

ARAB SHELLING OF JERUSALEM CONTINUES; 500 SHELLS FALL IN JEWISH AREAS IN 24 HOURS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Jerusalem's war continued today with more Afab artillery and small arms fire on the southern outskirts of the city. It is estimated that some 500 shells fell in the Jewish areas during the last 24 hours, one hitting and damaging the Turkish consulate. No one was injured in the consulate.

A spokesman for the Israeli military governor of Jerusalem today announced special precautions to guard foreign consular staffs in the city. He stressed that the measures are not being taken because of yesterday's mass prison break by Sternists in Jaffa. He said arrangements were begun after the assassination of Count Bernadotte, but could not be completed until now, following receipt of the consent of the consular corps and U.N. staff.

It was learned today that the consular truce commission's protest to the Arabs over their refusal to permit Christians to enter the Old City to visit the Holy Places may be extended to cover the refusal to admit Jews to pray at the Wailing Wall and elsewhere. Although the Jewish authorities do not expect much improvement in the situation, it is believed that if the situation in respect to the Christians improves, the Jews will also benefit.

PRACTICE BLACKOUT ORDERED THROUGHOUT ISRAEL; EGYPTIANS THREATEN NEW ATTACKS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A nightlong blackout and air raid precaution exercise will begin throughout Israel tonight at 6:30 and will last for twelve hours, it was announced this morning. All dwellings, factories and vehicles will be blacked out.

The Egyptian commander in the Negev today threatened an attack on Israeli forces unless the U.N. immediately took action on alleged Israeli violations of the truce. The U.N. staff headquarters in Haifa immediately asked the Egyptian to hold up all action pending a complete investigation, and the Arab commander agreed, it was announced here by the U.N. It was also stated that a special investigation team has been sent to the southern front where the situation has deteriorated, according to the truce observers.

The Foreign Office yesterday informed the U.N. central truce supervision board that in the future Israel would not recognize the validity of any decision by the board unless an Israeli Army representative were allowed to answer charges and submit observations before a decision was announced. This procedure, the Israeli letter pointed out, was followed during the first truce. Recently Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok and a high Israeli Army spokesman criticized truce board decisions which were announced without giving the Jews a prior opportunity to answer Arab charges to the United Nations board.

CABINET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS HOLDING ISRAELI NATIONAL ELECTIONS DECEMBER 15

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- A Cabinet committee dealing with preparations for the first parliamentary elections to be held in Israel has submitted a recommendation to the Cabinet to set Dec. 15 as the date of the elections. The proposal must be approved by the State Council.

A committee of experts submitted a recommendation to the Cabinet suggesting that the Israeli flag have a white background with two blue stripes on both the right and the left sides and with the Shield of David in the center. The same committee recommended that the Israeli crest be a Chanuka lamp with seven branches against a blue background. In addition it would contain seven Shields of David signifying the seven-hour working day proposed by Theodor Herzl. The crest would also bear at the lower right-hand corner a Shofar while at the lower left would be a Lulav and Ezerog, used by Jews during the Succoth holidays.

BEN GURION PAYS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO WEIZMANN; NEW PROGRESSIVE PARTY ESTABLISHED

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion yesterday paid his first official visit to President Weizmann at the latter's residence in Rehovoth, it was announced here today. Their discussion is believed to have centered about the duties, responsibilities and privileges of the President in the Israeli government set-up.

The founding conference of the Progressive Party, formed by a coalition of the Aliyah Hadashah, the General Zionist Laborites and the General Zionist "A" Group, opened here yesterday. It was decided to give the Aliyah Hadashah wing 45 percent of the representation on all major bodies and committees of the new party, the Laborites 30 percent, and the "A" group 25 percent.

Dr. Abraham Granovsky, managing director of the Jewish National Fund, who was the first speaker at the parley, said the party favored liberal labor laws, social insurance, extension of free education and a program of upbuilding the country, including aid to private capital engaged in improving the national economy. Minister of Justice Felix Rosenblueth, another leader of the new party, called on the government to remain neutral in the east-west conflict and said that the party supports Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok's present policy at the U.N. General Assembly session.

It was reported here today from Moscow that the Rosh Hashanah holidays were marked as an official Israeli holiday with the national flag displayed over the Israeli Legation in the Soviet capital. When Minister Golda Meirson and members of her staff attended the Great Synagogue in Moscow to pray during the holidays, the members of the congregation greeted them enthusiastically.

A Jewish girl, who was a former concentration camp prisoner, today recognized and denounced to the Tel Aviv police a woman who was a former official at the camp where she was held. She recognized the Nazi, who is listed as a wanted war criminal, on the streets of the Israeli capital.

GREEK AUTHORITIES HAMPER AIR TRAVEL FOR PASSENGERS EN TRANSIT TO ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- The Greek authorities are continuing to place difficulties in the way of air travelers bound for Israel, subjecting them to conditions of extreme discomfort at the Athens airport, according to complaints of recent arrivals here. Israel-bound passengers, they charge, are kept virtual prisoners while their planes are on Greek territory and forced to remain in the craft or are confined to a small and dingy cafe on the airport.

In recent cases where the planes were grounded overnight at Athens, passengers were refused permission to sleep at a hotel, even under guard, and forced to remain in the plane. One recent arrival in Israel said that his plane--a French charter-line air transport--was forced to remain overnight and the airport authorities refused to permit the passengers to go to a hotel.

Maurice Biggier, national secretary of B'nai B'rith, who had a Greek visa, succeeded in visiting the Greek Foreign Ministry and interceded with the director of political affairs. Subsequently, an order came through permitting passengers over military age to leave the airport overnight. The passengers unanimously agreed not to leave any behind, and all 22 spent the night in the plane, among them Berl Lecker, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive at Jerusalem. The Greek attitude toward Israel-bound air traffic is believed to be dictated by a desire to please the Arab states.

SO. AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PARTY MAY RESCIND DECISION NOT TO ADMIT JEWS TO MEMBERSHIP

JOHANNESBURG, So. Africa, Oct. 12. (JTA) -- The assurance that Jews will be admitted into the Nationalist Party, which has hitherto banned the admission of Jews, was given by leaders of the party to J. Nossel, one of the founders of a Jewish group supporting the present Nationalist Government.

Addressing a press conference here today, Mr. Nossel revealed that he was assured that a decision to rescind the ban will be taken by the Transvaal Nationalist Congress which is scheduled to meet next month. He reiterated a previous statement that "the Nationalists are not anti-Semitic" and are favorably disposed towards Israel. Premier Daniel F. Malan, he said, welcomes the efforts of his group to mobilize Jewish support for the government.

UNITED NATIONS DELEGATES GET REPORT ON CRITICAL SITUATION OF JEWS IN ARAB LANDS

PARIS, Oct. 12. (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress has addressed a letter to Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and to all delegations of the 58 member-nations at the Palais de Chaillot, calling attention to the critical situation of the Jewish minorities in the Arab countries.

The organization urged that the U.N. adopt an emergency resolution recommending that the Arab states of the Middle East, especially Iraq and Egypt, revise their anti-Jewish policy and safeguard the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all racial and religious groups within their countries.

The Congress also asked the U.N. General Assembly to request that the governments concerned report within eight days whether the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Jewish citizens had been violated and what measures had been taken to prevent further violations and redress the wrongs.

Measures taken in Iraq were described in the letter as designed to "ruin and despoil the Jews." It stated that 400 Jews were interned in concentration camps by the Iraqi authorities solely because they own property in Palestine. The letter mentioned the execution of Shafrik Adee, wealthy Iraqi Jew, on order of a military court on charges of supplying arms and other war equipment to the Zionists, although "he was never associated with a Zionist organization."

With regard to Egypt, the Congress recalled the explosion in Cairo last Sept. 22 when four houses were blown up and 19 Jews were killed and 47 seriously injured. Referring to a protest previously addressed to the U.N. Economic and Social Council, the letter states that 300 to 1,000 Jews had been interned in Egypt since the middle of May and their property confiscated. More than 200 Jews were killed during June and July in bomb outrages or street attacks in Egypt.

The letter emphasized that "events in Iraq and Egypt--murder, mass arrests, imprisonment in concentration camps, confiscation of property and the boycott of fish goods and businesses--followed precisely the Hitlerian, Fascist model of and persecution against the Jews. For such crimes Hitler and his Nazi gangsters were brought to book. These are the same sort of crimes which the international War Crimes Tribunal at Nuremberg condemned as crimes against humanity, the letter said."

U.A.H.C. BOARD REFUTES CLAIMS OF GROUP OPPOSING TRANSFER OF HEADQUARTERS TO NEW YORK

CINCINNATI, Oct. 12. (JTA) -- The executive board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations today issued a statement refuting the claims of a group which is opposing the Board's proposal to remove the national headquarters of the U.A.H.C. from Cincinnati to New York. The arguments in favor of moving the headquarters are summarized in the statement as follows:

"1. New York is the organizational center of American and world Jewry--therefore, the Union must have its headquarters in New York in order to take its place in the councils of Jewish organizational life. For this reason, too, the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the United Synagogue of America (Conservative Judaism), the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Welfare Board, the National Council of Jewish Women and many other leading Jewish organizations have their central offices in New York.

"2. New York is the center of religious life--many Christian denominations, the Lutherans, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, to mention only some, have their headquarters in New York City. There, too, is the Synagogue Council of America, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and countless other organizations devoted to the strengthening of the voice of religion.

"3. New York includes the largest Jewish community both in America and the world--therefore, national headquarters of the Union in New York will enable Reform or Liberal Judaism to fulfill its mission in winning the masses of the unaffiliated, a task too monumental for a regional office however effective.

"4. New York is the supreme focal point of contact with the constituent members of the Union--most congregants visit New York at some time during the year, thus providing the Union with direct contact with its constituency. Because of its excellent transportation, New York offers immediate plane and rail access to at least half of the Union congregants. National meetings in New York, too, are far better attended than elsewhere."

The executive board's statement calls attention to the fact that the advantages of transferring headquarters to New York have been recommended repeatedly since 1905, when the late Jacob H. Schiff urged such a move. Without wishing to minimize the sentimental considerations of Cincinnati as "the birthplace of Liberal Judaism," the executive board emphasizes the fact that removal of U.A.H.C. headquarters from Cincinnati will not deprive that city entirely of a continuing Liberal influence. It is pointed out that the Hebrew Union College and a regional office of the Union in Cincinnati "will assure that community" an uninterrupted source of Reform inspiration.

The statement concludes by stating that "as a result of the recent merger with the Jewish Institute of Religion, the enlarged Hebrew Union College--Jewish Institute of Religion, has quarters in New York. Thus, the Union will continue to remain in proximity to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion both in New York and Cincinnati."

Union of American Hebrew Congregations to Hold 40th Convention in Boston

NEW YORK, Oct. 12. (JTA) -- The 40th biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations will be held in Boston from Nov. 14-17, it was announced here today by Jacob Aronson, chairman of the U.A.H.C. executive board. The convention will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Union.