

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

Published by JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

104 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

ISRAELI-TRANSJORDAN ARMISTICE PACT SIGNED ON RHODES; ABDULLAH GETS "TRIANGLE" AREA

RHODES, April 3. (JTA) -- The Transjordan-Israeli armistice pact was signed here at 7:30 P.M. local time today after one month of extended negotiations. In general, it accepts the military status quo in Palestine, except for several variations in the Negov and "triangle" areas.

The pact, which is not subject to ratification and comes into effect immediately, recognizes Transjordan's right to take over control of the "triangle" area--Jenin-Tulkarm-Nablus. In this area, the implementation of the provisions of the pact dealing with the replacement of Iraqi troops by Transjordanians, the withdrawal to the agreed-upon lines and the reduction of forces may take as long as 15 weeks. In general, however, the pact calls for an adjustment of forces within ten days.

The Israelis gain control of the Haifa-Tel Aviv rail lines, except for one point in Tulkarm. In return, they agree to pay the cost of paving 20 kilometers of first class road in Transjordan-held areas. The Jews will also pick up a number of Arab villages in the Dead Sea and Negov areas and will again have control of the potash works in the southern tip of the Dead Sea. The Arab Legion remains in control of Latrun.

Arab residents of any villages taken over by the Israelis may remain there or may choose to leave. If they opt to leave, the Arab villagers will be permitted to take with them their movable property and livestock and will be compensated immediately for the land which they abandon.

Front Line Runs From Beisan Valley, in North, to Aqaba, in South

The present positions in Jerusalem remain unaltered, with the Latrun road still in Arab hands. In the north, the front line commences in the Beisan area, runs westward giving the Gilboa hills to Israel. Then it turns south, running east of the railway line to Tulkarm, giving the Gedera-Afulah road to Israel. From Tulkarm the line follows the eastern edge of the railway line to Qalqiliya, which remains Arab, and turns eastward to Budrus--nine miles north of Latrun--thereafter following the November 30 armistice line to a point south of Jerusalem.

South of Jerusalem the line continues east from Beit Jibrin and south from Hebron to the Dead Sea at En Gaddi. The line then joins the international frontier in the center of the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Aqaba.

The reduction of forces is understood to include British troops at Aqaba where a total strength of three battalions is allotted to each side. Jerusalem will be allowed two battalions for either side with another three battalions in the surrounding districts. The "triangle" will contain a total of five battalions, with a similar number of Israelis facing it.

The pact also states that the military forces of both sides shall be limited to defensive forces only in the areas extending ten kilometers on either side of the

front line. The only exception to this point is in the southernmost tip of Palestine and the coastal strip where adherence to this principle is physically impossible.

It notes that the general provisions of the pact shall not be interpreted as prejudicing an ultimate political settlement between the two parties, and that the demarcation lines are also agreed upon without prejudice to future territorial settlements or boundary lines or to the claims of either party relating to boundaries and territorial settlements.

Pact Sets Up General Armistice and Special Jerusalem Commissions

The pact provides for the establishment of two commissions. One is a general armistice commission composed of seven members headed by a United Nations official. The second will be a special commission to deal with problems relating to the Jerusalem area. The specific problems left to the jurisdiction of the special commission are:

1. Provision for free movement of traffic on vital roads, including the Bethlehem-Jerusalem and the Latrun-Jerusalem roads.
2. Resumption of the normal functioning of the cultural and humanitarian institutions on Mt. Scopus and free access thereto.
3. Provision for free access to the Holy Places and cultural institutions and use of the cemetery on the Mount of Olives; and,
4. Resumption of operations of the Latrun pumping station, provision of electricity in the Old City of Jerusalem and resumption of operation of the Jaffa-Jerusalem railroad.

The commission will also have competence in other problems which may be submitted to it. In all cases referred to it, the special body shall have exclusive competence, and its decisions shall have the same force and effect as the provisions of the general armistice agreement. The members of the commission will include representatives of both parties--without representatives of the United Nations--and it shall formulate plans to enlarge the scope of the agreement and to effect improvements in its application.

The armistice commission shall maintain its headquarters at Jerusalem. The mixed armistice commission shall be convened in its first meeting by the U.N. chief of staff of the truce supervision organization not later than one week from today.

Israeli Government Spokesman Expresses Satisfaction At Signing of Pact

TEL AVIV, April 3. (JTA) -- An Israeli spokesman tonight expressed satisfaction over the signing of the Transjordan-Israeli armistice agreement on the island of Rhodes.

He declared that the signing of the pact signified the beginning of peaceful relations between the two countries and expressed the hope that it would mark the beginning of a period of fruitful cooperation and peace between the two nations. The government and people of Israel, he concluded, are "pleased that the conflicts and differences between the two countries have been satisfactorily settled in a short space of time."

SYRIAN-ISRAELI ARMISTICE TALKS BEGIN TUESDAY; TO BE HELD IN BORDER VILLAGE OF TENET

TEL AVIV, April 3. (JTA) -- The Syrian-Israeli armistice negotiations will begin Tuesday in Tenet, a border village located between Rosh Pinah and Mishmar Hayoon, in northeastern Palestine, it was officially announced here tonight. The Israeli delegation to the talks will be composed of the same personnel who two weeks ago completed a similar pact with Lebanon.

The customs house at Ras El Nakura on the Israeli-Lebanese border, where the armistice agreement between the countries was signed only a fortnight ago, passed in to Israeli hands this week-end, following a meeting of the joint Israeli-Lebanese armistice commission at that spot. It is understood here that the Lebanese villages held by Israeli troops have already passed into Lebanese hands in accord with the armistice which set yesterday as the deadline.

It was learned today that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine is expected to arrive here Wednesday or Thursday for consultation with Israeli authorities. It is believed that the major subjects to be discussed will include the Arab refugee problem and the Conciliation Commission's projected protest against the recent transfer of Israeli government offices to Jerusalem. The problem of Jews in Arab countries may also be considered, it was reported.

(Reuters reported from Beirut that the Arab countries are split in their attitude towards the Conciliation Commission's invitation to meet Israeli representatives "on neutral ground" for "a further exchange of views." The Commission, Reuters said, issued its invitation after the Arabs had turned down a proposal to hold a full-scale peace conference. It proposed instead that the Arab representatives should meet, probably at Geneva, and that Israeli delegates should be present to put forward their views.)

The Philippine Republic extended de jure recognition to Israel yesterday, according to a cablegram received by the Foreign Ministry from Manila.

BRITISH OFFICIALS DISCUSS TRANSJORDAN DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES TO AID ABSORPTION OF REFUGEES

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- Plans for the economic development of Transjordan to enable it to absorb the largest number of Palestine Arab refugees possible were discussed here by Sir Alex Kirkbride, British Minister to Amman and the Foreign Office, it was learned today. Included in the plans are proposals for irrigation and reclamation of Transjordan's arid regions and the development of a road system.

(Last Tuesday, during the debate in the House of Lords on the Palestine-Arab situation, Lord Henderson, speaking for the Government, said it was understood that plans were afoot in the Arab states "which might be expedited and expanded to contribute to the absorption of large numbers of refugees." He added that the government is ready to cooperate as far as possible to aid the Arabs.)

FIRST GROUP OF 70 AFGHANISTAN JEWISH REFUGEES LEAVE INDIA FOR NEW HOMES IN ISRAEL

BOMBAY, India, April 3. (JTA) -- The first group of 70 Jewish refugees from Afghanistan left for Israel this week-end. They form part of a group of Jews who fled to India years ago and have been awaiting visas ever since.

AABERG, SWEDISH ANTI-SEMITIC, EXTENDS ANTI-JEWISH ACTIVITIES TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

STOCKHOLM, April 3. (JTA) -- The notorious Swedish anti-Semite Einar Aaberg has now extended his activities to Swedish youth, it was learned today. Pupils at various secondary schools have received anti-Semitic leaflets printed in this country and signed by Aaberg, on behalf of the anti-Jewish Fighting Union of Sweden, which he founded and heads.

The Swedish authorities have long been plagued by Aaberg's activities. He has been accused of printing false material about Jews in English and sending it to Britain, the United States and South Africa, and in September 1948 a Swedish court convicted and fined him for "spreading false information likely to mislead the public."

SUFFICIENT MATZOEH BAKED FOR PASSOVER FOR JEWS IN SOVIET ZONE AND SECTOR OF BERLIN

BERLIN, April 3. (JTA) -- More than eleven tons of matzoth have been baked for Jews in the Soviet sector of Berlin and in the Soviet zone of Germany, it was announced here today. The matzoth were baked in a week.

The arrangements were originally made by the Berlin Jewish community for the Jews in the Soviet sector of the city. The Jews in the other sectors will receive their Passover supplies via the air lift. Sufficient flour and equipment was obtained for Berlin and the Jews in the rest of the zone, too.

300 CZECH JEWS LEAVE ITALY FOR ISRAEL; VESSEL TO PICK UP TRIPOLITANIAN JEWS EN ROUTE

ROME, April 3. (JTA) -- The S.S. Caserta sailed from Naples today with some 300 Czech Jews bound for Israel. The vessel will make a stop at Tripoli to pick up 400 Tripolitanian Jews also migrating to the Jewish state. A total of 4,200 Jews left Italy by plane or ship for Israel last month, it was reported here this week-end.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS ASSURE A.J.C. AIDE OF SUPPORT OF MEASURES TO RESTORE JEWISH PROPERTY

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- Assurances of support for measures which would restore to the surviving Jews of Austria properties looted during the Nazi period, and which would provide a measure of relief until such restitution can be effected, were recently given by leading Austrian cabinet members and political leaders to Max Isenbergh, counsel to the European office of the American Jewish Committee, it was announced this week-end by Federal Judge Phillip Foreman of Trenton, N.J., chairman of the A.J.C. foreign affairs committee. In a recent visit to Austria, Isenbergh discussed with Austrian officials the plight of the 10,000-odd survivors of the pre-war Austrian Jewish population of 220,000.

The Austrian officials gave assurances of aid in adjusting the administration of existing Austrian laws on restitution of identifiable property to former owners or their heirs and on compensation for employment contracts and pensions breached during the Nazi period. They also indicated sympathy for a proposed loan of 25,000,000 schillings by the Austrian Government to the Jewish community for purposes of relief and rehabilitation. The loan would be charged against future restitution of looted and unclaimed property, as yet untouched by any Austrian legislation. In a previous consideration of the loan, it was rejected by the Austrian Cabinet in 1948.

THOUSANDS WITNESS U.J.A. "CARAVAN OF HOPE" TRAIN LEAVE NEW YORK FOR THREE-WEEK TOUR

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- Thousands of New Yorkers filled Pennsylvania station today to bid farewell to the United Jewish Appeal's "Caravan of Hope" train carrying Israeli war heroes and American communal leaders on a special tour to mobilize nationwide support for the U.J.A.'s \$250,000,000 campaign.

The "Caravan of Hope," which was opened to the public this morning at 9:00 pulled out of Pennsylvania Station at three o'clock with Mischa Elman, the noted violinist; Jacob Sincoff, national co-treasurer of the U.J.A. and Lieutenant Colonel Mati Dagan, member of the Israeli Army General Staff and Lieutenant Hertzela Chalfon, officer of a woman's army unit in Israel, as its principal passengers.

The purpose of the "Caravan of Hope" trains which departed simultaneously from New York and from San Francisco, Boston and four other major cities is to dramatize the program of transferring hundreds of thousands of homeless Jews to Israel from the U.P. camps and other parts of Europe and providing for rehabilitation overseas and for refugee aid in the United States this year. Special exhibits on the trains will depict the work of the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal in carrying on this worldwide humanitarian effort. The trains will visit a total of about 150 cities and towns in 11 states during the next three weeks.

At special dedication ceremonies held in the Pennsylvania Station an hour before the departure of the Caravan, New York City Council President Vincent Impellitteri declared that New York feels a close bond of kinship with the people of Israel because for some 300 years "this city, like the state of Israel of today, has been and continues to be a haven for the homeless and oppressed." Declaring that the establishment of the State of Israel was "a great boon toward the strengthening of the forces of democracy," Mr. Impellitteri urged the fullest support for the United Jewish Appeal so that the survivors of persecution overseas may be quickly brought to and resettled in the freedom and security created by the valiant people of Israel." Other speakers and participants in the pre-departure ceremony included Elman, William Rosenwald and Judge Morris Rothenberg, national chairman of the U.J.A., and Sincoff.

U.P.A. AGENCIES IN ISRAEL WILL NEED AT LEAST \$100,000,000 THIS YEAR, ROTHENBERG SAYS

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- A minimum of \$100,000,000, the major portion of which will have to be raised by Jews in this country, must be expended this year by United Palestine Appeal agencies in Israel to cover the construction costs of housing for the vast influx of immigrants, Judge Morris Rothenberg, acting national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, announced this week-end.

Citing a special "blueprint for living accommodations" cabled from Israel, Judge Rothenberg disclosed that at least 70,000 units are required at a cost to U.P.A. agencies of \$1,500 for each. The housing needs are based on a conservatively estimated migration of 200,000 Jewish newcomers in 1949, allowing three persons to a unit, each consists of one room and kitchen and bathroom facilities.

"Israel's desperate housing shortage," Judge Rothenberg declared, "which is responsible for the most primitive living conditions, must be alleviated if the present rate of 20,000 to 30,000 immigrants a month, is to continue. Only the maximum support of Jews in this country for the U.P.A.," he insisted, "can ensure decent, healthy and dignified living conditions for these tens of thousands of newcomers."

ISRAELI IMMIGRATION DOUBLES EARLY ESTIMATES, WARBURG TELLS REGIONAL PARLEY OF J.D.C.

NORFOLK, VA., April 3. (JTA) -- Sixty-three thousand Jews have poured into Israel during the first quarter of 1949 with the help of the Joint Distribution Committee, it was reported today by Edward M.M. Warburg, J.D.C. chairman. He spoke before some 300 Jewish community leaders from six states of the J.D.C. Middle Atlantic Region who were attending the group's annual meeting. Warburg disclosed that the "phenomenal rate of Jewish immigration to the Holy Land" had resulted in the arrival thus far this year of more than twice the number of persons originally anticipated.

In addition to the assistance needed by Jews in North Africa, Moses A. Leavitt, J.D.C. executive vice-chairman, listed three other basic tasks of the J.D.C. this year: 1. To aid nearly 200,000 persons hoping to emigrate to Israel and other lands; 2. To provide funds to enable at least 100,000 Jews become self-supporting in Europe; 3. To continue relief and welfare programs covering child care, religious and medical needs. Bernard Alexander of Trenton, N.J., was re-elected chairman of the Middle Atlantic Region.

BEERSHEVA MARKS FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF DR. EAIM YASSKY IN MT. SCOPUS AMBUSH

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- The first anniversary of the death of Dr. Eaim Yassky, late director of the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel, and various members of his staff and of the Hebrew University will be commemorated here by the Hadassah. The doctors were among 76 victims of an Arab ambush on Mt. Scopus Road last April.

Eliahu Elath, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, speaking at the commemorative gathering, paid tribute to Dr. Yassky and his staff. Commenting on the reconciliation meetings of Arabs and Jews regarding the fate of Jerusalem, Elath said that the "Government of Israel has no intention of allowing Jerusalem to be left an orphan of the storm." Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, president of Hadassah, revealed that the Hadassah-Yassky Memorial Hospital will begin operations this month in Beersheba.

N.Y. LEADS ALL OTHERS IN ACCEPTING DP'S, CORSI SAYS; 36 PERCENT OF IMMIGRANTS ARE JEWS

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- New York State leads the rest of the country in the resettlement of displaced persons, Edward Corsi, N.Y. State Industrial Commissioner, today told some 500 persons at the annual donor luncheon of the women's division of HIAS.

Corsi, who is chairman of Governor Dewey's DP Commission, said that two out of every five displaced persons who have arrived in the United States since last October 30, have been settled in New York State. He reported that an analysis of the visas issued by the State Department to DP's who have immigrated under the present legislation up until the end of February, shows that 36 percent were of the Jewish faith. He predicted that this proportion will decline shortly.

NEW YORK JEWISH MORNING JOURNAL CHANGES OWNERSHIP; DR. BERNARD BERGMAN NAMED EDITOR

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- The Jewish Morning Journal, Jewish daily newspaper published in New York City, has been sold to Morris Cohen, New York philanthropist and communal worker, it was announced today.

Cohen, who will act as chairman of the board, has appointed Dr. Bernard Bergman editor and publisher. Dr. Bergman, author of numerous articles in Jewish and English, has been rabbi of the Home of the Sons and Daughters of Israel for the past years.

CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION