequently referred back to the Security Council, the Provisional Government of Israel reserves the right to revert to its original position regarding the interpretation of the provisions of the Security Council's resolution of May 29 without being committed to any concessions implied in its present acceptance of Count Bernadotte's proposals.

7. The Provisional Government of Israel hopes that if a cease-fire and truce materialize, Count Bernadotte will find it possible to extend to both parties equality of contact and access to him.

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JERUSALEM SUFFERS WORST SPELLING ON EVE OF CEASE-FIRE; JEWS REFUSE ARAB ASSAULT

TEL AVIV, June 9. (JTA) -- On the eve of the expected cease-fire in the Arab-Jewish war, Jerusalem today suffered what was described in a Jewish Army communique as "the worst shelling" from Arab artillery which has been pounding the Jewish sections of the city for 27 consecutive days.

The communique reported that Arab Legion armored vehicles attempting to break through Jewish positions in the Musrara quarter in Jerusalem were driven off and suffered heavy casualties when the Jews launched a fierce counter-attack. The Israeli troops seized several important strategic positions from the routed Arab Legionnaires and now occupy the area stretching from the Notre Dame Monastery stretching to the Mesh Shearim police station.

Tel Aviv was attacked by high-flying enemy aircraft this morning, Haganah reported, adding that bombs were dropped indiscriminately and landed in residential areas. Last night, Israeli planes bombed Arab artillery positions, including a radar station near Kfar Biddu and Nebi Samu'el, from which Jerusalem has been under almost continuous fire. Several direct hits on the Arabs' guns were scored, the communique said.

Arab planes also bombed several Jewish settlements in the Upper Galilee orally today, while Ramat Hakovesh was shelled by enemy artillery. Hours before the Israeli Government and the Arab states handed their replies to Count Bernadotte's cease-fire proposal, Egyptian aircraft, in a hit-and-run maneuver, raided Tel Aviv, loosing several missiles.

U.N. MEDIATOR'S RESTRICTION ON IMPORT OF FOOD FOR CIVILIANS ANGERS JERUSALEM JEWS

JERUSALEM, June 9. (JTA) -- The restriction on the import of foodstuffs and other supplies for the civilian population of Jerusalem under the truce terms arranged by Count Folke Bernadotte, U.N. mediator, today created considerable resentment among the 100,000 Jews here.

Under the terms of the truce, "relief to populations of both sides in municipal areas which have suffered from the conflict, as in Jerusalem and Jaffa, shall be administered by an International Red Cross committee in such a manner as to insure that reserves of stocks of essential supplies shall not be substantially greater or less at the end of the truce than they were at the beginning."

The Palestine Post, English-language daily, editorially denounced this condition today, and protested that the truce, aimed at a military standstill in Palestine, by this provision sought to create a "civilian standstill" as well. "Jerusalem," the paper declared, "is not a part of Israel but is to be placed under direct United Nations rule."

The paper added that "if Bernadotte intends to restrict civilian traffic, he is recognizing the right of the Arab League, even during a truce, to besiege a civilian population which is outside of Israel. This is an unnatural development to which the Jerusalem Jews, at least, will refuse to reconcile themselves."

Meanwhile, a Jewish Agency spokesman here told correspondents that "there is no doubt that a section of the Egyptian force near Iedud is cut off."

Isaac Bender, Jerusalem correspondent of the Tel Aviv newspaper Davar, died during the night of wounds received during a recent bombing of the house in which he lived.

ANGLO-U.S. AGREEMENT ON PALESTINE REPORTED IN LONDON; CHANGE IN ISRAEL'S FRONTIER SOUGHT

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Foreign Office circles today reported that an agreement on general Anglo-American policy with regard to Palestine has been reached between the State Department and Sir Oliver Franks, British Ambassador to the U.S.

The agreement, it was stated, provides for the modification of the frontiers of the Jewish state set by the partition decision of the United Nations. Both Britain and the United States are said to have agreed on excluding the Negev, the southern Palestine desert, from the Jewish state, but beyond that it appears that nothing definite has been decided other than that the frontiers shall be reconsidered.

There is strong pressure in London from the so-called "economist" group to persuade the Jews to exchange all of Palestine south of Majdal for the whole of the Galilee. While this is favored by many Middle East experts, it has not yet been accepted by the British Cabinet. The views of the British Government on the frontiers of Israel remain uncommitted until military operations in Palestine come to an end.

Those who are acquainted with the sentiments of British experts reveal that the view of the Foreign Office is that no real peace is possible in Palestine until there has been what is described as "adequate blood-letting" which will make the Arabs realize that they cannot drive out the Jews and will also force the Jews to realize that they cannot have all the territory that the U.N. assigned to them.

At the same time, the Foreign Office view is that the Arabs have already received their "lessons" at Haifa and Jaffa, and with the proclamation of the state of Israel, but, on the other hand, the Jews have yet to receive a "constructive reprimand" at the hands of King Abdullah of Transjordan.

Highly authoritative sources today indicated that Abdullah is becoming "very ambitious and very difficult." It appears that the King of Transjordan is no longer willing to accept the limitations proposed by the British should his Arab Legion capture all of Jerusalem. The British have proposed some kind of international authority alongside of Abdullah's jurisdiction. But the Transjordan ruler is reported today no longer prepared to surrender Moslem rule over Jerusalem should his forces succeed in capturing all of it.

State Dept. Denies Existence of Pact with Britain on Palestine

WASHINGTON, June 9. (JTA) -- A State Department spokesman today denied London reports that a British-American agreement has been reached on Palestine under which the Jews will be asked to give up the Negev.

The spokesman pointed out that the U.S. Government has again and again emphasized that, as a member of the United Nations, this country will take no action nor make any agreements on Palestine with another country or unilaterally while the matter is being handled by the United Nations.

At the British Embassy here the report was branded as "totally untrue." High officials of the Embassy in charge of Palestine matters said that Ambassador Franks has had no formal discussions on the question of Palestine with any U.S. officials. Thomas E. Bromley, first secretary of the Embassy, declared that he knew of no British-American agreement with regard to Palestine and that there have been no discussions on matters of the frontiers of Israel.

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SECRETARY MARSHALL SAYS NO DATE SET FOR DE JURE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL BY U.S.

WASHINGTON, June 9. (JTA) -- Secretary of State Marshall replied with a flat "no" today when asked at his weekly press conference if the U.S. had set a date to extend de jure recognition to Israel.

The State Department released a report received today from Acting Consul-General William C. Burdett in Jerusalem stating that at 9:00 P.M. yesterday about eight mortar shells landed in and around the U.S. Consulate and Navy compound.

The port of Haifa has been restored to the itinerary of the government-owned passenger vessel S.S. Marine Carp, it was revealed here today following a State Department order to the Maritime Commission, which reversed the Department's earlier "recommendation" that the city be omitted from the ship's ports of call.

The Marine Carp, which will sail from the U.S. on Friday, will stop at Piraeus, Haifa, Beirut and Alexandria, in that order. Earlier, National Maritime Union officials said that its members would not man the ship if it carried war supplies to the Arabs. Commission officials insisted that the ship did not carry any cargo other than passengers' baggage.

BRITAIN DOES NOT RECOGNIZE CABINET OF ISRAEL AS DE JURE GOVERNMENT, BEVIN SAYS

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin today told the House of Commons that the British Government does not at present recognize any body of persons as a de jure government of Israel. He added that Britain does not consider the U.N. partition resolution as obliging her to recognize the Jewish state.

The British Government, Bevin said, would judge the Jewish case for recognition on its own merits, according to the normal criteria of international law. He denied that Britain has made representations to other countries urging the non-recognition of Israel, but said that the British attitude has been "explained" to several governments, usually in response to their inquiries.

It was learned here today from authoritative sources that the British Government is reconsidering its ban on the immigration to Israel of the Jews detained on Cyprus. The ban will be modified in the light of the Palestine truce proposals presented by U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte to the governments of Israel and the Arab states, which permit Jewish immigration into Israel under given conditions.

PRESIDENT WEIZMANN DENIES HE IS NEGOTIATING FOR BRITISH RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

PARIS, June 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of Israel, today told a press conference that there is no truth in reports that he is negotiating with "personalities" in Great Britain to obtain recognition for the Jewish state.

President Weizmann said that the Jews will never agree to exchange the Negev for western Galilee. The Negev, he declared, offers great development possibilities while western Galilee has a large Arab population.

The President of Israel expressed confidence that the Palestine question will be settled in the near future. He emphasized that the Jewish state, while small in territory, would be able to provide scope for industrial and scientific development and to absorb a considerable number of new immigrants. He estimated that 1,000,000 Jews would be able to immigrate to Israel during the next ten years.

Jews in RIOT-TORN MOROCCAN TOWN SEEK REFUGE IN EUROPEAN QUARTERS; FRENCH TROOPS ALERTED

PARIS, June 9. (JTA) -- The Jewish residents of Oujda and Djerada, in French Morocco, where 44 Jews were killed and 55 wounded yesterday during anti-Jewish Arab outbreaks, are seeking refuge in the European quarters of those towns, it was reported here today. In Oujda, where mob looting of Jewish shops was particularly heavy, officials have ordered a midnight curfew. Arrests of persons responsible for the violence are still continuing.

Scrawled slogans threatening the Jews in the Moroccan towns with death appeared overnight on walls in scattered sections of the two towns. French troops were ordered to stand by in other cities and towns in the country to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak, while a military air squadron flew low over the riot areas, as a warning to the Arabs to refrain from a repetition of yesterday's pogrom.

SOVIET COURT SENTENCES 60-YEAR-OLD HEAD OF BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY TO 15-YEAR JAIL TERM

LONDON, June 9. (JTA) -- Information reaching here from Berlin revealed today that Dr. Walter Nellhans, president of the Berlin Jewish Community, has been sentenced by a Red Army court to 15 years imprisonment on the charge that he was helping Jewish soldiers and officers to desert the Red Army.

The 60-year-old German Jewish leader is now being held in a Berlin jail, the report says. He is one of the founders of the Mizrahi World Organization. His friends are intervening to secure his release.

Meanwhile, the Berlin Jewish Community has announced its affiliation with the World Jewish Congress. The Community represents about 7,500 Jews residing in all four occupation zones in the city. In addition to these Jews, about 10,000 Jewish DP's, as well as several thousand German Jews who have not yet officially re-entered the Jewish faith, which they left when the Nazis gained control, are living in Berlin at present.

Jews in RUMANIA CHARGE CHIEF RABBI SHAFRAN WITH "DESERPTION"; WILL APPOINT NEW RABBI

BUCHAREST, June 9. (JTA) -- The departure of former Chief Rabbi Alexander Shafran last December for Switzerland, which aroused considerable bitterness among Rumania's Jews, was today severely criticized by the Federation of Jewish Communities' steering committee which, in a press notice released here, announced unanimously that the post of chief rabbi of Rumania is now vacant. Rabbi Shafran has never returned to Rumania.

Condemning Rabbi Shafran's "desertion" in the strongest possible terms, the group's announcement said that a meeting of delegates from Jewish communities throughout Rumania will be held June 16 to elect a new chief rabbi. The press announcement declared that "by misleading religious authorities and relinquishing his post," Rabbi Shafran was guilty of a "grave breach of duties." He has forfeited his right to speak in behalf of Rumania's Jewish community, the statement said, adding that any attempt by him to do so would make him an imposter.

THREE FORMER SLOVAK OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH DEPORTING JEWS TO DEATH CAMPS GET JAIL TERMS

PRAGUE, June 9. (JTA) -- Three former officials of the Slovak Puppet Government, who participated in the deportation of many Slovak Jews to death camps in Poland during the war, today received prison terms imposed by the People's Court in Bratislava ranging from 18 months to 18 years.

The three convicted defendants are Dr. Isidor Koso, former counsellor to the pro-Nazi Slovak regime, Dr. Gejza Konko and Julius Pecuch, who was let off with an 18-month sentence because one Jewish witness testified that at one time Pecuch helped to rescue several Jews who were destined for deportation.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE LEADERS OUTLINE ORGANIZATION'S POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- The policy of the American Jewish Committee with regard to Israel was outlined here last night by leaders of the organization addressing the annual meeting of the New York chapter held at the Barbizon-Plaza hotel. Harold Riegelman was elected chairman of the chapter.

Irving M. Engel, chairman of the administration committee of the American Jewish Committee, said: "Once freed from the threat of aggression, the newly-created state of Israel is certain to confer lasting benefits of peace, liberty, equality, justice and economic security upon all its inhabitants, Jew and Arab alike. By so doing, it will exert a positive influence in behalf of the democratic way of life, not only in the Near East, but throughout the world. In common with the vast majority of American citizens of all faiths, we heartily welcome the new state of Israel into the family of nations."

Dr. Simon Segal, director of the home office of the American Jewish Committee's foreign affairs department, told the parley that a very clear distinction must be made between the functions and allegiances of Israeli citizens and of Jews in other countries. "The American Jewish Committee," he said, "is working to achieve clarity of thought in regard to this distinction. In addition one of its main functions is to seek to further cooperation between the Jewish and Arab communities in Palestine, and between the Jew there and the Arab world. Understanding must be achieved if lasting peace is to come to the Middle East."

POLISH GOVT. CANCELS PAYMENT OF FEES BY JEWISH DP'S SEEKING TO REGAIN THEIR PROPERTY

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- The Polish Government has informed the World Jewish Congress that Jewish displaced persons no longer need pay state fees in filing claims for the restitution of property in Poland, it was announced here.

The ruling will enable thousands of Jews to file their claims with the Polish authorities, since previously many of the DP's were prevented from doing so by not being able to pay the required fee. The deadline for filing all such claims has been extended to the end of this year.

AMERICAN OSE SUPPORTS ESTABLISHMENT OF CONVALESCENT CAMP FOR WOUNDED ISRAELI TROOPS

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- A grant of \$10,000 by the American branch of OSE to the Israeli OSE has resulted in the setting up of a special convalescent camp for wounded Jewish troops requiring recuperative facilities, it was announced here today by the American headquarters of the organization.

A message from Israel, which did not disclose the exact whereabouts of the rest home, revealed that the "conquerors of Safad and the Galilee send their greetings from the OSE recovery camp for Palmach," Israeli commando units.

MAX SPITZ, SO. AFRICAN JEWISH LEADER, LEAVES U.S. FOR TOUR OF EUROPEAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- Max J. Spitz, South African Jewish leader, and chairman of that country's Jewish Appeal, left here today for Europe to make a first-hand study of the needs of Europe's Jewish communities in France, Germany, Poland and Austria. He spent a month in the U.S., conferring with officials of the Joint Distribution Committee and other Jewish organizations. He expects to return home in August.

LIONEL GELBER RESIGNS FROM JEWISH AGENCY; ISRAELI DELEGATION AT U.N. ABSORBS HIS WORK

NEW YORK, June 9. (JTA) -- The resignation of Lionel Gelber as political advisor of the Jewish Agency was announced here last night. His activities are being absorbed by the Israeli delegation at Lake Success. A native of Toronto, Gelber is a former Rhodes scholar and has served on the faculty of the University of Toronto.