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BRITAIN BACKS BERNADOTTE PLAN; OFFERS IT AS PALESTINE SOLUTION, NOT BASIS FOR TALKS

PARIS, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The British today presented a resolution to the United Nations Political Committee, amounting to complete endorsement of the Bernadotte recommendations as a specific formula for a Palestine settlement, rather than as a basis for negotiations. The resolution, presented by Hector McNeill, British Minister of State, was offered despite the failure of the United States to support the project.

The resolution "endorses the specific conclusions contained in Part I of the mediator's report as the basis for a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question," and establishes a three-nation Conciliation Commission which, in turn as recommended by Count Folke Bernadotte, would appoint a technical boundaries commission to lay down frontiers (based on the specific conclusions) of that report.

These include the awarding to the Arabs of the whole Negev south of the Majdal-Faluja line, and the designating of Galilee as Israeli territory. This proviso could be altered only to the extent of permitting "such adjustments as may promote agreement between the governments and the authorities concerned, without altering the general equilibrium of the mediator's conclusions."

British Resolution Favors Giving Negev to Trans-Jordan

The British proposal, which is five pages in length, also approves the Bernadotte recommendation that the Palestine Arab areas should preferably be allotted to Trans-Jordan, although providing that their disposition should be made by the Arab states in consultation with the Palestine Arab population.

The resolution further provides that the Holy Places in Jerusalem are to be protected and free access assured by "effective United Nations supervision." The U.N. Conciliation Commission is instructed to draw up detailed proposals for a permanent international regime in Jerusalem, based upon maximum autonomy for the Arab and Jewish communities, to be submitted for consideration next year at the regular meeting of the U.N. General Assembly.

Unimpeded access to Jerusalem by road, rail and air is to be accorded all Palestinians by the governments and authorities concerned, and the seven-nation Conciliation Commission is authorized to report to the Security Council any attempt to impair access to the Holy City.

The British proposal also provides for the dissolution of the U.N. truce commission and the present mediation machinery. It would instruct the Security Council to specify that the office of the U.N. mediator for Palestine will terminate when the Council transfers all the functions of mediation to the Conciliation Commission.

Syrian delegate Faris al Khoury led off the Arab opposition to the plan. He rejected it completely, reverting once again to a plea for a single, Arab state in Palestine. The delegates of Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Egypt all joined in denouncing the Bernadotte recommendations. They were the only speakers to take the floor after

McNeill and the session ended early for lack of speakers. A spokesman for the French delegation told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that France definitely does not consider the Bernadotte plan more than a basis for discussion and said that the French delegation will offer some amendments to the British resolution. It was reported reliably that Canada, New Zealand and Australia are also not willing to stand behind the British proposal in its present form.

U.S. Delegation to Make Preliminary Statement Today

An American spokesman indicated today that the U.S. delegation will make a preliminary statement on Palestine tomorrow. No information on what that statement would contain was revealed.

(At his vacation resort in Key West, President Truman today designated John Foster Dulles as acting chairman of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations. At the same time he appointed Benjamin Cohen chief U.S. delegate to the General Assembly to replace Rep. Warren Austin, who is ill.)

Meanwhile, the smaller nations at the U.N. are holding back from debate participation, waiting for the U.S. to make its position clear. If the U.S. should unqualifiedly support the British resolution, then the Arabs are expected to abstain and the resolution will probably obtain the necessary two-thirds vote. Only the U.S.S.R. and the Eastern European bloc is expected to oppose the decision in such an event. If, however, the U.S. does not follow the British lead this session of the Assembly will probably not reach any final solution of the Palestine problem.

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WILL NOT REJECT MEDIATOR'S ORDER TO WITHDRAW FROM NEGEV POSITIONS

PARIS, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government, it is learned authoritatively, has decided not to reject the Negev ultimatum addressed to it by United Nations mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche.

The Israelis have notified Dr. Bunche that, in accordance with his request, Gen. Yigal Yadin, director of military operations of the Israeli Army, has been appointed chief operational officer to negotiate on details of a withdrawal of Israeli troops to their Oct. 14 positions. Nowhere in the Israeli reply is there a specific declaration of intention to carry out the withdrawal. However, the response equally refrains from suggesting that the withdrawal will not take place. The Egyptian reply also restricts itself to an announcement of the appointment of an officer to negotiate details of the order.

(In Tel Aviv it was learned that the Israeli Government has decided to urge the Security Council to give the question of implementation of the Palestine armistice resolution priority over the order to withdraw troops from the Negev. After a lengthy night session, the Israeli Cabinet adopted a proposal to point out to the Council that the question of the future of the Negev is linked to the peace talks, and cannot be isolated or considered separately.)

Meanwhile, a U.N. spokesman announced that Dr. Bunche had clarified the Negev order by stating that the deadline was midnight November 19. The appointment by the deadline of military officers for consultation with the mediator's staff will be considered compliance with the order.

STATE DEPT. ORDERS PROTEST "IF NECESSARY" AGAINST EGYPTIAN SEIZURE OF U.S. SHIP

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The State Department has instructed U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Stanton Griffis to protest "if necessary" to the Egyptian Government over the seizure of an American merchant ship at Port Said, apparently on the theory that it carried goods consigned to Israel.

TEL AVIV, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion, addressing the State Council today, declared that "all forces which we sent on Oct. 14 to open the road to the Negev have returned to their bases. Jewish forces now in the Negev are those which were there before Oct. 14 and whose task it is to keep Jewish settlements open and to protect them against any possible Egyptian attack. These forces will not be withdrawn," he emphasized.

"We welcome the (U.N.)-armistice resolution," he said. "Although it is not strong, nevertheless it represents a change in attitude on the problem of war and peace in Palestine, and is a first step on the way to lasting peace. The Israeli Government is prepared to enter into negotiations with all Arab states or with any Arab states which will come to the conclusion that it will not conquer Palestine by force of arms."

He asserted that "we have reason to believe that all the Arab states have reached the conclusion that there is no purpose in continued fighting. We are certain that no differences exist between our interests and those of the Arab countries. On our side, we will give all necessary support to the Security Council on its new road," he added.

A reserve force of labor battalions made up of all those of military age who for economic reasons are not enlisted in the army will be mobilized, the Premier announced. The labor battalions, which are to be called "amal," will be organized as a part-time service and divided into three classes serving four, six and 14 days a month, respectively. The general staff and defense military commission will be the body responsible for deciding in which class each man will belong, Ben Gurion said. He explained that the first two days' service will be unpaid, but the remainder of each month's time will be paid for.

In a proclamation issued last night, the Irgun-sponsored Freedom Movement declared: "We call upon all inhabitants of our homeland to be alert to the danger of British suppression. Any British occupation army in our country, in secret or in disguise, spells the end of our freedom. Before we miss the favorable moment, let the order of attack be given to our soldiers. Let us secure a place for those who will return to Zion. Let us fortify our sovereignty so that we may be able to release a considerable number of our sons from military service for work and reconstruction," the proclamation added.

Incomplete, provisional totals of the recent census indicate that of some 782,000 persons residing in Israel or Israeli-controlled territory, 713,000 are Jews.

YIDDISH NEWSPAPERS CONDEMN SPLIT IN U.P.A.; FORESEE DAMAGE TO ISRAEL FUND-RAISING

NEW YORK, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The conflict in the United Palestine Appeal was criticized yesterday in editorials appearing in the New York Yiddish press. The Jewish Morning Journal pointed out that the plan to establish a fund-raising organization for Israel distinct from the U.P.A. will result "not only in a split, but in virtual confusion." This, the Journal continued, "will not do fund-raising efforts for Israel any good."

The Day said that "at this time, when the Jews of Israel are in the midst of a serious struggle, which is costing hundreds of Jewish lives and millions of Jewish funds, there is a group of people here who seek to undermine the basis of the Zionist Organization in America and to break Jewish unity."

The Day said it "has in mind the so-called Montor group, which has undertaken to damage the United Jewish Appeal and to harm the collection of funds for Israel. The Day has already published several reports about the Montor scandal," the editorial continued. "Not all has been told, for we did not wish to make all the intrigues known widely. Some of the U.P.A. leaders felt that this might harm the collection of funds. But for Mr. Montor and the several other people with him there is no such sense of responsibility. For such people there is no place in Jewish public life," the newspaper added.

ISRAELI GOVT. AGREES TO ADMIT ALL JEWISH REFUGEES IN CHINA, J.D.C. OFFICIAL REPORTS

SHANGHAI, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government has agreed to accept all Jewish refugees in China desiring to leave, according to officials here of the Joint Distribution Committee and of Palamt, the immigration unit of the Jewish Agency. A total of 5,000 Europeans, plus another 4,000 Russian Jews, who have been in China since before the Hitler regime, are involved.

Adolph C. Glassgold, of New York, China director for the J.D.C., estimated that probably 90 percent of the 9,000 refugees would accept emigration to Israel. M. Lurie, the Israeli consular representative in Shanghai, who is now in New York, is expected within three days to make arrangements for the first blocks of Israeli visas.

Meanwhile, William Tuck, chief of the International Refugee Organization, cabled the I.R.O. local office here that if the China refugees refuse to accept the Israeli invitation, there can be no guarantee of resettlement elsewhere or of continued I.R.O. maintenance. The I.R.O. is at present providing limited rations to 4,100 of these refugees.

This implicit threat of a halt to maintenance, however, does not extend to those 500 Jewish refugees in China who are sick or infirm. According to the cable from Tuck, the migration of these Jews in China must await the approval of Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, United Nations acting mediator for Palestine. The J.D.C., however, is prepared to send them, whatever action is taken by the mediator, provided that their emigration is acceptable to the Israeli Government, which it apparently is.

The J.D.C., in conjunction with Palamt, is ready to ship 4,000 of the refugees, via the Cape of Good Hope, at a moment's notice. The point is stressed here that the far more direct voyage by way of the Suez Canal is regarded as dangerous or might be "prohibited"--presumably by the British or the Arabs.

J.D.C. Would Fly All DP's to Israel, if Necessary

The alternative to the prolonged journey to Israel via the Indian Ocean, the South Atlantic and the Mediterranean would be to fly the refugees to Israel, at a cost of at least \$5,000,000. J.D.C. officials said today that they were prepared for that eventuality, if it appeared necessary and, in the end, more economical. In any case, in this mass emigration the cooperation of both the I.R.O. and the Chinese Nationalist Government is expected.

The only alternative to the appeal last week to Israel by Glassgold, which brought a favorable response, would have been a plea to the United States Consul General in Shanghai to accept these refugees as emergency cases, which would have necessitated a decision by Washington and which might have been weeks in the making. As it is, the United States may be asked to provide transport from China to Israel, in lieu of providing asylum for these refugees at a time when the Nationalist forces are threatened by the Chinese Communists and Shanghai itself is not many miles from the fighting fronts.

The arrangements for the emigration thus far made are the result of a vast amount of calling to Paris, Tel Aviv and New York. The majority of these refugees arrived in China ten years ago, and after the Japanese entered the war were imprisoned in concentration camps. After their liberation, they found it difficult to adjust themselves to life in China. The last straw for them was the decision by the Nanking Government that their status was that of enemy aliens. The Russian Jews among them came to China after the 1917 revolution.

CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALIST PARTY TO DISCUSS REMOVAL OF BAN ON JEWS

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The Transvaal Congress of the Nationalist Party, which opened yesterday, will discuss, probably in closed session, the question whether the ban on Jewish membership in the party should be removed.

Motions have been offered by various local branches of the party including one for state aid to the immigration of "assimilable" elements from Europe. Another urges that only Protestants be allowed to settle in South Africa. Still other resolutions include one envisaging the curbing of foreign correspondents who "misrepresent" South Africa and controlling the movements of South African nationals beyond the borders of the Union where such action is necessary in the national interest.

NAZI GROUP IN BRITISH ZONE OF GERMANY WARNS JEWS TO LEAVE COUNTRY, J.D.C. PARLEY HEARS

PARIS, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- A report that a revived German Nazi organization has warned the 25,000 Jews living in the British zone of Germany to leave the country immediately was presented today to the Joint Distribution Committee-sponsored International Conference on Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation by Joseph Rosensaft, president of the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British zone.

The refugee delegate asserted that the group, known as the "Organization to Exterminate Jewry," is "evidence of the strong comeback of Nazism in Germany." He revealed that 53 Jewish cemeteries in the British zone have been desecrated without a single arrest being made by the authorities.

Rosensaft voiced the opinion that "in perhaps six months, the 7,000 Jews living at Bergen Belsen will have gone--many to Israel, and a few to America. They want to leave desperately. They will never believe there are any good Germans," he added.

U.J.A. DELEGATION IN PARIS TENDERED RECEPTION BY JEWISH AGENCY; SHERTOK ATTENDS

PARIS, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The 35-member U.J.A. delegation which arrived here yesterday en route to Israel where it will study the anticipated needs of some 125,000 Jewish DP's due to arrive in the Jewish state next year was today tendered a reception by the Jewish Agency here.

In the presence of Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok, Agency Immigration leader Eliahu Dobkin told the delegation that "Immigration is our second front. We do not ask admiration, but action." He stressed the importance of removing from danger Jews in Shanghai and Aden.

During a discussion at the reception in which U.J.A. delegates and Jewish leaders from Central Europe and elsewhere participated, Joseph Rosensaft, leader of the Jewish Central Committee of the British zone, and other Central European leaders urged the U.J.A. not to dissolve. The delegation today visited several Jewish institutions here, including an ORT center.

NEW AIRLIFT INAUGURATED FROM AUSTRIA TO ISRAEL; WILL SPEED MOVEMENT OF DISPLACED JEWS

VIENNA, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- A new airlift has been added to the immigration schedule operating between Europe and Israel. Austria will inaugurate air shipment of displaced persons to the Jewish state with a flight of 45 refugees from Salzburg next Monday.

A total of 300 DP's will be included in the first group to be flown out of Austria in four flights. The planes are operated by American crews.

FORMER GERMAN WAR PRISONER WHO AIDED MOSLEYITES IN ENGLAND DEPORTED TO GERMANY

LONDON, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- Erwin Scholz, former German war prisoner who was ordered to leave England for participating in Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement activities here, left the country by air, Reuters reported. Scholz was deported to the British zone of Germany.

BRITH ABRAHAM OPENS DRIVE FOR \$100,000 FOR BLOOD PROCESSING UNIT; HONORS COL. MARCUS

NEW YORK, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- Four hundred lodges throughout the country of Brith Abraham today launched a drive for \$100,000 to help construct and equip a blood-processing building in Israel in memory of the late Col. David Marcus, commander of Israel's military forces who died in battle at the conclusion of hostilities, it was announced here today by Grand Master Joseph R. Apfel. The drive is being conducted in cooperation with the Red Mogen David, Israel's counterpart of the Red Cross, which will, in addition, raise \$150,000 for the project.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION OPENS IN ATLANTIC CITY; MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The National Women's League of the United Synagogue today began the celebration of its 30th anniversary with the opening in Atlantic City of its biennial convention. More than 800 delegates from 400 Conservative sisterhoods in the U.S. and Canada are attending the parley.

BRITISH WOMEN ZIONISTS ADOPT BUDGET OF \$800,000 TO SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS IN ISRAEL

LONDON, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- A 1948-49 budget of \$800,000 was adopted here today at the 26th annual conference of the Federation of Women Zionists of Britain. The funds will be used chiefly to support W.I.Z.O. institutions in Israel.

Speakers at today's meeting expressed the hope that a representative of the Women's International Zionist Organization will be included in the Israel Government. A total of 180 delegates representing 70 local groups throughout Britain are participating in the parley.

CONFERENCE OF POLISH ESPERANTISTS ADOPTS RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM

WARSAW, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- The Congress of Polish Esperantists, meeting here today, adopted a resolution condemning anti-Semitism. After the meeting, a delegation from the Congress proceeded to the Jewish cemetery outside Warsaw and, in brief ceremonies, paid tribute to the memory of the late founder of Esperanto, Dr. Ludwig Zamenhof. The Jewish linguist's grave remained intact throughout the war.

A group of 380 Jewish students attending various colleges in Wroclaw--the largest city in western Poland where the majority of Polish Jews now live--have organized the first Jewish academic fraternity in this country. Most of the students reside in a special "Academy House" presented to them by the Central Jewish Committee of Wroclaw.

WORLD ORT WILL NEED \$6,500,000 FOR 1949, LVOVITCH TELLS ORT LEADERS IN PARIS

PARIS, Nov. 18. (JTA) -- Fifty ORT delegates from various countries today attended an ORT luncheon here, presided over by Judge Leon Meiss, French Jewish leader. Samuel Bronfman of Canada spoke of his experiences with Canadians who had been trained by the ORT, while S. Adler-Rudel described the ORT program in Israel. Dr. David Lvovitch, vice-president of the World ORT Union, outlined the organization's program for the coming year and reported that a budget of \$6,500,000 would be needed for 1949.

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