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24 DETAINED JEWS GO ON HUNGER STRIKE IN PALESTINE TO PROTEST POLICE BRUTALITY

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- Twenty-four settlers from the Jewish colony of Birya, who were arrested on Feb. 28, have been on a hunger strike since Thursday in protest against police brutality, it was learned today.

The 24, who were detained following an attack by unknown persons upon an encampment of the Arab Legion near Birya, were beaten by British constables in the Acre police station on Thursday, when they refused to be finger-printed, asserting that they were political prisoners, not criminals.

After they were returned to prison, they sent a protest to High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham, stating that they would continue their hunger strike until given assurances that the police violence would not be repeated. Among the hunger strikers are several youths under eighteen.

The Birya incident precipitated a battle in mid-March between several thousand Jews and an equal number of British soldiers when the Jews attempted to establish a new settlement a few hundred yards from Birya in protest against the military's refusal to allow settlers from nearby colonies to take over the work in Birya of the arrested men, who comprised the colony's entire male population. It ended in the Jews being granted permission to work at Birya.

A clash between Arab special police and Jewish settlers was narrowly averted yesterday at the village of Bnei Brak, a short distance from Tel Aviv, when the police smashed Jewish houses with swastikas. When the villagers complained to police headquarters, the Arabs were brought back to Bnei Brak and compelled to remove the swastikas.

The government office at Tel Aviv which issues identity cards was set afire last night and the entire interior is believed to have been gutted. Meanwhile, the dusk to dawn curfew imposed on entertainment places in Tel Aviv and the roads surrounding it, following the killing of seven British soldiers by Jewish terrorists, was lifted yesterday.

PALESTINE ARABS REPORT MUFTI EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN LEBANON WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS

JERUSALEM, May 12. (JTA) -- Informed Arab circles in Jaffa said today that the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem has been granted Lebanese citizenship and was expected to arrive in Beirut within a few days. A tremendous reception is planned, they said.

(A spokesman for the French Foreign Office told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency last week that the Mufti was free to leave the country whenever he chose, despite a British request that he be detained because his presence in the Middle East might have an adverse effect on the Palestine situation.)

(The press attache of the Soviet Embassy in Paris today denied recent press reports that Russian Ambassador Alexander Bogomolov had conferred with the Mufti at his villa outside Paris. The attache said that these reports were "ridiculous," and added that he would have a fuller statement to make later in the week.)

DISPLACED JEWS IN BAVARIAN TOWN PLANNING TO LEAVE AFTER ATTACK BY U.S. SOLDIERS

CHAM, Germany, May 12. (JTA) -- The majority of the 265 displaced Jews who have been living in this Bavarian town, near the Czech frontier, for some time, are planning to leave for DP camps, following an attack on several of them by American troops, a correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told upon his arrival here to investigate the details of the incident.

The correspondent found that the attack on the Jews, during which one Jew, Joseph Mosler, was shot, was chiefly a result of the local commander's complete mis-handling of what could have been minor incidents between displaced Jews and soldiers. The commander, Major George Taylor of Missouri, who has only been in Cham two-and-a-half months, admitted that it might have been advisable to enlist the help of the DP leaders in an attempt to ease the tension between the Jews and the U.S. troops.

The wounded Jew, as well as the other Jews arrested by the military authorities as a result of the clash, were freed with the exception of one who was sentenced last Wednesday to eight months imprisonment for allegedly striking an American sergeant. The fight started near a soldier's beer-hall where the American soldiers fraternize with German girls, who incite them against the Jews.

Fred King, a Briton who is the local UNRRA director, told the correspondent that the displaced Jews felt uneasy because of the alleged hostility of the troops. He added that he would meet with Major Taylor and suggest to him that he address the displaced Jews and assure them of his cooperation and sympathy. A similar suggestion made earlier to Major Taylor by visiting correspondents was met with the reply that he considered the incident a "minor one and closed."

TWENTY-NINE DISPLACED JEWS GO ON TRIAL TODAY BEFORE AMERICAN COURTS IN GERMANY

MUNICH, May 12. (JTA) -- Twenty Jewish DP's arrested following a disturbance at Landsberg on April 26, and nine arrested in the middle of April following a clash with German police on a train travelling from Munich to Stuttgart go on trial at Augsburg tomorrow morning. The 20 will be tried by the American Military Government general court, which is the highest AMG tribunal, while the others will be judged by an AMG intermediate court.

Two new defense attorneys have been engaged to aid Dr. Samuel Gringauz and Shlomo Cronstein, the present counsel for the Landsberg DP's. They are Capt. William Stanhope, Military Government officer at Ingolstadt and Capt. Abraham Hyman of the Judge Advocate's Office.

The trial of nine German civilians and four Jewish DP's charged with participating in a riot in the Bavarian town of Oberesmingen will be held in a military court at Mindelheim on May 20, AMG officials announced yesterday.

Included among the German defendants is Martin Mayer, the town's mayor, who on the night of March 26 led anti-Semitic attacks against 130 Jews living in a converted school house. The German mob shouted "Death to the Jews" and "Long Live Hitler." The mayor is charged by witnesses with having threatened that he would see "all the Jews in town murdered this night."

The bodies of two unidentified displaced Jews have been discovered in a wood in a suburb of Munich. Dr. Zalman Grinberg, president of the Committee of Liberated Jews of Germany, has stated that they are not the two Jewish guards who disappeared from the Dissen DP kibbutz, near Landsberg. He asserted that the dead men were shot and several fingers cut off, indicating the motive for the killings was robbery.

FIRST IMMIGRANT SHIP SAILS FROM BREMEN WITH OVER 600 JEWISH REFUGEE PASSENGERS

BREMEN, May 12. (JTA) -- The Marine Flasher, first vessel to sail from Europe to the United States under President Truman's directive on DP immigration, left here over the week-end with 873 wildly excited passengers, including more than 600 Jewish refugees.

An hour before sailing time the immigrants jammed the flag-draped deck and heard Robert Murphy, United States political advisor to Army headquarters, greet them as prospective American citizens. From an improvised platform Murphy bade them forget the sorrow of their past lives and wished them success and happiness in their new home. The ship's captain, Robert Eastman, told the refugees that they were "now on board American soil, where liberty and justice for all" prevailed.

Miss Helen Zelka, UNRRA official, read a letter of gratitude to America, which was composed by a special committee of the immigrants. The letter, which was also signed by representatives of HIAS, J.D.C., and other voluntary relief organizations, read: "May God bless America, its President, and all these good people who have made it possible for us to be free human beings again. It is our sacred and solemn promise that we shall do everything in our power to be worthy of the great trust placed upon us."

Religious services were held before the ship sailed, by U.S. Army Chaplain Joseph Shubow of Boston who is accompanying the immigrants on their trip to America. The passengers sang "God Bless America" and "Hatikvah" as the boat cast off. Before embarkation over 1,000 Jewish refugees attended a mass meeting in the immigration station's large auditorium and heard Joseph Rosenzart, president of the Central Committee of Jews of Belsen, wish them good luck and urged them not to forget those who remained behind and to continue the struggle for the realization of Jewish national aspirations in Palestine.

Among the Jewish immigrants were 343 from Poland, 218 from Germany and 45 from Latvia, including 69 children ranging from four months to 18 years. More than 440 of the Jews received their visas under corporate affidavits filed by the Joint Distribution Committee. In order to expedite the Marine Flasher's sailing, the J.D.C. also advanced funds for nearly 100 Catholic and Protestant immigrants, which will be repaid by American Christian organizations. The next group of immigrants is expected to sail Tuesday on the Marine Paroh.

TWELVE JEWS MURDERED, SEVEN WOUNDED WHILE FLEEING POLAND; MASSACRE AROUSES NATION

LODZ, May 12. (JTA) -- The mystery surrounding the disappearance of a group of Jews attempting to cross into Czechoslovakia from Poland, near the Polish town of Szozanow, was solved today by a report from Cracow stating that 12 of the emigrants had been killed and seven wounded when they were ambushed by anti-Government anti-Semitic bandits.

Funeral services for the twelve were held in Cracow with representatives of the Government, trade unions, political parties and other groups attending. The massacre has aroused the entire nation and spurred official efforts to crush the bands which have been terrorizing the countryside.

150,000 ROMANIAN JEWS KILLED DURING ANTONESCU REGIME, FILDERMAN TELLS PEOPLE'S COURT

BUCHAREST, May 12. (JTA) -- More than 150,000 Jews lost their lives in Rumania during the Antonescu regime, Dr. William Filderman, former leader of the Jews of Rumania, testified yesterday at the trial of former Premier Ian Antonescu and 17 of his associates before a People's Court. Appearing as a defense witness on the fifth day of the trial, Filderman maintained that conditions might have been worse if Antonescu had not opposed many German demands for enslavement and deportation of Rumanian Jews.

COLOMBIAN JEWS CALL STRIKE TO PROTEST ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS IN CAPITAL CITY

BOGOTA, Colombia, May 12. (JTA) -- The Jews of Bogota yesterday closed their shops and businesses in a strike protesting anti-Semitic attacks against the headquarters of "El Centro Israelita," a German-Jewish society, and against Jewish stores and offices.

The attacks were made by groups of students who smashed windows, broke down doors, and pillaged shops. The terrorists shouted slogans of "Death to the Jews." No casualties were reported. Despite police attempts to halt the attacks, they were unable to curb the demonstrators. The entire press of this city is unanimous in condemning the outbreak.

WEIZMANN REPORTED COMING TO LONDON FOR CONFERENCES ON ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE REPORT

LONDON, May 12. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, is coming to London to participate in discussions which the United States and Britain are planning to hold with Jews and Arabs before taking action on the recommendations of the Anglo-American inquiry committee, the Sunday Times says today.

The Sunday Observer reports that considerable progress has been made in the talks between Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and Secretary of State James F. Byrnes on implementation of the committee's report. The newspaper asserts that aside from negotiations with the American Government, Britain has kept its own counsel, consulting with neither the Jews nor the Arabs. It points out that the question may come up before the next Labor Party meeting when requests for speedy action are expected from many Labor MP's.

A national conference of the British section of the World Jewish Congress meeting here today adopted resolutions welcoming the inquiry committee's recommendation for the immediate admission of 100,000 European Jews to Palestine, while "regretting" that the committee had not accepted the view of the overwhelming majority of the Jews concerning the "fundamental need" for a Jewish state with equal rights for Arabs. A Communist-sponsored amendment calling for an independent democratic Arab-Jewish state was defeated.

Opening the conference, which was attended by 250 delegates, Samuel Silverman, Labor M.P., declared that the only justification for waiting for the Anglo-American report for the belief that its recommendations would be implemented without delay. He stressed that the terrorism in Palestine, which Prime Minister Attlee hoped to end by his conditions on implementation of the report, had resulted in 53 casualties as compared to the 6,000,000 Jews murdered in Europe by the Nazis.

David Ben Gurion Arrives in the U.S. in Connection with Report

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- David Ben Gurion, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, has arrived here from London reportedly in connection with the recommendation of the Anglo-American inquiry committee that 100,000 Jews be transferred to Palestine immediately.

Ben Gurion, who plans to spend about two weeks in the United States before returning to either London or Palestine, told reporters that although the Jewish Agency has not taken any stand on the inquiry committee report as a whole, it was chiefly interested for the moment in securing the immediate transportation of the 100,000 Jews,

HUNGARIAN LAND REFORM LAW ATTACKED AS IGNORING JEWISH INTERESTS, FOSTERING ANTI-SEMITISM

BUDAPEST, May 12. (JTA) -- The proposed land reform law, which it was charged virtually makes it impossible for Jews to obtain land or repossess confiscated holdings, was attacked today at a meeting here of Jewish leaders from all parts of Hungary.

They voted to submit a memorandum to the parliament voicing Jewish demands on various issues and pointing out the present attitude of the Government was contrary to the clause in the armistice agreement which guarantees equality for Jews, and would jeopardize Hungarian interests at the peace conference.

The conference, which was held in the headquarters of the Jewish community council, also discussed other difficulties facing Hungarian Jews in their attempt to reintegrate themselves into the country's economy. The principal speakers were Lázlo Stoeckler, president of Central Committee of Hungarian Jews; Ernos Munkacsí, general secretary of the organization and Chief Rabbi Ferenc Hevesi.

Rabbi Hevesi told the meeting that Jewish landlessness has driven them to "undesirable occupations" which help to breed anti-Semitism. Demanding urgent action to meet this problem, he stressed that a large number of Jewish farmers would be adversely affected by the law, even though the Government has promised to compensate Jews for land which is not returned to them.

Other speakers pointed out that although the Government is not anti-Semitic it is not complying with the justified demands of the Jews. However, they greeted the recent indication by the authorities that the Government would waive its claims to property of Jews who have disappeared leaving behind no heirs, and assign such property the Jewish community to aid the needy.

The tone of today's meeting was extremely militant. Speaker after speaker demanded that there be no further compromise or haggling. They attacked the attitude of Minister of Welfare Eric Malnar, who they charged was anti-Zionist.

At a Zionist mass-meeting here last night, Mihaly Salamon, president of the Zionist Federation, said that although the recommendations of the Anglo-American inquiry committee were only a partial solution of the problem, they mark "an awakening of the world's conscience." Other speakers declared that Zionism was the only solution to the Jewish problem "in hostile Europe," and attacked assimilationist tendencies as suicidal. The meeting also protested the Government's refusal to permit the issuance of a Zionist newspaper.

337 CZECH JEWS RETURNING FROM PALESTINE ARRIVE IN ITALY EN ROUTE TO PRAGUE

PRAGUE, May 12. (JTA) -- A group of 337 Czech Jews returning from Palestine has arrived at Naples aboard the Italian vessel Tripolitania, it is reported here. The Ministry of Welfare has sent a special train to Naples to bring them to Prague.

AUSTRIAN NAZI RESPONSIBLE FOR DEPORTATION, DEATH OF 50,000 JEWS SENTENCED TO DEATH

VIENNA, May 12. (JTA) -- Anton Brunner, an Austrian Nazi, was sentenced to death over the week-end by a People's Court in Vienna. Brunner was convicted of responsibility for the deportation and death of 50,000 Jews.

AMERICAN SCIENTISTS SAIL FOR PALESTINE TO PARTICIPATE IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- A group of distinguished American scientists sailed yesterday on the S.S. Vulcania for Palestine to take part in the proceedings of a scientific conference and symposium which will be held at Rehovoth, Palestine, under the chairmanship of Dr. Chaim Weizmann.

The conference will be held in the Sieff Institute of Chemistry, which is the nucleus of the soon to be established Weizmann Institute of Science, between May 29th and June 4th. A symposium on various aspects of recent research in chemotherapy, physics, biology and plastics will be one of the features of the conference in which scientists from Palestine, England and France will also take part.

Dr. E. Chain, who recently received the Nobel Prize for his part in the discovery of penicillin and Dr. Frederic Curie-Joliot will be among the scientists participating in the Rehovoth conference.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN SENDS GREETINGS TO JEWISH WAR VETERANS' ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- President Truman, in a message of greeting to the 51st Annual Memorial Service of the Jewish War Veterans, which will take place May 19 at Temple Emanu-El, lauded the role of the organization in war and in peace.

"Working with the men in our armed forces during the war, the Jewish War Veterans did much to foster the unity of all creeds and peoples in the Nation," the President said, adding that "you now have the opportunity further to serve these same men and the Nation by helping them resume their proper places in the life of their home communities."

The memorial service will be preceded by a parade of J.W.V. posts and auxiliary units from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. It will be reviewed by Mayor William O'Dwyer and representatives of leading national veterans organizations, churches, synagogues, and Congressmen.

WORKMEN'S CIRCLE URGES REHABILITATION OF JEWISH LIFE IN EUROPE, OPENING OF PALESTINE

DETROIT, May 12. (JTA) -- The 46th anniversary convention of the Workmen's Circle closed here today after adopting resolutions calling for rehabilitation of Jewish life in Europe, and the opening of the doors of Palestine, America, and other democratic countries to displaced Jews who cannot rebuild their lives in their former homelands.

The convention also urged the punishment of all war criminals and lauded the British Labor Party for its "leadership in the democratic Socialist movement of the world." The delegates voted to hold the next national convention in 1948 in either Boston or Cleveland. They also decided to hold a silver jubilee convention in 1970.

Ephim Jeshurin of New York was elected national president succeeding Reuben Guskin. In his final report to the conference, Guskin revealed that the Workmen's Circle and the Jewish Labor Committee had withdrawn from the American Jewish Conference because that body accepted to membership the International Workers' Order, which he termed "Communist dominated."

AGUDAS ISRAEL CONVENTION POSTPONED UNTIL SEPT. 15; OVERSEAS DELEGATES ARRIVAL DELAYED

NEW YORK, May 12. (JTA) -- The national convention of the Agudas Israel of America has been postponed until Sept. 15, the organization announced here today. The postponement was necessitated by a delay in the arrival of delegates from various countries throughout the world, the organization stated.

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