

# JTA *Daily News Bulletin*

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER BRITISH PLAN TUESDAY; BIG FIVE TO APPOINT COMMISSIONERS

PARIS, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A plenary session of the General Assembly will consider the watered-down British resolution on Palestine Tuesday, it was reported here today.

The resolution, which was finally passed by the Assembly's Political Committee yesterday by a vote of 25-21, with nine abstentions, provides for a three-nation conciliation commission appointed by the Big Five. The last point was contained in a Canadian amendment passed over the bitter opposition of the U. S., S. R., which pointed out that the other four members of the Big Five had supported the Anglo-American resolution throughout and could not be expected to be impartial in choosing the three-member commission. John D. L. Hood of Australia supported the Soviet position in this matter, as did the Polish delegate.

A Soviet resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Palestine was defeated. A Syrian proposal to refer to the Palestine situation to the International Court of Justice was again voted down.

In its final form the British resolution, which failed to muster the support of two-thirds of the delegates which it must have to pass in the General Assembly, provides for the following major points:

1. The conciliation commission shall "take steps to assist the governments and authorities concerned to achieve a final solution of all questions outstanding between them,"
2. The Jerusalem area shall be internationalized, with the commission instructed to report on a plan for such a regime to the next session of the General Assembly. The Jerusalem area shall be demilitarized.
3. The Arab refugees shall be assisted in returning to their homes and the commission is to oversee compensation payments to them for losses incurred, whether they return to Palestine or not.

## ISRAELI AND ARAB LEGION COMMANDERS IN JERUSALEM EXTEND CEASE-FIRE AND NEW MEETING

JERUSALEM, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- The first meeting between Israeli and Arab Legion commanders in the Jerusalem area since the establishment early last week of a new cease-fire took place here today, a United Nations communique announced.

Legion commander Lt. Col. Abdullah el Tal and Israeli Col. Moshe Dayan decided on an extension of the truce to the northern sectors of Jerusalem. Several minor agreements were also concluded, including one providing for the improvement of some non-military installations on Mt. Scopus and the repair of sewers in Norman's land. Another meeting between the commanders will be held soon, the U. N. communique said.

ISRAEL PROTESTS TO U.N. AGAINST EGYPTIAN CONTRABAND RUNNING; ASKS FORMAL ACTION

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Yaacov Dori, Israeli Army Chief of Staff, today lodged a formal protest with Brig. Gen. William Riley, U.N. chief of staff in Palestine, against an Egyptian attempt last week to run contraband arms and supplies through the Israeli lines to the Arab troops trapped at Faluja. The unsuccessful attempt to bring through weapons parts in a U.N. convoy which was supposed to be carrying only non-military supplies occurred on December 1. The contraband was seized by the Israelis.

Dori's protest calls the Egyptian action a "flagrant breach of faith," and "finds it most difficult to understand how items of cargo not listed on the manifest escaped the notice of United Nations observers in Gaza." The letter also requests that formal action be taken by Gen. Riley as a consequence of the truce violation. Israeli authorities today denied knowledge of reported efforts by the U.N. to arrange a second convoy from Gaza to Faluja.

It was learned here that at a recent meeting with Gen. Riley, Yigal Yadin, Israeli Army Chief of Operations, and Israeli Foreign Office aide Reuven Shilchah warned the U.N. officer that if the Egyptians do not agree to early armistice negotiations, Israel will take action against the Faluja pocket. Riley, who left for Cairo to meet with acting mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche, will convey the Israeli position to the Egyptian.

STERNIST LEADERS ON TRIAL IN HEAVILY GUARDED ACRE COURT; DEFENDANTS PLEAD OWN CASE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- The trial of Nathan Friedman-Yellin, Sternist chief, and his deputy, Matatiah Shmulevitz, the first political trial in Israel's history, opened before a military court in Acre today with the defendants handling their own defense and Max Seligman, their lawyer and one of the most prominent attorneys in the country, acting as advisor.

The Sternists are charged with directing and organizing terrorist activities and membership in a terrorist organization from September 29, 1948 on. The Stern Group was outlawed as a terrorist organization twelve days after the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte by members of an offshoot of the Sternist movement. The defense will call 25 witnesses, including Premier David Ben Gurion, Minister of Interior Itzhak Gruenbaum and Army Chief of Staff Yaacov Dori.

Hoter Ishai, chief military prosecutor, told the court that it holds the power of deciding whether the law banning terrorist organization is valid. Its action will serve as a precedent in the trial of other Sternists, he said.

A minor panic was caused at today's proceedings when a photographer's flashbulb exploded. Both guards and civilians in the court threw themselves on the floor. The courthouse is surrounded by three concentric circles of barbed wire, many soldiers surround the building and its accesses and all roads in the neighborhood are blocked by barricades and armored vehicles.

POSSIBILITY OF TRANSJORDAN SEEKING BRITISH MILITARY AID IN PALESTINE REPORTED

LONDON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A report of alleged Israeli violations of Transjordan territory has been forwarded to U.N. acting mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche, the Amman correspondent of the Sunday Times reported today. He added that "the increasing aggressiveness of Jewish forces near Transjordan's frontiers will likely lead" to King Abdullah asking for British military aid under the Anglo-Transjordan treaty.

RUMANIAN AUTHORITIES ORDER TRUCE IN BATTLES BETWEEN ZIONISTS AND ANTI-ZIONISTS

BUCHAREST, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A several days-old battle between Rumanian Zionists of various political shades and anti-Zionist Jews was halted temporarily today by the unofficial intervention of high Rumanian authorities. The truce, called for three days, halted the partly successful attempts by members of the Democratic Jewish Committee to take over the premises of Zionist organizations in this city.

During the 48 hours prior to the truce, the anti-Zionists invaded 14 offices of ten different Zionist groups here. The invaders called on the Zionists to vacate the premises and, when the request was rejected, occupied them by force.

By the time the truce went into effect about half the offices had been recovered by various Zionist groups. Similar instances have been reported from provincial centers with sizeable Jewish populations.

FRENCH COURT SENTENCES WOMAN TO LIFE TERM FOR RESPONSIBILITY IN DEATH OF 5,000 JEWS

PARIS, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Alice Meckert, a French woman, who aided the Gestapo during the war by betraying partisans and Jews, and who was responsible for the death of about 5,000 Jews, was sentenced to hard labor for life by a special court in Marseilles this week-end.

The trial of Professor Henri Labrousse, one of France's most notorious anti-Semitic theoreticians during the German occupation, on charges of having denounced Jews to the Nazis, began before a special court in Paris this week-end. During the occupation, he was head of a Gestapo-created department of "History of Jewry" at the Sorbonne.

CONGRESS WILL ELIMINATE BIAS IN DP IMMIGRATION ACT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE SAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Congress will eliminate the discriminatory features of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, Assistant Secretary of State Ralph Wright tonight predicted at a meeting of the Jewish Labor Committee here. Wright pointed out that the DP immigration bill discriminates against Jews and Catholics in "outrageous fashion."

(In New York this week-end a meeting of the American Friends Service Committee heard Carl Levine, one of its field workers who just returned from a tour of duty in Germany, advocate more generous Federal legislation to admit DP's. Levine outlined weaknesses of the bill as far as its being of greatest service to the DP's is concerned. He singled out the deadline before which DP's had to be in Germany to be eligible for admission to the U.S. and the red tape involved in the administration of the act as being particularly disadvantageous to the displaced persons.)

Wright also said that President Truman's election "signifies to all of us that a civil rights program is now closer to enactment than ever before." The report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, appointed by President Truman in 1947, "is being taken seriously" by the administration, he said.

"President Truman has committed himself to continue the fight to eradicate all racial, religious, and economic discrimination," he declared. Wright revealed that the Labor Department has taken the lead in complying with President Truman's executive order setting up a Fair Employment Practices Commission within the Federal Government.

JEWISH STATE, NOT U.N. WILL SOLVE PALESTINE PROBLEM, DOBKIN SAYS IN BUENOS AIRES

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Recent events in Paris prove that the Jewish people, not the United Nations will solve the Jewish problem, Elishu Dobkin, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, declared here last night at a reception tendered him by the city's Jewish leaders. Dobkin, who arrived here from the United States this week-end, appealed to Argentine Jewry not to relax its efforts in behalf of Israel and refugee immigration to the Jewish state.

JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE APPROPRIATED \$70,000,000 FOR OVERSEAS AID IN 1948

NEW YORK, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Over \$70,000,000 was appropriated during 1948 for relief, resettlement and reconstruction of Jewish survivors in Europe, China and elsewhere by the Joint Distribution Committee, the organization announced here this week-end. At the same time, the J.D.C. made public its budget of \$5,533,500 for the month of December.

The 12-month allocation, it was revealed, is the second highest in J.D.C. history. The largest single sum, \$14,874,500, appropriated during the year was used to aid great numbers among the 750,000 Jews living in Eastern Europe.

An SOS Collection of the J.D.C. report disclosed that more than 9,853,000 pounds of canned foods, infant layettes, clothing and other relief supplies had been collected in the U.S. during the first 11 months of 1948. The 1948 total brings to more than 24,128,000 pounds the amount contributed by Americans since January, 1946.

J.W.V. LAUDS TRUMAN'S PALESTINE POLICY; SEEK REMOVAL OF ARMS EMBARGO, LOAN TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- President Truman's "clear and convincing demonstration of United States adherence to the Administration's avowed policy on Israel," was lauded over the week-end by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States at its national Elections Committee meeting here. A resolution was adopted commending the President "for the genuine humanity exemplified by the cooperation and help afforded to the newest of the world's nations." The resolution also appealed for removal of the embargo on arms shipments to Israel and for a loan to the Jewish state.

CONVENTION OF FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA OPPOSES DISCRIMINATION

CINCINNATI, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A statement calling on the churches of this country to press for extension of full social, political and economic rights to every citizen without discrimination as to race, color, creed or sex was adopted here this week-end at the three-day biennial convention of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. The Council represents 27 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox church bodies in the U.S.

U.S. UNION OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN ISRAEL; TO REPORT TO A.F.L. ON HISTADRUTH ROLE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Charles Zimmerman, vice-president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, arrived in Israel this week-end and was greeted at the Lydda Airport by Israel Mereminsky of the Histadruth. Zimmerman stated that he had come to Israel to study the Histadruth and its role in the new state and to report his findings to the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor. After visiting Histadruth institutions at Ramleh and elsewhere, providing homes for new settlers, Zimmerman said he was greatly impressed.

A HIAS delegation also arrived here this week-end on a tour of the Jewish state. The delegation consists of Isaac Asofsky, Solomon Dingol and Samuel Goldstein.