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LAST MINUTE NEWS

RESOLUTION TERMING PALESTINE WAR THREAT TO PEACE TO BE INTRODUCED TODAY IN U.N.

LAKE SUCCESS, July 12. (JTA) -- The United States and British delegations have agreed to sponsor a resolution in the U.N. Security Council, certifying the Palestine fighting as a threat to world peace, it was learned here tonight from a U.S. delegation source.

Such a finding, under Article 39 of the Charter, would open the door to diplomatic, economic and eventually military sanctions against the Palestine aggressors. The source indicated that the resolution would take the form of an order to cease firing within three days or face the consequences of punitive action by the United Nations.

It was indicated here that the resolution would be introduced after Count Folke Bernadotte had made his report to the Council tomorrow. (See earlier Lake Success story on Page 3.)

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RAMLEH SURRENDERS TO JEWS; ISRAELI FORCES FAN OUT IN MAJOR DRIVE IN CENTRAL PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, July 12. (JTA) -- The Arab town of Ramleh today surrendered to Israeli forces which yesterday fought their way into its streets. The terms of the capitulation were being drawn up today, 48 hours after the start of the first major Israeli offensive since the truce.

In the sister town of Lydda, five miles to the northeast, street fighting was still in progress today, despite earlier reports that it had fallen. It was unofficially reported that Lydda's mayor was assassinated by Arabs while he was en route to the Jewish lines to sign surrender terms. Military observers here believe that several thousand Arab Legion and other troops surrounded and cut off in the Lydda-Ramleh pocket will surrender without a major battle.

Meanwhile, the Israeli forces fanning out north of the Lydda-Ramleh area are threatening Ras el Ein, Arab-held village which controls the water supply to Jewish Jerusalem. In their drive the Jews also captured a quarry some five miles from Petach Tikvah from which the Arabs have been shelling the outskirts of Petach Tikvah. The Israeli air force bombed Ras el Ein, and a town commanding the road between Tulkarm and Jenin, anchor points of the Iraqi-held "triangle" in central Palestine. The Jews also captured Beit Naballah, Arab Legion base north of Ramleh, yesterday.

A reliable but unconfirmed report stated that Israeli forces have also begun a push on Jenin from the north. This is the first indication that the Jews have resumed their pressure on the anchor point which they entered just before the truce and then evacuated to take up positions in the hills surrounding it.

Fierce Battle Raging on Syrian Border

An official communique issued here late this evening spoke of heavy fighting on the Syrian border, in the vicinity of Mishmar Hayarden. A fierce see-saw battle has been in progress for several days in this sector, with both sides claiming to have inflicted heavy casualties on the other. The Jews today said that they had captured a large number of prisoners at Mishmar Hayarden and had seized a considerable quantity of war supplies.

An Arab air raid on Tel Aviv took place in the pre-dawn hours this morning. No casualties were reported, but one person was killed and seven wounded in yesterday's air attacks. Two hundred and fifty Jewish political prisoners, held by the British for several years in Eritrea and later in Kenya detention camps, today arrived here. Those who were physically fit immediately joined the army.

Four Arab towns on the highway between Majdal and Latrun, important bases respectively of the Egyptian invasion force and the Arab Legion, were captured yesterday by Jews driving southward from the Ramleh area. Control by the Jews of a section of this highway will prevent a juncture of the two Arab armies, which have been aiming at cutting off southern Palestine from the rest of the country.

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ARAB STATES SPLIT ON CONTINUING PALESTINE TRUCE; TRANSJORDAN KING CONTACTS JEWS

HAIFA, July 12. (JTA) -- The Arab states split wide open today over the issue of continuing the truce in Palestine, with most of the Arab states aligned against King Abdullah of Transjordan and determined to press hostilities despite Abdullah's efforts to prolong the truce and maintain his position in the Jerusalem area, it was learned here.

A series of rapid-fire developments have shaken the united Arab League front as rival fears and jealousies of the Arab rulers overcame their desire to destroy the Jewish state. The developments are:

1. Abdullah, following an extensive exchange of correspondence between Brig. John Bagot Glubb Pasha, commander of his Arab Legion, and British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, now wants a prolongation of the truce. A Transjordan emissary has made contact with the Jewish commander of the Jerusalem area with a proposal for an immediate truce for all of Jerusalem.
2. Abdullah sent a sharp protest to King Farouk of Egypt bitterly complaining of Egypt's premature renewal of hostilities in Palestine one day before the end of the truce.
3. The Lebanese, Syrians, Egyptians and Iraqi immediately informed Abdullah that they proposed to continue the war whatever agreement the Transjordan ruler might make with U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte, or with the Security Council. They added that they would refuse to recognize any arrangement made by Abdullah regarding the future status of Palestine territory.
4. To reinforce this decision, the Lebanese Government has appointed Fawji el Kaukuji, commander of the irregular "Arab Liberation Army," as commander-in-chief of all Lebanese armed forces and has incorporated the entire liberation force into its army.
5. Kaukuji is now working closely with the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, bitter enemy of Abdullah. According to information here, plans are underfoot to proclaim an independent Palestine Arab government as soon as Abdullah moves to accept some kind of arrangement with Bernadotte or the Security Council.

It is understood that these plans of the Kaukuji-Mufti combination are being actively supported by the Egyptians who are making an all-out drive to occupy that part of the Negev which Bernadotte's plans would have ceded to Abdullah.

ARABS BEGIN HOLDING ACTION AS ISRAELI FORCES IN JERUSALEM STEP UP OFFENSIVE ACTION

JERUSALEM, July 12. (JTA) -- Arab forces in the Jerusalem sector today began a "holding action" for one-fourth of the city that still remains in their hands in the face of increasing pressure from a Jewish ring of steel and fire. Three preventive thrusts made during the night by the Arabs in an apparent effort to forestall an Israeli push on the hallowed square mile inside the Old City.

The Jews countered these Arab sallies with a pre-dawn demolition raid on the perimeter of the Jaffa Gate, a highly likely target for an assault on the walled quarter. Jewish mortars continued their relentless shelling of the Old City area, pouring in hundreds of shells from two and three-inch weapons, plus some shells from the monster mortar, "Davidka," the Israeli secret weapon.

Israeli aircraft bombed Arab positions northwest of Jerusalem during the night, while enemy artillery and mortars laced the Jewish quarters with shells. No reports of casualties have as yet been divulged.

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U.N. MEDIATOR ARRIVES IN NEW YORK; TO REPORT TO SECURITY COUNCIL ON PALESTINE TODAY

LAKE SUCCESS, July 12. (JTA) -- Refusing to state whether his report would put the onus of the Palestine war on the Arabs, U.N. Palestine mediator Count Folke Bernadotte said today upon his arrival at LaGuardia Field that his 21-page report would be submitted to a special emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council tomorrow.

"I am still keenly disappointed," he told newsmen, "that the Arabs have not agreed to extend the truce. That was a setback. But I feel we must expect temporary setbacks. I am still an optimist about reaching a final settlement."

During his last two days in the Near East, Bernadotte said, he concentrated most of his efforts on the plan to demilitarize Jerusalem. "I am very keen," he said, "to see the results of these talks, for obvious reasons." The mediator said both Arabs and Jews had requested that he continue the attempt to reach a peaceful settlement. He will fly back to Rhodes on Friday, according to present plans.

(The U.S. Government is continuing its efforts to extend the U.N. truce in Palestine, a State Department spokesman said today in Washington, pointing out that the U.S. had requested a special meeting of the Security Council to hear the report of Count Bernadotte.)

In answer to a question citing Soviet charges that Bernadotte's "suggestions" for amputating the Negev from the Jewish state were a violation of the U.N. decision to partition Palestine, the mediator said he had "certainly not" exceeded the powers assigned to him by the General Assembly and the Security Council.

Despite reports from Palestine that large-scale fighting has flared upon most fronts, he declared: "I don't think either party really wants war. The truce has ended but the war has not really begun."

A letter from Israeli representative to the United Nations Aubrey S. Eban to U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie, made public here today, took issue with a message from the mediator to Lake Success--referring to the resumption of hostilities in Palestine--on the grounds that the "mediator's statement is entirely inaccurate, since it gives the impression that neither party had agreed not to resume hostilities."

JEWISH AGENCY AGAIN ASKS AMERICAN JEWS NOT TO SUPPORT DISSIDENT GROUPS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, July 12. (JTA) -- Reiterating an earlier appeal to American Jews to withhold support from dissident military groups in Israel, the Jewish Agency, in a statement signed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of its American section, today declared that support of "separatist" military groups threatens the authority of the Israel Government.

"Support of such separatist military units in Palestine is a distinct disservice to the state of Israel as it undermines the authority of the government and interferes with efficient military operations at a time when the new state is beset with gravest danger as a result of the renewed military operations against it by the neighboring Arab states," Dr. Silver said. "The Jewish Agency wishes to renew this request to Americans not to contribute to any campaigns under whatever name, for the support of military organizations in Palestine," he added. "The Defense Army of Israel is not soliciting funds in the United States."

BRITAIN HOLDS UP SUBSIDY TO TRANSJORDAN PENDING BERNADOTTE'S REPORT TO SECURITY COUNCIL

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- Britain's quarterly installment on its subsidy to the Transjordan Government for maintenance of the Arab Legion today became overdue, a Foreign Office spokesman revealed today. The British Government, he stated, has considered the question of the subsidy and "has temporarily held up" the \$2,000,-000 payment.

The "situation is obscure and the report from the U.N. Palestine mediator must be awaited," the spokesman added. Asked about a New York press report that negotiations were being conducted for the payment of the sum in dollar currency or its equivalent, the Foreign Office representative said: "When Transjordan left the sterling bloc area, owing to circumstances against her own and our will, we undertook to pay this amount in hard currency for her requirements."

The New York newspaper story, emanating from Lake Success, said that the British Government has been negotiating with Transjordan's King Abdullah to make available to him \$2,000,000 in hard currency for the rest of this year. According to the report, the Transjordan Government is said to have accepted the terms of the British Government's proposal, but on condition that negotiations be reopened "if additional liabilities are incurred as a result of events in Palestine."

The spokesman could not say whether or not this sum was part of the regular subsidy nor was he able to state whether this means that a part of the British subsidy to King Abdullah will be paid in dollars. At the same time, the spokesman warned against giving "very much credence" to reports that Transjordan's and Egypt's conflicting views on Palestine foreshadow a split within the Arab League. Reports from Arab sources, he said, do not seem to confirm this.

Referring to the "Government of Israel" for the first time, the spokesman said it "would be surprising, indeed, if the Government of Israel at this time -- when it is seeking recognition -- should allow the occurrence of a so-called trial of Englishmen by a terrorist organization." He apparently referred to an announcement by the Irgun Zvai Leumi in Jerusalem yesterday that the four Britons abducted by the group on charges of "intelligence with the enemy" would be tried shortly.

Regarding the question of the visaless Jews still detained on Cyprus, the spokesman declared that no decision will be made on this until U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte has submitted his report on the truce situation.

STATE DEPT. TAKING PRECAUTIONS TO APPREHEND PLANE REPORTEDLY EN ROUTE TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, July 12. (JTA) -- A State Department spokesman said today that all precautions are being taken to apprehend a mysterious B-17 suspected of being en route from this country to participate in the Palestine war. The plane, heavily-laden with 3,500 gallons of high-octane gas, took off from the Westchester (N.Y.) County Airport yesterday without the pilot's filing a flight plan, which is required of all aircraft flying to overseas destinations.

Late reports said the plane was forced to land at the Halifax, Nova Scotia, airport due to bad weather and to minor engine trouble. At Halifax, Canadian authorities who impounded the plane pending further investigation, said the pilot listed himself in the field's registry book as "Dr. Schindler" and quoted him as saying he took off from a New Jersey field. At Halifax, the pilot signed the registry book as "A. Frederick." Between eight and ten passengers are believed to be aboard the plane.

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DAVID REMEZ, ISRAELI COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER, ARRIVES IN PRAGUE TO CONFER WITH OFFICIALS

PRAGUE, July 12. (JTA) -- David Remez, Israeli Communications Minister, arrived here over the week-end. He is already engaged in important negotiations with various Czech officials, particularly with the Minister of Transport.

Remez came here from Switzerland where he conferred with officials of the International Postal Union on matters concerning Israel's postal set-up. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent here that his negotiations in this country are concerned chiefly with questions of Czech-Israel air service and are being conducted "in an atmosphere of mutual understanding" and are proving "very satisfactory."

400 BULGARIAN JEWS LEAVE FOR ISRAEL; FIRST TO HOLD REGULAR VISAS FROM JEWISH STATE

SOFIA, July 12. (JTA) -- A group of 400 Bulgarian Jews left here today en route to Israel. The members of this group were the first to leave this country with formal entry visas from the Jewish state in their possession.

150 RUMANIAN JEWS UNABLE TO LEAVE FOR ISRAEL BECAUSE OF TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES

BUCHAREST, July 12. (JTA) -- A group of 150 Rumanian Jews holding Palestine immigration certificates granted them by the British Government before the establishment of the Jewish state are unable to proceed to Israel because of a lack of transportation. The Rumanian liner "Transylvania" has suspended all calls to Palestinian ports until the Egyptian and Syrian governments officially cancel their blockade of Palestine's coastal waters.

Meanwhile, Abram Yampolsky, Israeli representative in this country, has asked the French Government to permit the refugees to use a French port of embarkation. It is expected that the request--which is now in the hands of the French Foreign Office--will be granted soon.

ARGENTINE POLICE ARREST SEVEN JEWS ON ISLAND OFF BUENOS AIRES; LANDED ILLEGALLY

BUENOS AIRES, July 12. (JTA) -- Seven Jews--including a 70-year old woman and two children--were arrested by Argentine maritime police on an island off here.

The Jews arrived on the island illegally from Uruguay. They came to Uruguay from Italy by way of Paraguay and are said to have relations in Argentina. They were unable to obtain regular Argentine entrance visas.

JEWISH RELIEF AGENCIES IN BERLIN CONTINUING PROGRAMS; I.R.O. SURVEYS DP SKILLS

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- The programs of Jewish relief agencies in Berlin is continuing despite the present tension in that city, it was reported here today by the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad.

The committee disclosed that a new kindergarten was recently opened by Jewish relief officials in the Soviet sector of Berlin. It was also revealed that the International Refugee Organization has conducted a survey of professions among DP's in the city for the purposes of emigration.

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