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# JTA

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### MILITARY PHASE OF RHODES ARMISTICE PARLEY COMPLETED; FORMAL AGREEMENT EXPECTED TODAY

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The military phase of the Israeli-Egyptian armistice negotiations on the island of Rhodes has been completed and a formal agreement may be signed tomorrow, it was understood in United Nations circles in Haifa.

The successful completion of the talks is attributed here to the Egyptians' decision to give up the towns of Auja and el Hafir, both in the Negev. Israeli Army operations chief Col. Yigal Yadin, who is now in Israel, is not expected to return to the Rhodes headquarters of acting U.N. Palestine mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche except possibly to sign the military pact.

(Reuters reported from Rhodes today that Brig. Gen. William Riley, chief of staff to Dr. Bunche, would probably be chosen to head an armistice commission and that Auja would become the headquarters of such a body. The British news agency said that two points which remained up in the air just prior to the conclusion of the talks were the disposition of Israeli troops in the Eastern Negev and the fate of Beersheba. The Rhodes dispatch said that the Egyptians were prepared to concede Beersheba to the Israelis if the Jews would guarantee that Israel will not display any "aggressive intentions towards Egypt.")

The U.N. Conciliation Commission for Palestine announced in Cairo last night that it plans to place Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem under international control. The Cairo announcement added that the Egyptian Premier insists that Jerusalem is an Arab city.

The Beirut radio said last night that the partition of Jerusalem has been agreed upon, with the Arab Legion scheduled to take over the Old City, the Jews the New City, while an international body "would set up its administrative offices for the Holy Land there." Meanwhile, the Syrian Premier has denied that the five Arab states invited by Dr. Bunche to join the talks on Rhodes had accepted the mediator's invitation.

### ISRAELI CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY BEGINS WORK ON PRESSING PROBLEMS; ELECTS THREE COMMITTEES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The Israeli Constituent Assembly which yesterday opened its first session here today got down to business by electing three committees to deal with the most pressing problems facing the Assembly. The Assembly, known as Knesseth Israel, also received a plan for the drafting of a "transitional law" which will act as the country's temporary constitution until such time as a permanent charter is accepted.

The three committees named today were: transitional law committee, procedural committee, and mandates committee. The proposal for a temporary draft charter was made by Dr. Felix Rosenbluth, Minister of Justice, as the first order of business today. It is expected that it will be debated at a session tonight.

Rosenbluth's plan calls for a special committee to be established to draw up the transitional law and have it accepted by the Assembly before the body adjourns.

to Tel Aviv on Thursday. He suggested that the law bear a special stamp declaring that it was issued in "Jerusalem, the Capital."

Another indication that the permanent seat of the Knesseth will be fixed later was given today in the first speech by Joseph Sprinzak, newly-elected chairman of the body. He referred to the buildings in which the Assembly is meeting here and will meet in Tel Aviv as "only temporary."

### First Arab Representative Speaks in Assembly

A representative of the Arab people spoke in the Assembly today for the first time. Amin Jourjura, one of two delegates elected on the Nazareth Arab slate, rose to explain the three-point program for which he and his fellow Arab delegate stand. He asked that Israel "maintain strict neutrality and not trail after any world power bloc, create a genuine, unborrowed constitution and that the state be based on a foundation of truth and justice."

Jourjura, who was wearing the traditional headgear of his people, expressed regret that the representation of the Arab people in Israel's Assembly is so small and asserted that for that very reason those Arabs who are members of the body bear greater responsibility. He appealed for help for his people, addressing his plea to the "honorable members of this House who are known as a justice-loving people." His speech was greeted by applause.

The election of Dr. Chaim Weizmann as permanent President of Israel was seen as assured today with the conclusion of a procedural agreement between the Mapai and the Mapam. It was also reported that Fritz Bernstein, Minister for Trade and Industry, and leader of the General Zionist Party, has begun talks with Menachem Beigen, Heruth leader, for the formation of a rightist bloc.

Last night, following Sprinzak's election, a dispute broke out between the left and right wings of the Assembly. The Mapai and Mapam demanded that the Knesseth have only two vice-chairmen, a move which automatically would restrict the praesidium to representatives of the Mapai, Mapam and the Religious Bloc. The Heruth argued for three or four vice-chairmen, but was defeated.

A second unexpected disturbance developed when Eliezer Preminger, a deputy elected on the Communist slate, rose to make a technical point. He was interrupted by the leader of the Communist parliamentary delegation who announced that Preminger had been expelled from the party and did not represent it. Preminger immediately announced that he would form a party of his own.

The United States, Britain and France were not represented at yesterday's opening session although the Soviet delegate attended. The representatives of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Denmark and the Netherlands were present.

United Nations planes flying over Galilee were fired on today from Syrian positions at the town of Aalmine, located south of Lake Euleh and east of the River Jordan.

### I.R.O. TERMS TRANSFER OF JEWISH DP'S TO ISRAEL MAJOR PART OF RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

LAKE SUCCESS, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The immigration of Europe's Jewish refugees to Israel is one of the most significant factors in the resettlement program of the International Refugee Organization, a report released here today by that body revealed.

In a review of its accomplishments in the 18-month period ending Dec. 31, 1948, the I.R.O. summary noted that "the number of DP's going to Israel in December was half the total number of refugees resettled in that month."

JEWS WRITERS UNDER FIRE IN MOSCOW; CHARGED WITH "PLAYING INTO HANDS" OF ENEMY

MOSCOW, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A double-barrelled campaign against "cosmopolitan" and "bourgeois nationalist" influences in Soviet literature is under way here with Jewish writers and the editors of the glossary of the new Soviet Encyclopedia the latest to come under attack.

The campaign, spearhead of which is the Literary Gazette, is aimed against "rah-rah cosmopolitanism," which is termed the ideology of American expansionism, and against all brands of "bourgeois nationalism"--with Ukrainian, Kazakh, Moldavian and Jewish specifically cited.

Currently, the well-known Soviet writer, Lev Nikulin, has published a denunciation of seven Jewish critics and writers--Yuzovsky, Gourvich, Altman, Levin, Subotsky, Danin and Goltsman whose "spiritual fathers," he says, "were arch-reactionaries of the type of Eichenwald and Burenin, who were active in the pre-revolutionary Black Hundred Press." The "Black Hundred" was a violently anti-Semitic organization which flourished under the Czarist regime.

The Literary Gazette this week demands that all writers maintain closer ties with the people of this country and assails the "rashly abhorrent cosmopolitanism" shown by the literary editors of the glossary of the new edition of the Soviet Encyclopedia. "The cosmopolitan objectivity of the editors was shown up particularly by the names included under Jewish literature which was given as much space in the glossary as Uzbek, Kazakh and Georgian literature combined," the publication declared.

"The authors of the glossary," the publication added, "deride the principle of party adherence and Soviet patriotism. They take 'the whole Jewish literature' without distinction as to country or state system and are playing into the hands of enemies of the Fatherland. They drag out the palaver about the existence of a supposedly 'world-wide' Jewish literature. On their list, Soviet writers stand in the same position with hardened, modern businessmen of America, Palestine and other countries. Their views are nothing less than servile complaisance to bourgeois nationalism."

CASABLANCA MILITARY COURT WILL PROBE POLITICAL BACKGROUND OF MOROCCAN POGROM CASE

PARIS, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- In the trial of 40-odd Moroccans charged with participation in a series of pogroms in the town of Djeraba last year, which opened in a Casablanca military court yesterday, the prosecution will attempt to investigate the political background of the case, it was understood here today. Thirty-five persons died during the anti-Jewish riots.

Chief of the defendants is Ou Amida, an Arab labor leader accused of having incited the Moroccan mob to kill Jews and loot their property. His lawyers are a Communist known as Bonnet and an anti-Communist and anti-Semite, Jean Charles Le Grand. It is believed that the defense will endeavor to prove that the prosecution is attempting to pin responsibility for the affair on trade unionists and nationalists, for political reasons. (After the programs the Communist newspaper L'Humanite charged that the Djeraba riots were due to "police provocation.")

AMERICAN COMMANDER IN AUSTRIA SUSPENDS NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLISHING ANTI-SEMITIC ARTICLES

VIENNA, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Lt. Gen. Geoffrey Keyes, American commander in Austria, today suspended publication of the Linz newspaper Freie Stimme for 30 days for publishing pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic articles. A high American officer declared that the U.S. authorities are becoming aware of increased anti-Semitic and Nazi activities in this country.

POLISH GOVT. OFFICIAL PROTESTS AGAINST DETENTION OF POLISH JEWS IN EGYPTIAN CAMPS

WARSAW, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A high official of the Polish Foreign Ministry has lodged a protest with the Egyptian charge d'affaires here against the continued detention of nearly 300 Polish Jews in Egyptian internment camps. The detainees have been living in Egypt for many years and were arrested along with other foreign Jews following the proclamation of Israeli statehood.

The Polish Government has authorized the dispatch to Israel of 50 large crates containing Jewish religious books and Scrolls desecrated by the Nazis during the war. The Torahs and books were assembled after the war by the Association of Jewish Religious Communities of Poland and will be buried in Jerusalem in the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives.

JEWS IN MOROCCO DEPRIVED OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS; JEWISH LEADERS SEEK INVESTIGATION

LONDON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- The European Branch of the World Jewish Congress today decided to ask the Congress to establish a special bureau for the Jews of North Africa and to appoint a legal commission to investigate the situation of some 250,000 Jews in Morocco who are deprived of their elementary human rights.

In line with its decision to take political action to assist the Moroccan Jews, the European Branch also urged the French section of the W.J.C. to enlist the aid of the French Government in solving the problems of the North African Jews. It was also suggested that U.N.-sponsored World Health Organization be asked to assist these Jews, 35 percent of whom are suffering from contagious diseases.

DR. IMMANUEL JACOBOVITS INDUCTED AS CHIEF RABBI OF EIRE; PREMIER ATTENDS CEREMONY

DUBLIN, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Dr. Immanuel Jacobovits, 28, was yesterday installed as Chief Rabbi of Eire. Born in Poland, the new Chief Rabbi spent many years in Germany before coming to Eire.

Speaking at a dinner which followed the induction, Eire Premier John Costello paid glowing tribute to Rabbi Jacobovitz' predecessor, Dr. Isaac Herzog, the present Chief Rabbi of Israel. Costello declared that Rabbi Herzog had "endeared himself to all sections of the Irish people." He also recalled the aid given persecuted Jews by the Irish people and the Catholic Church and stressed the similarity in the Israeli and Irish struggles for independence. He also expressed the hope that the two nations would cooperate in the promotion of peace and prosperity among all nations.

Dr. Israel Brodia, Chief Rabbi of Britain, formally inducted Rabbi Jacobovits. In a short address, Rabbi Jacobovits deplored the religious persecution of Jews and Catholics. He expressed sympathy for all those who suffered for their faith. Greetings were received from Foreign Minister Sean McBride, former Premier Eamon de Valera and Chief Rabbi Herzog.

SIDNEY STANLEY ASKS ISRAELI ATTORNEY TO FILE APPEAL ON REJECTION OF BID FOR ISRAELI VISA

TEL AVIV, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Sydney Stanley, a Polish Jew who was involved in the recent investigation into alleged corruption in the British Government, today gave Max Seligman, prominent Israeli lawyer, authority to file an order nisi with the Israeli Supreme Court to show cause why his application for an Israeli immigration visa was rejected by the Israeli consulate in London. Seligman sent a wire to President Chaim Weizmann asking that he display a "sympathetic attitude" in this case.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN GETS PLAN FOR SINGLE COMMISSIONER TO RUN DP IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Rep. Francis E. Walter, Pennsylvania Democrat, conferred with President Truman today on displaced persons problems and suggested a three-man coordinator for the job of administering the DP program rather than the present three-man commission. Walter said the President said he would "think over" the suggestion.

Walter, who is chairman of the House immigration sub-committee, said his committee would probably start hearings in about two weeks on the various DP measures that have been submitted to the House this session. He said the sub-committee would probably write its own bill rather than choose one already prepared.

ISRAEL MUST ESTABLISH FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ARABS, EBAN TELLS U.J.A. PARLEY

MIAMI, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- "Israel has no more vital task than to establish relations of mutual tolerance with the neighboring Arab states, on the basis of the full political and territorial integrity of Israel within the shelter of the U.N. Charter," Aubrey S. Eban, chief Israeli representative to the United Nations, told a conference of leaders of 75 Jewish communities from 25 states attending a United Jewish Appeal conference here.

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, national U.J.A. chairman, emphasized that "even while it proceeds with its vast emigration program, the Joint Distribution Committee must keep up its extensive program of relief and institutional care for the sick, the young and the aged." Julian B. Venezky, of Peoria, national chairman for Regions for the U.J.A., told the meeting that "the historic opportunities that exist in 1949 for ending the homelessness of hundreds of thousands and placing the Jews in Europe on the road to recovery may be lost if the Jews of the United States fail to respond on the highest level to the \$250,000,000 campaign of the U.J.A."

Messages outlining the critical needs of the U.J.A.-supported agencies were received from Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European chairman of the J.D.C., and David Namer, U.S. representative of the immigration department of the Jewish Agency.

FIVE JEWISH GROUPS VOICE SUPPORT OF NEW YORK BOARD TO ESTABLISH STATE UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Support for the Board of Trustees appointed to establish a New York State University, in accordance with a law passed by the State Legislature in 1948, and opposition to objections to the Board raised by the State Board of Regents, was voiced by five major Jewish organizations in a statement issued today.

The organizations, the American Jewish Committee's New York chapter, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Jewish Labor Committee and the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, declared that they saw "no legitimate basis for the objections raised by the Board of Regents to the procedure established by the Legislature of the State of New York for the development of an integrated State University system."

Pointing out that the law, enacted "to fill a long-felt need, not previously answered, for the expansion of public higher educational facilities in the State," had authorized the appointment of a Board of Trustees with the power to fulfill this function, and that the Governor had appointed a board "consisting of distinguished citizens of the State," the statement declared: "Nothing has developed which would raise any question of the wisdom of the Legislature in enacting the law and establishing this board, nor has any development raised doubt as to the competence of the board to fulfill the law's mandate."

RABBI BRICKNER URGES SPIRITUAL LEADERS TO "CLARIFY DIRECTION" OF AMERICAN JUDAISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A proposal to convoke a meeting of Jewish intellectuals in the United States--"writers, economists, sociologists and philosophers"--to "clarify the direction" which American Judaism is taking was made here by Rabbi R. Brickner, of Cleveland, in a guest column in the Yiddish daily newspaper, The Day.

Asserting that there is need for a "thorough re-evaluation of our status as Jews in America," Rabbi Brickner wrote: "What we urgently need is an assemblage of thinkers who shall clarify the direction which our Judaism takes. I call upon American Judaism, especially its spiritual and cultural guides--Reform, Conservative and Orthodox--Reconstructionist, Yiddish-speaking, Hebrew-speaking and English-speaking--to meet together and take counsel. We badly need a meeting of minds to formulate the basic principles of Jewish life in this generation."

HEBREW WEEK CELEBRATED IN BRITAIN; BRODETSKY URGES WIDER USE OF LANGUAGE

LONDON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Celebration of Hebrew Week in Britain was observed here at a meeting attended by 1,500 persons. Prof. Selig Brodetsky, one of the principal speakers, emphasized that the wider use of Hebrew among Jewish communities throughout the world would serve to unite Jews in Israel with those living abroad.

A number of prominent Britons yesterday attended a reception here marking the opening of the Israeli Constituent Assembly in Jerusalem. Among the guests at the reception, tendered by Prof. Brodetsky, one-man London branch of the Jewish Agency executive, were Lord and Lady Strabolgi, acting Israeli representative I.J. Linton and members of his mission.

PROF. ELIEZER SUKENIK, OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY, ARRIVES IN N.Y. WITH ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Prof. Eliezer Sukenik, director of the Museum of Jewish Antiquities of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, arrived here yesterday by air from Amsterdam. He brought with him five of 11 manuscripts which are believed to be the oldest works in the Hebrew language. The manuscripts were unearthed by a Bedouin.

Z.O.A. CHARTERS NEW BRANCH COMPOSED OF BLIND NEW YORKERS; WILL AID BLIND IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- A group of 30 blind New Yorkers, organized in a branch of the Zionist Organization of America, received an official Z.O.A. membership charter today at ceremonies held at Congregation Bnai Jeshurun. The new group will devote its efforts toward special projects for the blind in Israel.

BIRINGER NAMED HEAD OF MASSACHUSETTS DP COMMISSION; IS MEMBER OF USNA EXECUTIVE

BOSTON, Feb. 15. (JTA) -- Governor Paul A. Dever yesterday appointed Walter B. Bieringer chairman of the Massachusetts Displaced Persons Commission. Bieringer, who formerly served as vice-chairman of the commission, is a member of the executive committee of the United Service for New Americans, vice-president of the Associated Jewish Philanthropies of Boston and a trustee of the Combined Jewish Appeal of Greater Boston.