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EGYPTIANS VIOLATE TRUCE; BOMB TWO JEWISH SETTLEMENTS, STRAFE U.N.-ESCORTED CONVOY

TEL AVIV, June 25. (JTA) -- What may be the first move in an Arab renewal of the war in Palestine took place today when Egyptian planes bombed two Jewish settlements in southern Palestine after turning back a U.N.-escorted Jewish food convoy which was en route to supply Jewish colonies cut off behind the Egyptian lines. The attacked settlements were Beer Tuvia and Kfar Warburg, both in the vicinity of Ishdud.

The convoy, which was later strafed from the air by an unidentified plane, believed to be Egyptian, attempted to cross the Egyptian lines after the U.N. mediator's staff had agreed to a Jewish request to supply the isolated Israeli settlements. The Egyptians had been informed of the U.N. decision, but had made no reply to it. The Jews had refused to accept the Arabs' silence as their answer, and asserted that they would try to supply the colonies.

An Egyptian plane also strafed a clearly-marked U.N. plane which was landing this morning at a Jewish airfield in the Negev. Although the plane was hit 15 times, the American pilot escaped unhurt. The Israel Government announced that U.N. observers were being withdrawn from territory under the Egyptians' command.

A second truce-breaking incident occurred at the Jewish-held Arab village of Birva, ten miles northeast of Acre, when troops believed to be part of the command of Fawzi el Kaukaji attacked. The fighting lasted half-a-day, with the Arabs retreating. Both sides suffered casualties. Bernadotte's staff has been informed of the violation.

Jewish circles believe that Kaukaji's troops may have been on patrol in preparation for an expected attack on Haifa after the British evacuation. Meanwhile, in the port city the last of the oil refineries have been completely closed down and are deserted except for their military guards. All the senior British officials in Haifa have left.

U.N. Mediator Confirms Permit for Food Convoys for Negev Colonies.

RHODES, June 25. (JTA) -- U.N. Palestine mediator Count Folke Bernadotte today notified Israeli's liaison officers here that food and other convoys would be allowed to proceed to isolated Jewish settlements in the Negev as of today, under the terms of the truce agreement.

Meanwhile, it was learned here that the British asked Bernadotte whether, under the truce terms, it would be permissible to return the 250 Jewish detainees now in the Gilgil camp in Kenya to Palestine. Pointing out that he already has gone on record as not considering the return of the Kenya prisoners a breach of the truce, since they are Israeli citizens, the Israeli representatives here urged Count Bernadotte to speed his reply to the British.

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ENSION IN TEL AVIV CONTINUES; IRGUN ARMS STORES RAIDED; GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS GUARDED

TEL AVIV, June 25. (JTA) -- Tension continued high in Tel Aviv despite the fact that the action of the Israeli Government against the Irgun's attempt to land arms in defiance of the U.N. truce was approved yesterday by a vote of 24 to 4, with five abstentions, at an emergency session of the Council of State.

Large-scale movements of Israeli military units were evident in various parts of the city although there was no visible activity on the part of the Irgun. Raids on Irgun arms stores were conducted here and in other parts of Israel. At the same time, trusted Palmach guards have been standing by not only outside all government offices and military buildings, but also along the entire Tel Aviv coastline. Military guards have also been stationed on many roof tops.

A major question still to be answered by the Israeli military command is the strength of the Irgun. It is known that the Irgun had four units, numbering 2,000 men, enrolled in the Israeli army, and possibly 1,000 to 1,500 outside the army. Public opinion here today can be summed up as opposed to any challenge to the authority of the established government, and hostile to internecine warfare. At the same time there is some criticism of the government.

Premier David Ben Gurion today announced the composition of a seven-man inquiry commission to investigate the clash between the army and the Irgunists when the latter attempted to land arms and ammunition from a gun-runner against government orders. The commission members are: Ben Gurion, in the capacity of Defense Minister; Felix Rosenbluth, Minister of Justice; Dr. Itzhak Gruenbaum, Minister of the Interior; I.M. Lewin, leader of the Agudah; Berl Repetor of the United Labor Group; Idelson of the Jewish Labor Party, and A. Shapira of the Mizrahi.

Ben Gurion Leaves for Jerusalem; Mizrahi Members Return to Cabinet

Following the announcement, the Israeli Premier left for Jerusalem which he is visiting for the first time since the formation of the Israeli Government. Meanwhile, the two Mizrahi cabinet members, Rabbi Judah L. Fishman and Moshe Shapiro, who resigned from the government, have agreed to return to their posts.

The Irgun tonight announced that it will not create any special military force of its own within the state of Israel, but "will continue fighting outside of the Israel area for the freedom of the whole fatherland until final victory." A demand that all arrested Irgunists be released was also voiced over the radio by Menahem Begin, leader of the dissidents, who succeeded in escaping last night when Israeli soldiers surrounded the Irgun headquarters in Tel Aviv.

Prior to his leaving for Jerusalem, Premier Ben Gurion indicated that the government is ready to negotiate for the release of the arrested Irgunists and their sympathizers. Last night he promised to release all immigrants who landed from the ship. Simultaneously, he appealed to the nation not to support the Irgun with funds. Among the Irgunists arrested is Itzhak Mordechai, second-in-command of the Irgun forces, who recently escaped from the British internment camp in Kenya. Israeli authorities also arrested a number of members of the municipal council of Nathanya.

IRGAN CAPTAIN AND MATE OF IRGUN GUN-RUNNER RELEASED BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES

TEL AVIV, June 25. (JTA) -- Monroe Fein and Jack Brown, captain and first mate, respectively, of the intercepted Irgun gun-runner, were released from prison. After a conference with Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok, Brown declared that "Tel Aviv was saved from destruction by a sheer miracle, when the explosives on the ship did not explode."

MEDIATOR INFORMS U.N. HE HOPES TO SUBMIT PEACE PLANS TO JEWS AND ARABS IN A FEW DAYS

LAKE SUCCESS, June 25. (JTA) -- U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte today informed the U.N. here that he is actively engaged in formulating suggestions "aimed at promoting a peaceful adjustment" in Palestine and that he hopes that the proposals will be ready for presentation to the Arabs and Jews within a few days.

(Hebrew newspapers in Tel Aviv today reported that Bernadotte will propose a decrease in the total area of Israel, free immigration into the smaller state and state sovereignty for the Jews only internally, but that on external affairs the Jews and the Arabs in the Arab part of Palestine will unite in a common representation. The press comments all stated that if these reported proposals are correct none of the parties now in the Israeli Government will consent to their becoming a basis for negotiations.)

BEN CURION CONSULTS WITH JEWISH LEADERS IN JERUSALEM; CITY'S FOOD QUOTAS SET

JERUSALEM, June 25. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion today arrived here on his first visit to this city since the proclamation of the state of Israel. He immediately went into conference with Jewish leaders, including Dr. Bernard Joseph, Israeli representative to the U.N. Truce Commission.

The amount of food supplies which will be permitted into this city on the main road from Tel Aviv during the entire truce period was fixed today at 6,000 metric tons by the truce commission. The plan guarantees every Jew in Jerusalem a daily ration of 2,800 calories during the truce. The figures were arrived at by the American, French and Belgian consuls-general after consultation with Jewish dieticians, as well as from data obtained from Washington.

TRUMAN SIGNS DP BILL "WITH VERY GREAT RELUCTANCE"; HITS ANTI-JEWISH PROVISIONS

WASHINGTON, June 25. (JTA) -- With "very great reluctance," President Truman late today signed the displaced persons bill that will admit 205,000 DP's to this country during the next two years and which Jewish organizations have assailed as highly discriminatory to Jewish refugees.

"If the Congress were still in session," the President said in a long statement, "I would return this bill without my approval and urge that a fairer, more humane bill be passed." He emphasized that the bill "discriminates in callous fashion against displaced persons of the Jewish faith."

The President stated that the December 22, 1945, cut-off date, which determines eligibility for admission, excludes "more than 90 percent of the remaining Jewish displaced persons" and that the remaining 10 percent who are eligible "are beset by numerous additional restrictions written into the bill."

"It is inexplicable, except upon the abhorrent ground of intolerance, that this date should have been chosen instead of April 21, 1947, the date on which General Clay closed the displaced persons camps to further admissions," he said. "For all practical purposes, it must be frankly recognized, therefore, that this bill excludes Jewish displaced persons, rather than accepting a fair proportion of them along with other faiths."

Earlier, President Truman received James G. McDonald, newly-appointed special U.S. representative to Israel, who, upon leaving the White House, told newsmen that "close and friendly relations between our country--one of the oldest republics--and Israel, the youngest republic, will contribute not only to the advancement of the new state, but also to progress in the Middle East."

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TRIAL OF ROMANIAN WAR CRIMINALS CHARGED WITH JASSY MASSACRE ENDS IN BUCHAREST

BUCHAREST, June 25. (JTA) -- The trial of 57 war criminals charged with responsibility for the massacre of 14,000 Jews in Jassy concluded here last night. The verdict is expected to be announced tomorrow.

With the exception of the two principal defendants--Gen. Gheorghe Stavrescu and Col. Constantu Lupu--the accused yesterday continued to protest their total innocence of the massacre. Stavrescu and Lupu admitted that they might have done more to avert the slaughter.

POLISH REPRESENTATIVES TOUR DP CAMPS IN ITALY TO INCREASE REPATRIATION FLOW

ROME, June 25. (JTA) -- Representatives of the Polish Consulate in Italy are touring the DP camps in an attempt to get refugees from Poland to return to their native land. The movement toward repatriation to Poland has never been very large in the camps, but there are a few displaced Jews who have registered with the consulate to return.

A new central committee of the Jewish Refugee Organization of Italy, consisting of 15 members, has been elected, it was revealed here today. The body is headed by Dr. Leon Bernstein. The election was necessitated by the emigration to Israel of a number of members of the old committee.

AUSTRIANS' ATTITUDE TOWARD JEWS HAS NOT IMPROVED, W.J.C. DIRECTOR REPORTS

VIENNA, June 25. (JTA) -- In the three years following the liberation of Austria the attitude of its citizens toward the Jews has not changed materially from what it was under Hitler, Ernest Stiaseny, Austrian director of the World Jewish Congress, charged here today at a press conference.

Asserting that the Austrian Government and the Vienna municipal administration are far from anti-Semitic, he added that the Austrian restitution laws are the best in central Europe. The majority of some 10,800 cases concerning the restitution of Jewish property have still not been settled, he stated, because of the deliberate delaying tactics of minor officials. Some 2,800 cases have been settled completely, nearly 650 have been compromised, but the remainder are not yet completed, Stiaseny revealed.

JEWISH CEMETERY IN SLOVAKIAN VILLAGE COMPLETELY DESTROYED; INQUIRY UNDER WAY

PRAGUE, June 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish cemetery in the Slovakian village of Brnovo nad Bebravou has been destroyed by unidentified vandals, it was reported here today.

Between 30 and 40 tombstones were damaged before police authorities began an investigation. Afterwards, all of the remaining tombstones were also smashed. The Central Association of Jewish Communities in Slovakia was promised by the Ministry of Interior that the culprits, when they are apprehended, will be severely punished.

AUSTRIA-ISRAEL AIR MAIL SERVICE RESUMED; COMMUNITY VOICES SOLIDARITY WITH JEWISH STATE

VIENNA, June 25. (JTA) -- Air mail service between Austria and Israel was resumed today, Austrian postal authorities announced here.

A plenary meeting of the Vienna Jewish Community today adopted a resolution expressing solidarity with the "beleaguered state of Israel." The resolution also called on the United States to compel the "Arab aggressors" to withdraw from Palestine by imposing sanctions against the Arab states through the United Nations.

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REFORM RABBINICAL CONVENTION CONSIDERS PLAN FOR CENTRALIZED PLACEMENT OF RABBIS

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 25. (JTA) -- A system of placement for rabbis and congregations affiliated with Liberal Judaism which would avoid "undignified competition" was advocated here today at the 59th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis by Dr. Louis L. Mann, of Chicago.

To be administered jointly by the Central Conference, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the plan proposed by Dr. Mann would seek to avoid the "extremism of anarchy, on the one hand, and the extremism of hierarchy on the other." At present, Liberal Jewish congregations have complete autonomy in the choice of a rabbi, while the rabbis themselves can apply for pulpit vacancies.

Under Dr. Mann's plan, the congregations would still maintain autonomy in their ultimate right to choose a rabbi, but would accept suggestions from the placement bureau, and the rabbis would be forbidden to seek pulpit assignments or accept posts without clearance through the special placement committee to be set up jointly by the three groups.

An increase in the membership of Reform Jewish congregations from 59,000 families to well over 100,000 families during the past eight years was reported today by Rabbi Sylvan D. Schwartzman, director of field activities of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The number of synagogues affiliated with the U.A.H.C. rose from 305 to 364, Rabbi Schwartzman revealed.

In order to expand its membership to 1,000,000 Jews within the next ten years, Rabbi Schwartzman declared, "Liberal Judaism must realistically affirm the centrality of the synagogue, develop an educated and emotionally-inspired membership and an informed Jewish laity as a prime necessity for survival and bring the prophetic teaching of Judaism to bear upon the problems of modern society."

Rabbi George Zepin reported that 250 rabbis are now enrolled in pension plans with an aggregate fund of \$5,000,000. Rabbi Harry Kaplan, director of the Hillel Foundation at Ohio State University, said that there are now Hillel Foundations or programs on 183 college and university campuses throughout the U.S. serving a combined student group of 100,000.

IRGUN SYMPATHIZERS "INVADE" JEWISH AGENCY OFFICE IN N.Y.; HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICE

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- Fifty uniformed youths, members of Brith Trumpeldor, which is sympathetic to the Irgun Zvai Leumi, today "invaded" the offices of the Jewish Agency here, at 16 East 66th Street. They forcibly entered the office of Arthur Lourie, Israeli Consul General, and told him they were going to hold memorial services for Irgunists killed during the Haganah-Irgun battle on the Tel Aviv waterfront.

When police arrived, Lourie asked them not to eject the youths. He left the room and the youths conducted a memorial service--which included speeches and songs--for an hour and a half. They withdrew from the building amid some name-calling and scuffling. There was scattered jostling and punching between the youths and Agency clerks when the "invasion" first began.

HADASSAH MEMBERS THROUGHOUT U.S. WARNED OF "DANGER" OF FINANCIAL "SUPPORT TO IRGUN"

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- Hadassah today sent a directive to its 250,000 members throughout the country, urging them to alert their communities to the "danger of financial and moral support" for Irgun Zvai Leumi, and its agencies or cooperating groups in the United States, it was announced here by Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, national president of Hadassah.

B'NAI B'RITH PRESIDENT URGES TRUMAN TO VETO DP BILL; SAYS IT VIOLATES U.S. PRINCIPLES

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith, last night called on President Truman to veto the displaced persons bill now before him for signature. In a letter to the President, Mr. Goldman termed the bill "as callous a rejection of the pleas of innocent and worthy refugees as there is to be found in the pages of American history."

"It is deeply to be regretted," he said, "that those deserving individuals who would be able to enter the United States under the harsh terms of this racially restrictive bill may well be sacrificed if you veto this legislation. In the final analysis, however, their salvation, and the salvation of all other displaced persons, rests with the enactment of an honest and democratic bill."

Mr. Goldman took exception to the sections of the bill which provide that a displaced person, to be eligible for immigration under the bill, must have been in an Allied camp on or before December 22, 1945, and which assign 30 percent of the total quota of 200,000 to farmers and require that 40 percent of the DP's must come from the Baltic states. "These provisions militate against the Jews," he asserted. "The cream of this ironic jest is the Volksdeutsche provision which requires half of the German and Austrian quotas to be filled by former Nazis who were Hitler's advance agents in his efforts to destroy democracy. In the 105 years of its existence, B'nai B'rith has never witnessed Congressional action so violative of American principles of equality and fair play," Mr. Goldman said.

CANADIAN MISSION VISITING EUROPEAN DP CAMPS FOR 500 FUR WORKERS AS IMMIGRANTS

MONTREAL, June 25. (JTA) -- About 500 fur workers who are at present in DP camps in Germany, Italy and Austria will be coming to Canada under a special immigration project now being initiated, according to information released by the Canadian Jewish Congress. The furriers project will be similar to the recent immigration of about 1,000 DP tailors from European camps.

The selection of furriers has already begun, with heads of families being given preference. There are no limitations along religious or racial lines. The immigrants will be assured jobs at prevailing wage scales.

The scheme is sponsored by the fur manufacturers associations of Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg and was agreed to by the Canadian Government. The Joint Distribution Committee and the International Refugee Organization are assisting the plan.

The Canadian Jewish Congress is playing an important part in the arrangements for this movement and has assumed responsibility for various aspects of it. Matthew Rem, of the Congress overseas staff, is working with the mission headed by H.M. Silver of Montreal which is now in Europe selecting immigrants.

TRANSPORT OF JEWISH REFUGEE IMMIGRANTS ARRIVES IN NEW YORK FROM GERMANY

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- A group of 139 Jewish refugee immigrants arrived here today from Bremen aboard the S.S. Marine Flasher. HIAS met 72 of the immigrants while the other 67 were aided in landing by representatives of the United Service for New Americans. The Joint Distribution Committee arranged the passage of the U.S.N.A.-sponsored arrivals.

The J.D.C. office here announced today that a group of 153 J.D.C.-sponsored Shanghai Jewish refugees will arrive aboard the S.S. General Gordon within a few days, while the S.S. Marine Marlin will sail from Bremen on Monday with an additional group of Jewish DP immigrants.

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