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COMMISSION REPORTS TO CONGRESS; ASKS ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION FROM DP LAW

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The elimination of provisions from the Displaced Persons Act which President Truman last year called anti-Semitic was today recommended in the Displaced Persons Commission's first report to Congress. The report also stated that 3,415 visas had been made available to DP's during the first six months of operation of the DP Act, although 50,000 or more visas were theoretically available.

The Commission explained the discrepancy between the actual figure and the possible figure as due to "growing pains" such as inadequate staff, insufficient working space, and the difficulty of putting an entirely new concept into practice. Great problems, however, it said, were the administrative requirements of the Act itself which establishes a 40 percent priority for displaced persons from "de facto annexed areas," a 30 percent priority for "agriculturalists," and sets the eligibility date at Dec. 22, 1945.

To resolve such problems the Commission recommended to Congress that these requirements be eliminated and that the date be changed to April 21, 1947 when the camps were closed to further entrance of displaced persons. It proposed substituting a provision that the selection of displaced persons be carried out without discrimination as to race, religion or national origin.

Instead of requiring assurances of specific jobs and housing facilities for the DP's, it suggested only the requirement of assurances of "reasonable and suitable resettlement opportunities." The assurances against becoming a public charge should be sufficient to meet the requirements of all immigration laws relating thereto, the Commission advocated.

It recommended the complete abolition of the system of charging entrants against future quotas and asked that the priority for displaced persons living in D.P.O. camps be eliminated.

Wants 400,000 DP's Admitted; Recommends Loans to Voluntary Agencies

The program should be extended to a four-year program, the report proposed, and 400,000 should be admitted during that period. In addition, a revolving fund should be established for loans to recognized voluntary agencies to meet the expenses of reception and transportation of immigrants from the ports of entry.

The Commission also asked for inclusion in the law of a provision that would bar from entry "anyone who advocated or assisted in persecutions of others for race, religion, or national origin." Finally, it urged Congress to transfer to the regular immigration statutes the provision in the Displaced Persons Law that would permit the entry of ethnic Germans.

These changes are already embodied in legislation before the Senate in a bill submitted by Democratic Senators J. Howard McGrath of Rhode Island and Matthew M.

ally of West Virginia. In their report the commissioners too singled out for particular criticism the current date of Dec. 22, 1945. "Information provided by the International Refugee Organization indicates that roughly an estimated 130,000 to 135,000 persons appear ineligible because of the date limitation," it said. If the date were changed to April 21, 1947, as recommended, 95,000 DP's out of an approximate total of 610,000 would immediately become eligible for admission. Of the 95,000 some 78,000 are Jewish and a majority of the rest are Catholic.

Emphasizes Effect of Discriminatory Provisions on Jewish Immigration

The report went on to point out that the date, which discriminates particularly against Jewish DP's, had had a much more serious effect along this line several months ago when the act was under consideration. "Most Jewish displaced persons left in the interim for other countries, principally Israel," it pointed out.

The report also attacked the priority extended to Balts on the grounds that quite apart from the very serious administrative blocks it creates, it also "grants an unwarranted discriminatory advantage to certain groups because of national origin and therefore conflicts with the humanitarian objectives of the Act."

The requirement that 30 percent of the visas be issued to agriculturalists was also attacked on the basis that it too would bar from entry great numbers of otherwise eligible DP's. "A rigid conformity with the 30 percent provision in the absence of sufficient suitable assurances might well wreck the program," the report stressed.

Citing facts and figures the Commission said that, up to December 31, 1948, assurances had been validated for 27,667 families, making available housing accommodations for between 55,000 and 63,000 persons. Of the 3,415 visas issued thus far, it was pointed out, 36 percent (1,228) were issued to persons from de facto annexed areas and 16 percent (560) to "agriculturalists." This was considerably under the 40 percent and the 30 percent respectively required for these two categories. Actually, only 2,499 persons have entered the country under the Act during the first six months of operation.

Resettlement of those who have entered has been fairly widely diffused, the report said. The DP's so far have gone to 34 states, the District of Columbia and Alaska. Seventy percent went to large cities, 20 percent to smaller urban areas, and 10 percent to rural areas.

END OF MILITARY REGIME IN JEWISH-HELD JERUSALEM ANNOUNCED; CIVILIAN REGIME RESTORED

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA). -- Civilian administration of the Jewish controlled sectors of Jerusalem was restored today after eight months of military administration.

The military governorship of the city, established by the Israeli Government, was terminated last night. A government spokesman pointed out that this change does not affect the legal status of the new city, which is under Israeli control. He declared that the return to civilian administration reflected the normalizing of life in the city and the organization of its supplies.

Three hundred Arabs at a meeting last night in the Rockefeller Museum, 300 yards from the Jewish lines, adopted a resolution demanding that all of Jerusalem and the surrounding area be delivered to the Arabs on the grounds that only the Arabs could guarantee the sacredness of the Holy City.

The meeting was addressed by Camille Chamoun, former Lebanese Minister of the Interior. He rejected United Nations plans for internationalization of Jerusalem.

BEN GURION OUTLINES ISRAEL'S FOREIGN AND INTERNAL POLICY; DEMANDS CABINET UNITY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Israel's foreign policy will be based on friendship with both the United States and the Soviet Union, Premier David Ben Gurion declared here last night in his first public statement since the elections. Speaking on a radio broadcast as a "citizen and the leader of the largest party in the country," Ben Gurion stated that the Jewish state would seek alliances with the Arab states in the Middle East and would maintain complete "loyalty to the United Nations"

Outlining the internal policy which the Mapai will attempt to put into effect in the new coalition government, the Premier said that it was important that labor shall form a majority of the government because only thus would it reflect the real state of affairs in the country and because only under a labor majority could the national ideal of Zionism and socialism be developed. Such development, he said, will lead to the transformation of the Jewish people in their homeland to a free cooperative commonwealth of labor "liberated from the curse of man's exploitation of man."

He demanded that any parties which participate in the coalition do so on the basis of "collective responsibility" within and outside the Cabinet. If a party does not choose to accept its full share of the responsibility and maintain discipline in relation to the government's policies, let it stay outside the Cabinet and remain free to express itself as an opposition party, he insisted.

Rounding out the picture in relation to his proposed internal policy, Ben Gurion promised an enlarged program of social legislation and economic planning. The government must gather in the exiles from the Diaspora and their possessions, and at the same time develop the agricultural, industrial and maritime potentialities of Israel, he pointed out. This program, he asserted, requires an influx of capital from abroad--from private, state and international sources.

Finally, Ben Gurion pledged that the government will guarantee and extend equal rights to all men and women and all the peoples and religions in Israel. He expressed the opinion that the maturity displayed by the political parties and the public during the elections enhanced Israel's prestige abroad.

POSSIBILITY OF ISRAEL ASSISTING RESETTLEMENT OF ARAB REFUGEES IN NEARBY LANDS REPORTED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The possibility that the Government of Israel might contribute materially toward the resettlement of Palestine Arab refugees in neighboring Arab countries is being considered in high Israeli circles. ✓

An indication to that effect was given yesterday by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok who, emphasizing that he was merely "thinking out loud" and offering his personal opinion only, stated that the Israeli Government might be willing to assist financially in the resettlement of refugees in neighboring lands.

Israel's assistance in resettlement would probably be contingent on fulfillment of the following points: the signing of final peace treaties with all Arab countries; recognition by the Arab states of their responsibility toward the refugees and allocation of land for their resettlement; and granting of permission to Jews now living in Arab countries to migrate to Israel. Israel's financial or other help to the refugees would be made through and in conjunction with other interested nations or international organizations.

AMERICAN ENVOY TO ISRAEL CALLS ON SHERTOK; INFORMS HIM OF U.S. RECOGNITION

TEL AVIV, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- United States special representative to Israel James MacDonald today called on Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok and transmitted to him the text of the U.S. Government's announcement extending de jure recognition to the Jewish state. The Belgian Government's consul-general in Jerusalem also called on Shertok and gave him the text of Belgium's de facto recognition of Israel.

An Israeli Government spokesman, commenting on the U.S. Government's granting of full recognition to the new state, declared: "We welcome United States recognition and we recall with appreciation American de facto recognition, which came so soon after our declaration of statehood. We believe that all that has occurred here since then made de jure recognition a matter of time and now we are pleased that the time has come for full recognition."

Meanwhile, Shertok today instructed acting Israeli representative in London J. J. Linton to convey the following message to British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin: "I am glad to acknowledge receipt of your communication and to express the appreciation of the Provisional Government of Israel for Britain's de facto recognition. The Provisional Government hopes for the early establishment of friendly relations between the two governments and is ready to discuss proposals by you for the exchange of representatives."

A similar message was presented to British Consul-General Cyril Marriott in Haifa for transmission to London. The Israeli Foreign Minister also sent messages of acknowledgment and thanks to the Australian and New Zealand Governments for their recognition of the Jewish state.

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS WIRE THANKS TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN FOR U.S. RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- President Truman was today the recipient of numerous messages from Jewish organizations lauding him for the extension of United States de jure recognition to Israel.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, in a message to the President, stated he was very happy to learn of the U.S. recognition. "By this and by other acts of furtherance of our Zionist purpose, you have linked your name with the fulfillment of the historic and age-long dream of the Jewish people," his wire to Truman said.

Bnai Zion, in a message signed by Harry A. Pine, national president, telegraphed the organization's thanks and voiced the hope that the "present friendly relations between the two nations will grow in the years to come."

Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, said in her message that "the extension of full diplomatic recognition to Israel and Transjordan by the United States is an important contribution toward bringing about the swift and satisfactory solution to the problems which have beset Palestine."

B'nai B'rith Leaders Get Pens Truman Used to Sign Recognition

President Truman presented the pens he used yesterday in signing the papers formally recognizing Israel to Frank Goldman, president of B'nai B'rith, Maurice Biegan, secretary of B'nai B'rith, and Edward Jacobson, the President's former business partner from Kansas City, all of whom were present at the brief ceremony.

The three later sent a congratulatory cable to President Chaim Weizmann of Israel declaring that: "B'nai B'rith rejoices with you and expresses confident hope that Israel may develop in peace and the deathless ideals of our faith." They also called on Eliahu Epstein, Israeli special representative here, at the Israeli headquarters to congratulate him.

GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA EXTENDS DE JURE RECOGNITION TO STATE OF ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The Government of Colombia today announced its recognition of the state of Israel, the Jewish Agency here said. The report to the Agency stated that Colombia had extended de jure recognition.

APPOINTMENT OF U.S. DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE TO ISRAEL IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The matter of choosing diplomatic representatives for Israel and Transjordan is still under discussion, State Department press officer Michael McDermott told reporters today. There were indications here that Israel and the United States would exchange ambassadors rather than ministers.

Asked if the United States might appoint one ambassador for Israel and Transjordan jointly, McDermott said that was possible, but no decision had yet been reached.

BRITAIN WELCOMES U.S. RECOGNITION OF TRANSJORDAN; IS MUM ON RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- United States recognition of Transjordan is "welcomed" by Britain, a Foreign Office spokesman declared today.

No official comment was made on the de jure recognition by the United States of Israel, but authoritative quarters stressed the divergence between the London and the Washington view on this subject. Britain, it was stated, believes that the United States is not in keeping with international usage, since de jure recognition should not be given to a state whose frontiers are so fluid as those of Israel.

U.N. MEDIATOR CONFIRMS THAT HE HAS MADE NEW PROPOSALS TO JEWS, EGYPTIANS AT RHODES

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, acting mediator for Palestine who is presiding over the Rhodes armistice negotiations, today confirmed to the United Nations Secretariat that he has presented new proposals to the Israelis and Egyptians in another effort to achieve agreement between the parties.

Dr. Bunche reported that he presented "several working papers designed to facilitate and expedite the effort to achieve agreement of outstanding points." Bunche did not give the details of his proposals but added: "It is hoped that this procedure will serve to crystallize matters." The cable stated that the Egyptian delegation is consulting with its Government at Cairo on the new proposals.

NEW JEWS LEAVE CYPRUS FOR ISRAEL; ISRAELI SHIP SHUTTLES BETWEEN HAIFA AND FAMAGUSTA

FAMAGUSTA, Cyprus, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The 3,000-ton steamer Galila today embarked 1,500 Jews here--another instalment of the 11,000 to be moved from Cyprus detention camps to Israel. She arrived from Haifa, where she had taken a previous contingent early in the morning and was due to sail again tonight.

JERUSALEM AREA HAS HEAVY RAINFALL; 24-HOUR TOTAL GREATER THAN ALL OF LAST YEAR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- Rains heavier than any inhabitants of Jerusalem can remember in the last 20 years fell here during the last 24 hours and washed out roads between Jerusalem and Hebron and Jericho. The 24-hour rainfall was estimated as being twice the rainfall of the entire 1947-48 winter season.

BOTTLE OF INFLAMMABLE OIL HURLED INTO ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A bottle smelling of paraffin oil was today thrown into the Israeli Government office at Manchester Square here. Nobody was injured. Police immediately started an investigation.

Several persons were arrested here last night during a protest demonstration against Sir Oswald Mosley and his pro-fascist Union Movement. The demonstration occurred outside Kensington Town Hall where Mosley was addressing a political meeting.

During the course of the Mosleyite meeting several persons threw home-made tear gas bombs filled with ammonia. Outside of the hall a large crowd of men and women were held in check by police reinforcements. Most of the demonstrators had been attracted by a ceremony at a nearby war memorial during which representatives of the Forty-Three Group, an organization of Jewish veterans which fights anti-Semitism, placed a wreath at the foot of the monument to Britain's war dead.

Z.O.A. SUMMONS EXTRAORDINARY PARLEY TO DISCUSS PRESENT SITUATION IN ZIONIST MOVEMENT

NEW YORK, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- The convening of an "Extraordinary National Conference" of leaders of the Zionist Organization of America, to be held in New York on February 13, was announced here today by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the Z.O.A.

The top officials of all Z.O.A. districts in the United States, as well as all members of the organization's administrative council and executive committee, have been invited to participate in the parley. The conference will consider the "present situation in the American Zionist movement," the furtherance of various economic projects for Israel as well as the over-all program currently being conducted by the Z.O.A., Dr. Neumann said.

Five presidents of Zionist regions in New York today termed as "dissident" and "oligarchs" the ex-presidents of the Zionist Organization of America and others who at a meeting of the Committee for Progressive Zionism held at the Biltmore Hotel on Sunday attacked the present leadership of the Zionist Organization of America, headed by Dr. Neumann.

"The charges now brought against the Z.O.A. leadership had been presented before and rejected by the overwhelming majority of the elected delegates to the convention of the Zionist Organization of America held in Pittsburgh last July," the statement said. "It was at that convention that the spokesman for the Committee for Progressive Zionism presented their case to the highest forum of the Zionist movement in America, only to go down to an ignominious defeat."

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION ASKS DELAY IN U.S. ACTION ON U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COVENANT

CHICAGO, Feb. 1. (JTA) -- A resolution calling on the United States delegation at the United Nations to delay at least for one year final action on the proposed international covenant on human rights was unanimously adopted here yesterday by the house of delegates of the American Bar Association.

The action was taken following a report by one of the organization's committees which declared that the proposed covenant was in conflict with some aspects of municipal, county, state and national law. Speakers argued that if the U.S. Senate ratified the covenant as a treaty, the covenant would have the same force in this country as the Constitution.

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