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### ALL FRONTS QUIET, ISRAELI SPOKESMAN DECLARES: FIGHTING WITH SYRIANS CONTINUES IN NORTH

TEL AVIV, July 20. (JTA) -- All fronts in Palestine were comparatively quiet today, although some fighting continued on the Syrian front at Tel Azazia, in north-eastern Palestine, and at Mishmar Hatzayon, an official Israeli announcement said. The communique also revealed that two new attempts by Syrian forces to cross the Jordan River into Palestine were foiled by the Israeli Army.

Lajjun, 12 miles northwest of Jenin, is still in Jewish hands, an Israeli spokesman said. He dismissed Iraqi claims that the town has been retaken by Arab units. An attempt by Egyptian armored units to retake Hatta in the Negev failed and the Egyptians were forced to withdraw, the spokesman added.

An Israeli Foreign Office official denied that Jewish aircraft were over Egypt last night when an unidentified plane dropped a bomb on Cairo. It is believed here that the incident was engineered by quarters interested in "causing trouble," he said. (A report from Alexandria said today that air raid sirens wailed for 20 minutes in that Egyptian metropolis this afternoon.) Tel Aviv was alerted last night, as was Haifa this morning, but there were no bombings.

The official, replying to correspondents' questions, declared that the "Israeli Government accepted this truce on the assumption that there would be no restrictions whatsoever on immigration, not even for persons of military age." He revealed that during the ten days of fighting between the two truces, the Israelis occupied 250 square miles of non-Israeli territory in the Galilee.

### JEWISH, ARAB MILITARY LEADERS IN JERUSALEM TO SIGN AGREEMENT FREEZING FRONT LINES TODAY

JERUSALEM, July 20. (JTA) -- An agreement will be signed tomorrow by the Israeli Army and the Arab Legion in Jerusalem "freezing" the front lines according to maps drawn up last night and today by the Jews and Arabs meeting under the auspices of the United Nations Truce Commission here. Meanwhile, Egyptian officers commanding positions south of Jerusalem have crossed the Jewish lines for the first time in order to initiate discussions for demarcating the battle lines in their sectors.

The negotiations with the Arab Legion were conducted by Brigadier David Shaltiel, commander of the Israeli Sixth Brigade which is defending Jerusalem. His Arab counterpart was Lt. Col. Abdullah el Tel, while the U.N. observer was Col. Frank Bogley of the U.S. After the initial meeting, the Jewish and Arab commanders visited the Sheikh Jarrah and Mea Shearim quarters where fighting had not ceased for the truce and ordered their respective forces to hold their fire. After they parted, Arab snipers opened up on Brig. Shaltiel, but did not hit him.

This morning Arab forces near the Damascus Gate demolished the upper story of a French convent within the Old City in order to block up a hole blasted in the wall by the Irgun during the last Jewish pre-truce offensive. The Jews have protested this action as a violation of the cease-fire.

ISRAELI OFFICIAL MAINTAINS JEWISH STATE HAS RIGHT TO TRY BRITONS FOR ESPIONAGE

TEL AVIV, July 20. (JTA) -- An Israeli Government spokesman tonight disputed British Government contentions that the Israeli authorities had no legal right to place on trial here five British subjects seized by the Irgun Zvai Leumi and turned over to the Israeli authorities on charges of having acted as spies for the Arab states in Jerusalem.

(Foreign Under-Secretary Christopher P. Mayhew told the House of Commons yesterday that Britain was demanding the return of the five men to the United Nations Truce Commission and said that the "British Government cannot recognize the right of any Palestinian Jewish court, civil or military, to try British subjects.")

The Israeli spokesman commented: "I am told that there has been some change in this country's regime since May 15. We most assuredly have the right to try foreign subjects for crimes committed on our territory just as Britain may try foreign subjects."

The Israeli authorities moved today on a long-range program to integrate the Arab population that will remain in the new Jewish state. Behor Shitreet, Minister for National Minorities, announced that schools for Arab children will be organized immediately in Jaffa and Haifa and that the government is preparing a scheme of co-operative workshop settlements for Arabs. The authorities will also commence publication of an Arabic bulletin.

The cabinet officer announced the establishment of five new departments in his ministry to cope with minority problems in the new state. The Arab Affairs Department, according to the announcement, is being given wide scope for establishment of good relations with the Arab communities to develop self-government for them and promote democratic institutions.

Full religious freedom for all sects throughout Israel was pledged today by Rabbi Judah L. Fishman, Minister for Religious Affairs, when he visited Nazareth. Rabbi Fishman met Greek Orthodox, Maronite and Franciscan representatives and the Moslem Mufti in the town, which he visited in the company of Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog, to supervise military arrangements for protection of Christian and Moslem shrines there.

The Israeli representative told the Christian and Moslem officials that there would be full religious freedom for all in Israel. He said that he was establishing Christian and Moslem departments in his ministry to attend to the special requirements of both religions.

The Government of Israel today issued its first passport to an Arab national of the state. It went to an Arab citrus plantation owner now in London, to enable him to return here to organize Arab citrus exports as part of Israel's citrus program for next season.

Jews COULD HAVE BEATEN ARABS DECISIVELY IN TWO WEEKS. ISRAELI ARMY ENVOY SAYS

WASHINGTON, July 20. (JTA) -- If the war in Palestine had lasted two more weeks before the U.N. truce became effective the Israeli Army would have decisively beaten the Arab armies and could have taken the whole of Palestine, Major Reuven Dafni, U.S. representative of the Israeli Army, told a press conference at the Israeli mission here today.

Except for heavy military equipment, the Israeli Army is equipped as well as any, Dafni said. "Give us 50 to 60 fighter bombers, 100 to 120 tanks, and 50 25mm guns," he said, "and there is no force in the Middle East that can match us." Asked if he saw any prospects of getting the heavy equipment that Israel needed, Dafni replied that it depended upon the U.S. Only three countries--the U.S., Britain and the U.S.S.R.--produce any quantity of heavy armaments, he pointed out.

U.S. SENDS FORMAL NOTE OF PROTEST TO EGYPTIAN GOVT. OVER FATAL STONING OF AMERICAN JEW

WASHINGTON, July 20. (JTA) -- The U.S. Embassy in Cairo has sent a formal note of protest to the Egyptian Government over the fatal stoning on Sunday of Stephen Haas, an American Jew, it was announced here today by the State Department.

The note followed strong representations made to the Egyptian Government by American Charge d'Affaires in Cairo, Jefferson Patterson, in a call on Prime Minister Mokrasly Pasha, who promised Patterson that the persons guilty of the crime would be apprehended and the "full measure of punishment" would be meted out, State Department press officer Lincoln White said today.

The U.S. is sending 31 military truce observers to Rhodes to assist Count Folke Bernadotte, White disclosed. The force will consist of seven Navy men, three Marines, 10 Army and 10 Air Force officers. White said he did not know from what branch of the service the additional officer will come. The Navy and Marine officers will leave for Rhodes from Washington, while the Army and Air Force men will be taken from Europe.

1,000 PAY TRIBUTE TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AT CLEVELAND TESTIMONIAL DINNER

CLEVELAND, July 20. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 leading Jews and non-Jews, prominent in this city's social, civic, religious and business life, paid tribute to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver here last night at a testimonial dinner arranged in his behalf. Israeli representative to the United Nations Major Aubrey S. Eban, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America, Ohio Governor Thomas J. Herbert, Cleveland Mayor Thomas Burke and Dr. Abraham J. Feldman, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, were among the principal speakers.

Paying tribute to Dr. Silver for his militant leadership in behalf of the Jewish people's case at the U.N., Eban declared: "The Government of Israel has good cause to express its gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Silver and to join with his fellow citizens of Cleveland in this impressive tribute. The celebrated journey across the international scene which has led Israel to statehood was inaugurated by Dr. Silver. He was the first to plead Israel's cause before the United Nations. He was the first to announce before that tribunal the fact that Israel has risen again."

"When the full story is told," Dr. Neumann asserted, "the Jews of the world and of Israel will realize to what extent the courage and boldness of this one man, his sagacious statesmanship, his iron will and prodigious labors brought us through the political struggle to a brilliant glorious chapter in Jewish history. The world Zionist movement will summon him to continue to lead it in the delicate and critical transition through which it must now pass," he added.

Expressing "heartfelt gratitude for the warm tributes" accorded him, Dr. Silver declared: "We fervently hope that the truce will eventuate in a permanent peace which will be of incalculable advantage to the state of Israel, to all Arabs of Palestine and to the entire Middle East. We must remain on the alert to see that the period of the truce and peace negotiations are not employed to force concessions from Israel either in sovereignty or territory."

Messages of felicitation were received from Israel Minister to the U.S.; Eliahu Epstein; former Governor Herbert H. Lehman; Bernard Baruch; Herbert Bayard Swopes; James G. McDonald, U.S. representative to Israel; Beverly D. Tucker, Bishop of Ohio; Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith; Leon Gellman, president of Mizrahi; Sumner Welles; Brig. Gen. Julius Klein, president of the Jewish War Veterans, and others.

HIAS OFFICIAL REPORTS ON SURVEY OF JEWISH CONDITIONS IN PAKISTAN, INDIA, AUSTRALIA

PARIS, July 20. (JTA) -- Reporting on an 18-month survey of conditions among Jewish communities throughout the world, Dr. Henry Shoskes, overseas field director of HIAS, disclosed today that approximately 500 Pakistani Jews who fled to India in recent weeks because of anti-Semitic outbreaks are being well cared for by the Indian Jewish community.

Shoskes revealed that he conferred with Pakistani Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, who said it was "undesirable" for the 2,000 Jews still residing in the country to emigrate, since they have "nothing to do with the present position of Pakistan vis-a-vis Palestine."

The HIAS official said that the only synagogue in Karachi, where there is a community of 250 Jews, was attacked two weeks ago by a mob. The police, he pointed out, "interfered energetically" and at present a five-man guard is posted around the synagogue on a 24-hour basis. At a meeting following the outbreak of the riots, the Karachi Jews voted to sell their synagogue and all communal properties to pay the transportation of the entire community out of the country. No action on this has, however, been taken as yet.

While in Bombay, Dr. Shoskes stated, he visited a group of approximately 600 Jewish refugees from Afghanistan who "are in a deplorable condition." Many of them lived, until very recently, in open-air, crudely-constructed shelters. About two weeks ago, in anticipation of the monsoon season, the Jewish community built a special roof for the refugees.

Due to the unsettled situation in Palestine, the Afghanistan Jews, 180 of whom hold immigration certificates, have been unable to make the journey to Israel. Dr. Shoskes reported that the younger refugees "are waiting impatiently" to join the Israeli Army.

The European members of the Bangkok, Siam, community, about 40 percent of whom are Jews, reside in a separate quarter, Dr. Shoskes said. Dr. L. Jacobson, president of the Bangkok Jewish community, was recently approached by a delegation of 300 former Gestapo and Wehrmacht troops who offered their services to the Israeli Government in the Palestine conflict. Jacobson forwarded the proposal of the Germans to the Jewish Agency, Shoskes said, and advised the Agency that the mercenaries are "unreliable."

Referring to his visit to Australia, Dr. Shoskes said that that country has the "most honest attitude" towards the immigration of Jews. A total of 2,000 Jewish DP's were admitted to Australia recently, Shoskes reported. He expressed the opinion that there are very "favorable prospects" for Jewish skilled workers in that country.

Saul Seymonds, president of the Australian Board of Jewish Deputies, and Dr. Shoskes conferred with Arthur Calwell, Minister of Immigration, and were told that the "formalities involved in issuing visas" have now been eased. The HIAS office in Paris and Jewish relief agencies in Australia, Shoskes stated, cooperate very closely in the transportation of Jewish DP's from Europe to Australia and their absorption into the life of the country.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PROMISED TO AID AUSTRALIAN DP IMMIGRATION PROGRAM, MINISTER REVEALS

CANBERRA, Australia, July 20. (JTA) -- Immigration Minister Arthur Calwell announced today that the United States has promised to help obtain shipping facilities for European displaced persons on route to Australia. A message from President Truman to Calwell, made public by the latter, revealed that the U.S. Government expressed its appreciation of Australia's efforts to alleviate the DP problem in Europe.

OVER 3,000 JEWISH REFUGEES LEFT ITALY FOR ISRAEL DURING LAST THREE MONTHS

ROME, July 20. (JTA) -- More than 3,000 Jewish refugees left for Israel during the past three months, it was learned here today. The Italian Government had placed no restrictions on the migration of Jewish refugees, of non-military age, to Palestine during the truce period.

Meanwhile, Jewish refugees from Austria and Germany, mostly of Rumanian and Hungarian origin, are entering Italy, according to the International Relief Organization which has already registered about 1,000 entries. Since the Italian government has provided new camps for the I.R.O., capable of holding 5,000 persons, Jewish organizations are attempting to induce the I.R.O. in Geneva and the Italian Government permit these refugees to legally enter the country, and so avert complications of illegal crossings of the border.

A number of Egyptian Jews have recently arrived here. They fled fear of persecution and imprisonment in concentration camps under the Egyptian Government's "anti-Zionist" program. Most of the relatively small number of Egyptian Jewish refugees are financially able to care for themselves. At least 30 have already registered with the Jewish Agency office here for immigration to Israel.

AFRICANS EDITOR ASSURES SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS GOVT. WILL NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THEM

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, July 20. (JTA) -- Ignatius Mocke, editor of the Africans monthly, "Horizon," has assured the Jewish community that the Nationalist Government of Premier Daniel F. Malan--which was elected by a coalition of Nationalists and Africans--does not intend to discriminate against Jews in South Africa. Mocke's statements were made in a letter to the South African Jewish Times.

"You have my categorical assurance that the Africanner is far less anti-Semitic than the Englishman or even the American," the letter stated. "On the contrary, we deeply sympathize with the Jews and their courageous fight for freedom." The letter also acknowledges the assistance the Jews have extended to Africans' causes.

FRANCE WILL DO ALL IT CAN TO MAKE JERUSALEM AN OPEN CITY, HERRIOT TELLS AGUDAH

PARIS, July 20. (JTA) -- Edouard Herriot, president of the National Assembly, this week-end received M. Mueller, president of the Agudas Israel of France, to discuss the Palestine situation. After the audience, Herriot issued a statement which said "the peace in Palestine, and in particular the peace of the city of Jerusalem and the welfare of its inhabitants, is a constant pre-occupation of the French Government."

SWEDISH CULTURAL AND POLITICAL LEADERS JOIN ORGANIZATION ASKING RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

STOCKHOLM, July 20. (JTA) -- A number of Swedish cultural and political leaders have joined the recently organized Swedish-Israeli Cultural Association which has been urging the government to extend recognition to the Jewish state.

Meanwhile, Swedish Jews, who number about 10,000, have been active in raising funds and various materials for the Haganah and other Israeli organizations. Among other contributions, the Swedish Jewish community has obtained and prepared for shipment a number of ambulances which will be assigned to the Israeli Army.

JEWIS HAVE MADE GREAT SACRIFICE IN ACCEPTING LATEST U.N. TRUCE, U.J.A. LEADER SAYS

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- "The Jews of Israel have made a great sacrifice in accepting the latest U.N. truce," Samuel Rothberg, of Peoria, Ill., national vice-chairman of the Trades and Industries Division of the \$250,000,000 United Jewish Appeal, said today on his arrival here from Israel, where he flew earlier this month to observe economic progress. Rothberg narrowly escaped death last week when an Egyptian Spitfire strafed Kibbutz Buchenwald, while he was inspecting a childrens' section of the settlement.

The U.J.A. leader called for lifting of the U.S. arms embargo, declaring that such a move by the American Government would "hasten peace in Palestine," since the Arabs would probably not dare to resume fighting. "If they did, despite the lifting of the embargo," he said, "Israeli forces could win the war within two or three months." Accompanying Rothberg was Henry Montor, executive vice-chairman of the U.J.A., who was also returning from a visit to Israel.

EPSTEIN SCORES BERNADOTTE'S RECOMMENDATIONS; ACCEPTS "FRIENDSHIP TRAIN FOR ISRAEL"

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- Eliahu Epstein, Israeli envoy to the United States, yesterday officially accepted a "Friendship Train for Israel" bearing \$500,000 worth of food, clothing, medical supplies and automotive equipment. The train was presented by the Chicago B'nai B'rith.

Earlier, during an official welcome at City Hall, Epstein charged Count Folke Bernadotte's recommendations on cease-fire terms in Palestine as a departure from the original truce terms. "We suggest," Epstein said, "that Count Bernadotte follow the original decision, including no limitations to be made on immigration." The Arabs "are going against the whole letter and spirit of the original truce terms by inserting conditions in the new agreements," he said. He also warned that those conditions might "be only another way to torpedo the truce" and added that if the truce failed, it would be the Arabs' responsibility. The Jews, Epstein declared, had accepted the truce without strings.

ARGENTINE ZIONISTS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO OBTAIN 20,000 NEW MEMBERS WITHIN FEW MONTHS

BUENOS AIRES, July 20. (JTA) -- A campaign to obtain a minimum of 20,000 new members within the next few months was launched here today by the General Zionist Party of Argentina. All General Zionist centers throughout the country have been asked to proclaim the month of August as "Zionist membership" month.

J.W.B. TO AWARD TWO LITERARY PRIZES FOR BEST JEWISH FICTION, NON-FICTION BOOKS

NEW YORK, July 20. (JTA) -- Two literary awards, sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board for fiction and non-fiction books which have literary merit and are of general Jewish interest, "written and published in the U.S. between July 1, 1947 and June 30, 1948, were announced here today by the Jewish Book Council. The awards will be announced in January, 1949.

A prize of \$500, donated by the Jewish Community Council of Washington, D.C., will be awarded to the author of the winning non-fiction work. Samuel Deroff, of Philadelphia, president of the Allied Jewish Appeal and member of the J.W.B. Board of Directors, is the donor of the \$250 prize for the best work of Jewish fiction, either a novel or a collection of short stories.