

Wednesday, June 8, 1949

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

U.N. CONCILIATION COMMISSION GETS NEW U.S. MEMBER; IMPORTANT ISRAELI PROPOSALS EXPECTED

LAUSANNE, June 7. (JTA) -- Raymond Hare, deputy director of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs of the State Department, has been appointed United States representative on the United Nations Palestine Conciliation Commission to replace Mark Ethridge, who has resigned, it was announced here today.

Mr. Hare, who arrived in Lausanne ten days ago and has been informally participating in all meetings of the commission, will take over from Mr. Ethridge at the end of this week.

The appointment of a senior State Department official in place of an independent who is a personal friend of President Truman is given considerable significance by all the delegations here, particularly in view of the recent unmistakable pressure from Washington to induce Israel to make further concessions.

The Conciliation Commission and the four Arab delegations were sure today that Dr. Walter Eytan, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and head of its spokesmen here, who is expected back tomorrow, will return from Tel Aviv with new and important proposals from the Israeli Government which will help to break the present deadlock. Dr. Eytan left Israel today by air.

So convinced are the Arabs and the Commission that for four days the delegations of Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Transjordan have been meeting almost continually among themselves and with members of the Commission to decide upon their attitude toward Israeli proposals.

Arab Delegates Divided on Question of Accepting Israel's New Proposals

A clear-cut division of the four Arab states into two parties emerged for the first time at these meetings. The Egyptian and Syrian delegations, on the one hand, and the Transjordanians and Lebanese, on the other, each met privately before these sessions and agreed on their separate policies.

The Transjordanian-Lebanese view is that if the Israeli Government should make the expected new proposals, the Arabs should accept them and agree also to the present frontiers of Israel as a basis for further discussions. This proposition was opposed by the Egyptians and Syrians. They wanted any Israeli concession to be met by the demand that Israel withdraw to the partition frontiers. The Lebanese objected to this as a proposal which could be achieved only by the resumption of war and "none of us is in a position to resume the war."

No agreement has been reached, and it was decided to await Dr. Eytan's arrival and his proposals before laying down Arab policy. If Dr. Eytan returns now without new proposals, the Israeli delegation will find itself under great pressure. The threatening division of the four Arab delegations will immediately be healed. Washington's new policy, backing the Arabs, will make itself felt all the more energetically. United States policy here vis-a-vis Israel continues to harden perceptibly.

Meanwhile, the "Gaza Plan" for turning over the Egyptian-held coastal strip to Israel with its Arab population and refugees has been allowed to fade into the background for lack of adequate presentation.

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HIGH U.N. OFFICIAL PROCEEDS TO LAUSANNE TO CHECK ON PROGRESS OF ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE TALKS

LAKE SUCCESS, June 7. (JTA) -- Andrew W. Cordier, executive aide to U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie, left here today for Lausanne to investigate the difficulties holding up the progress of the Arab-Israeli peace talks now taking place there under the auspices of the U.N. Palestine Conciliation Commission.

Well-informed sources here believe that Trygve Lie decided to dispatch Mr. Cordier to Lausanne because of the incomplete reports being received at United Nations headquarters on the progress of the parleys, designed to bring about Arab-Israeli agreement on the questions of Palestine's Arab refugees, disposition of Jerusalem and establishment of permanent boundaries for the Jewish state.

A report circulated here today indicated that the Conciliation Commission is considering revival of the Bernadotte plan which would give Israel all of Galilee and hand the southern Negev over to the Arabs.

ISRAELI FORCES OCCUPY NEUTRAL AREA IN JERUSALEM; U.N. REGISTERS FORMAL PROTEST

JERUSALEM, June 7. (JTA) -- An Israeli Army unit last night occupied a demilitarized area in southern Jerusalem which lies just to the west of Government House which is now serving as headquarters for several U.N. commissions and the U.N. mediation and truce machinery. The occupation was carried out with almost no incident. The only area dividing the Jews and the Arabs now is the strip of land on which Government House itself stands.

The only untoward incident was the opening of fire by Arab Legionnaires when the Jews occupied the first Arab house in the area. However, the Israelis, under orders not to fire unless directly attacked, did not reply. The Arab Bren gun soon ceased chattering and the Legionnaires withdrew from their positions in this area. Today they returned, but have contented themselves with merely watching the Jews.

The first Israelis to enter the area were workers who cleared it of stone barricades, barbed wire and mines. As soon as the area surrounding a former Jewish agricultural school had been cleared, the Israelis began ploughing the fields which have been left untended since last summer. Also in the area is an Arab college which is now occupied by 20 U.N. observers. The Jews have made no attempt to enter the college, and have not molested the U.N. observers in any manner.

The observers, however, protested to the Jews against their ploughing the fields. The Jews pointed out that the only prohibition in effect in the area was against their using it for military purposes. When the troops later laid down a field telephone system, the U.N. observers cut the line. The unit commander protested and the observers apologized. Today, the U.N. has formally protested the Israeli occupation.

Lt. Col. Moshe Dayan, Israeli commander in Jerusalem, at a press conference denied a rumor that the occupation came about as a result of an agreement between Israel and Transjordan. He also revealed that meetings of the two Israeli-Transjordan armistice commissions which were scheduled for today were cancelled by the Arabs without warning and without giving any reason.

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SEEKING U.S. INTERVENTION WITH ISRAEL ON INTERNATIONALIZATION OF HOLY PLACES

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- Serious diplomatic discussions on Palestine are now taking place between the Vatican and the United States, it was reported here today from Rome.

The report, published in the Daily Telegraph, says that it is believed that the Pope is asking the U.S. Government to use its good offices with the Israeli Government to secure the internationalization of the Holy Places in Palestine and the granting of a special status there for Christian religious bodies.

(Myron C. Taylor, special representative of President Truman to the Vatican, is now in Rome and has had two interviews with the Pope this week. In Washington, State Department officials dealing with Vatican and Israeli affairs claimed they knew nothing about the U.S. being asked to intercede in the problem of the Holy Places.)

In an article in the Manchester Guardian today, Norman Bentwich, first Attorney General of Palestine under the British Mandate, said that the United Nations plan for internationalization of Jerusalem was "likely to be stillborn" and that an international authority to assure religious rights and access to the Holy Places might be the only thing to be saved from the wreckage of the United Nations plan which Israel originally had been prepared to accept.

Such an international authority, he said, might be acceptable to both Jews and Arabs, pointing out that "after a year-and-a-half of bitter conflict, there is now a feeling of peace in the air and the unnatural segregation of the two parts of the city and the two peoples should come to an end."

VATICAN OFFICIAL CHARGES ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WITH HOSTILITY TO CHURCH'S INTERESTS

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- A Vatican official who deals with Catholic Church interests in Palestine has loosed a blast against the Israeli Government for allegedly carrying out a policy hostile to the Church's interests, the New York Times today reported from Rome.

The dispatch quotes a Vatican report, released yesterday, in which Franciscan Father Alberto Gori--who bears the official Church title of Custodian of the Holy Land--states that the freedom of movement of religious orders has been prevented by the Israeli Government. Father Gori asserts that the Franciscan Fathers in Galilee and Judea have been isolated since the beginning of the Palestine war and "are still isolated." He also charges that they have been victims of spoliation and other "base" actions, the Times reported.

An excerpt of Father Gori's statement released, according to the Times, by Vatican circles through an unofficial press service, said: "Despite repeated statements by the new Israeli Government that we have nothing to fear, events of the past few months leave us doubtful and diffident.

"We have been prevented from exercising our inalienable rights, our properties have been actually invaded while in other cases attempts to invade them have been made, some of our Fathers have been the target of open hostility--perhaps because they still know how to defend and protect our rights and those of the poor populations which have been entrusted to their care.

"We are, therefore, deeply chagrined and have lost all our trust in a people who, after all, should be grateful to us since we have--even in recent times--risked our lives to protect it."

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ISRAELI ARMY MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET POSSIBLE ARAB ATTACKS, BEN GURION SAYS

TEL AVIV, June 7. (JTA) -- Israel's need for a regular army on the alert and a disciplined, trained reserve consisting of every Israeli citizen was stressed today by Premier David Ben Gurion, in an address to the entering class at the Army's infantry officers training school.

Premier Ben Gurion emphasized that the regular army and reserves must be prepared to meet new attacks from the Arabs who "have not given up the fight." He said that the new state must continue military education despite the high cost to the civilian population. He stressed, however, that the government's policy is one of peace and added that Israel will not join with warmongering nations.

Replying to a question raised in the Knesset, the Premier revealed today that the military administration of several parts of Israel will be ended soon and responsibility for security in these areas will be placed in the hands of the police.

DEBATE ON RELIGIOUS ISSUE DEMANDED IN KNESSET; BILL FOR SABBATH OBSERVANCE URGED

TEL AVIV, June 7. (JTA) -- Mapam deputies today demanded a parliamentary debate on the authorities' failure to debark immigrants who arrived in Israeli waters during the Shavuoth holiday. They also demanded a formal discussion on incidents which took place in Jerusalem in connection with demonstrations by the extreme Orthodox group Neturai Karta against the failure of soldiers and civilians to observe the Sabbath.

Immigration Minister Moshe Shapira told the Knesset that the immigrants preferred to remain on shipboard and cruise from the Haifa harbor along the coast to Tel Aviv rather than to be transferred to a camp during the holiday. He pointed out that they were happy to spend another day outside of camps since they had been in such centers in Italy for many weeks.

Zorach Warhaftig, leader of the Hapoel Hamizrachi, Orthodox labor group, demanded that the government should present a bill to parliament providing for the observance of the Sabbath with all its rituals. The parliament decided that this proposal should be considered by a special committee of the Ministry of Interior. The decision was adopted after members of the Mapam spoke against the proposal.

MEASURES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR TOURIST TRADE REPORTED TO ISRAELI PARLIAMENT

TEL AVIV, June 7. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government's Tourist Department is taking vigorous measures to improve conditions for the tourist trade and provide satisfactory accommodations for visitors to Israel, the Government reported to parliament last night.

The Department, a government spokesman said, is working closely with the Hotel Association in connection with the enlargement of existing hotels and the speedy construction of new hotels in all cities of the country. The department is also taking steps to facilitate the construction of other living quarters for tourists. The government is also seeking to improve bus and other transportation facilities for tourists and is establishing new tourist offices in Paris and New York, it was revealed.

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RECENT ANTI-JEWISH ATTACKS IN LONDON DESCRIBED AT BRITISH LABOR PARTY CONVENTION

BLACKPOOL, England, June 7. (JTA) -- A delegate from the Hackney District of London called on the British Labor Party today, at its annual convention here, to oppose more sharply fascism and its manifestations in England.

The speaker charged that this borough had been transformed into a "cockpit for political hooliganism" by fascist elements and described to the conference the series of recent anti-Jewish attacks perpetrated there.

Prof. Harold J. Laski, replying for the Labor Party executive, said that James Chuter Ede, the Home Secretary, had been "generous in his understanding of the situation" and had given much attention to the problem of controlling the new fascist menace in Britain. He said that Chuter Ede would keep the problem in mind.

U.N. IS ASKED FOR SPEEDY ACTION ON COVENANT ON LEGACIES OF JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

LAKE SUCCESS, June 7. (JTA) -- The U.N. Secretariat today made public a World Jewish Congress appeal to the United Nations to expedite a draft convention that will legally establish the death of individuals exterminated by the Nazis. A draft convention now under consideration involves the property of the millions who died and whose legacies cannot be established until they are legally declared dead.

The Congress submitted two proposals to overcome the objections of states which balk at a paper certification of death. The W.J.C. also suggested that the convention be applicable as of 1938, when Nazi persecution was already under way. The present draft begins from 1939 and ends in 1945.

AGUDAH SEEKS TO SECURE JEWISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS ADOPTED BY GENTILES

LAKE SUCCESS, June 7. (JTA) -- A proposal that the International Convention on Human Rights contain a provision guaranteeing that children whose parents were killed in the late war or in any other major catastrophe must be brought up in the religion of their parents was made here today by Dr. Isaac Lewin, a World Agudas Israel leader. Dr. Lewin made the proposal at a session of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights with a view to securing Jewish religious education for Jewish war orphans adopted by Christian families and institutions.

Representatives of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs and the International Union of the League of Catholic Women, as well as many delegates to the Commission, endorsed the principle advocated by the Agudah leader. The British delegate, Marguerite Bowie, who agreed that parents should have the right to educate their children in their own religion, thought it "tragic" to alienate Jewish wartime orphans from Gentile families who risked their lives for the children.

BAVARIAN AUTHORITIES WILL TRY ILSE KOCH; DATE FOR TRIAL NOT YET SET

MUNICH, June 7. (JTA) -- Ilse Koch, notorious German war criminal who was charged with using the skin of murdered inmates of the Buchenwald concentration camp for lampshades, will be tried by the Bavarian authorities, it was announced here.

A spokesman for the Bavarian Ministry of Justice said that Frau Koch would definitely stand trial, although a date has not yet been set. Originally sentenced to life imprisonment by an American military tribunal, Frau Koch had her sentence commuted to four years imprisonment by the former U.S. commander in Europe, Gen. Lucius D. Clay.

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POLAND PERMITS HIAS TO AID EMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM COUNTRY; STIPULATES CONDITIONS

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- The Polish Government has informed the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society that its four offices in Poland will be permitted to continue their activities and expenditure of funds to aid Jews emigrating from Poland.

A statement issued here today by Isaac L. Asofsky, executive director of HIAS, revealed that the Polish Government stipulated that funds may be used to purchase shipping space aboard vessels of the Gdynia American Line and the Cunard White Star Line. The HIAS will be required to make a report of its expenditures in Poland to the Polish Government every three months and transmit its monies through a Polish bank.

FORMER ISRAELI INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES IN ARGENTINA; WILL AID FUND-RAISING DRIVE

BUENOS AIRES, June 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Itzhak Gruenbaum, former Israeli Minister of Interior, was welcomed here today, upon his arrival from Tel Aviv, by representatives of all major Jewish organizations in Argentina. Dr. Gruenbaum is scheduled to address a mass meeting in Luna Park on Sunday which will officially launch the United Israeli Campaign in this country.

A 29-member group of Zionist youths will leave for Israel next week where they will receive intensive instruction in Hebrew and other subjects. They will return to Argentina at the completion of their training to serve as Hebrew teachers here.

EVIDENCES OF EXISTENCE OF PREHISTORIC MAN IN PALESTINE UNCOVERED BY FRENCH CONSUL

JERUSALEM, June 7. (JTA) -- Evidences of the presence of prehistoric man in Palestine 500,000 years ago have been discovered in excavations near Bethlehem by Rene Neuville, French Consul General, who has been conducting archaeological investigations in the area under a special permit from King Abdullah of Transjordan.

The find was made in a cave formed during the third glacial period after which the "Tayacian man" appeared. The findings were so named because of more or less similar discoveries near the village of Tayac in France. A British expedition some years ago found somewhat similar remains near Mount Carmel.

BRITISH AGUDAH PARLEY CONCLUDES; RESOLVES TO EXTEND FULLEST SUPPORT TO JEWISH STATE

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- The two-day conference of Agudas Israel in Britain concluded here last night after adopting a resolution pledging the organization's fullest support to Israel in the future and expressing admiration for the "heroic battle of self-defense" which the people of Israel conducted last year.

The parley, which was attended by 100 delegates representing 15 London and provincial chapters, also decided to expand and strengthen the Agudah's Eretz Israel Department "in order to mobilize all forces for the upbuilding of Orthodoxy and strengthening of the entire Jewish position in Israel." Other resolutions dealt with the organization's relief projects in Europe.