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American Zionist Emergency Council, press releases, 1946-1947.

RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrachi • Poale-Zion
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS PLEDGE FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH TYRANNY

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**DR. SILVER ISSUES DETAILED REPLY TO BRITISH STATEMENT
ANNOUNCING HALTING OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE**

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New York -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for the entire Zionist movement in the United States, today issued the following detailed comment on the British Government's official statement announcing the halting of Jewish immigration to Palestine. The Council represents the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrachi and Poale Zion.

The text of the statement follows:

1. The British Government, seemingly intent on demonstrating that it will stop at no measure of suppression -- however extreme and costly -- in its current war against the helpless Jewish survivors of Europe, has now begun to deport to the Island of Cyprus and elsewhere those Jewish refugees who have succeeded in reaching Palestine. At the same time Britain has mobilized its fleet and air-force in the Mediterranean and great numbers of troops in Palestine to blockade the Palestine coast against the entry of these remnants of European Jewry.

What a glorious page in British military history is now being written by these men and ships and guns whose mission it is to close the gates of the Jewish National Home against the despairing survivors of the Nazi holocaust!

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2. It behooves us to point out to the British Government that the arrival of these boatloads of refugees at Palestine is a direct consequence of the policy of delay pursued by the British Government on President Truman's year-old request for the immediate admission of 100,000 Jewish refugees into Palestine. The Jews of Europe cannot and will not remain on the scene of their degradation and suffering. They are willing to take every conceivable risk and undergo any hardship to reach Palestine, which to them spells salvation.

We must warn that if Britain continues to deport these refugees, unprecedented catastrophes reminiscent of the tragedies of the Patria and the Struma are inevitable.

3. The British Government's official statement on the halting of Jewish immigration to Palestine is a document exceptional in its hypocrisy. Its repeated protestations of "friendship" for the Jewish people, while in fact condemning these victims of Hitler to linger in a condition which is neither death nor life, are morally offensive.

The statement of the British Government points up the fact that "it was under the British Mandate that nearly 500,000 Jews settled legally in Palestine, where a great Jewish community now exists." The Jewish people will never forget that it was a British Government which was responsible for the Balfour Declaration, which promised the reconstitution of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. But its bitterness is the greater that the successors of men like Balfour and Lloyd George should drag this noble conception in the dust and seek now to destroy even what the Jews have already achieved in Palestine in the face of every difficulty and discouragement placed in their way by a hostile Colonial Administration. And at a time when the Jews of Europe were meeting horrible death in the Nazi extermination camps and ghettos, and when many thousands -- perhaps millions -- could have been saved if they had been permitted to emigrate to Palestine, the British Government kept the doors of the Jewish national homeland sealed to all but a trickle of Jewish refugees.

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This, then, was how Britain "mitigated the lot" of European Jewry. The one avenue of escape for the Nazis' Jewish victims was closed to them. Under the circumstances, Britain's current efforts to represent herself as a friend and rescuer of the Jews is little less than revolting.

4. "When it (Palestine) was threatened with Nazi invasion -- a terrible threat to the Palestinian Jews" -- the British statement continues -- "British arms prevented that dread possibility."

It would almost seem that the British Government would now have us believe that the military campaign of General Montgomery in Africa was designed to protect the Jewish community of Palestine against the Nazis and that the interests of the British Empire were perhaps merely incidental at the time. Inasmuch as the memory of British officialdom has proved remarkably short on the true facts of that campaign and on Jewish Palestine's participation in it, we take the liberty of pointing out that the British assertion that "the Jews in Palestine were given arms so that they might be equipped for their own defense ... and to enable them to take a part in the common struggle" is one of those half-truths which conceals far more than it reveals. For years the Jews in Palestine begged to be allowed to play a full part in the fight against the Nazi enemy. If, in the end, they sent their young men and women by the thousands to fight and die on the battlefields of the world, it was despite many hindrances and discouragements placed in their way by the British Administration and British officialdom in Palestine.

We have learned enough about the British Government's behavior not to expect any expression of gratitude to the Jews of Palestine for helping to save a crumbling British Empire, while the Arab nations waited to welcome the enemy with open arms -- but the least one has a right to expect in the circumstances is that the British Government would not now represent itself in the role of the altruistic savior of Jewish Palestine.

5. As a further indication of its great-hearted "benevolence," the British

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Government points to the fact that even after the quota of 75,000 Jewish immigrants permitted to enter Palestine under the White Paper of 1939 was exhausted, His Majesty's Government authorized the continuation of Jewish immigration at the rate of 1500 a month. The British statement fails to mention that the White Paper of 1939 was an illegal document, condemned as such by the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, not to mention the leaders of the present Labor Government of Britain. The policy of the White Paper was unilaterally imposed by Great Britain in violation of the international agreements concerning Palestine, which provide for the facilitation of Jewish immigration into that country and the continued development of the Jewish National Home.

In view of these facts, the term "illegal" Jewish immigration into Palestine is a misnomer. Jewish refugees entering that country are coming to the land which was set aside as their national home by the nations of the world. It is the British policy of barring these immigrants which is illegal, and no assurance of "sympathy for the suffering of the Jewish people in Europe" can alter the fact that Britain is today ruling Palestine with a brutality typical of all police states. Once again it must be emphasized that Britain's sole justification for being in Palestine at all is to carry out the terms of the Mandate granted her by the League of Nations, and that that Mandate provides for facilitating, not the exclusion, of Jewish immigration.

6. With unconscious humor, the British Government describes its Palestine policy to date as one of "patience, forbearance and humanity." We wonder whether the miserable inmates of the Displaced Persons' Camps of Europe would subscribe to this British self-adulation. We wonder, too, whether the American people will accept these words at their face value, when the Empire which utters them is responsible for acts of shameless brutality which the world now witnesses.

"Patience, forbearance and humanity..." One need only recall the case of the Patria which carried a boatload of refugees to Palestine in the winter of 1940. When it became known that the British Government had refused them permission

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to land, the desperate people aboard scuttled the boat in the port of Haifa and several hundreds of their number lost their lives. Evidently the British Government intends to apply the same principles of "humanity" to those unfortunate Jewish refugees who are at this moment languishing on boats in Haifa harbor.

President Truman's humanitarian appeal of a year ago that 100,000 displaced European Jews be admitted into Palestine immediately was ignored by the British Labor Government. The Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry's recommendation that these 100,000 men, women and children -- a fraction of those for whom it is now Palestine or death -- be admitted to Palestine at once, was rejected. Instead the British Labor Government has instituted a long procedure of "consultations" on the question. Thus far, nothing has been done to save these people. Yet Britain takes pride in her "patience, forbearance and humanity."

7. His Majesty's Government is "distressed to receive reports of persecution and pogroms against Jews in Eastern and South Eastern Europe." The extent of that distress may be inferred from the renewed campaign of defamation against the efforts of the helpless Jews to reach salvation and safety. These efforts are condemned as "illicit" and the attempts of men of good-will to aid them in reaching their destination as "unscrupulous" and "shameful."

8. It is clear that Britain's present purpose is to compel the Jewish people to submit to a political decision on Palestine which would virtually abrogate the internationally-guaranteed Jewish rights to Palestine. Britain believes that by imposing her tyranny on the Jews now, she will terrorize them into accepting her political policies. In this, too, Britain is sadly mistaken. The Jews of Palestine are prepared to resist this tyranny to the last man; the Jews of Europe are prepared to undergo any sacrifice to reach their homeland; and the Jews of America are prepared to work and fight relentlessly until justice has been done to their brethren.

In this we are confident that we have the support of the American people as a whole.

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What a glorious page in British military history is now being written by these men and ships and guns whose mission it is to close the gates of the Jewish National Home against the despairing survivors of the Nazi holocaust!

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARREST OF JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS BY BRITISH ARMY IS ACT OF WAR AGAINST JEWISH PEOPLE, AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS DECLARE

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New York — Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today issued the following statement on the arrest of members of the Jewish Agency Executive by the British Army in Palestine:

"The arrest of members of the Jewish Agency Executive by the British Army in Palestine is nothing less than an act of war against the Jewish people. It is clear that this treachery is not merely another step in the program of terror and intimidation being pursued by the British military in Palestine, but was conceived on the highest political level in an attempt to liquidate the Jewish National Home. This at a time when the British Government pretends to be engaged in a joint effort with the American Government to bring about a just solution of the Palestine problem. It is reported that the decision to make these arrests was taken 'on a Cabinet level'. Mr. Attlee and his Government must, therefore, go down in history as men without honor, as enemies of the Jewish people, who have not hesitated to deceive the American Government.

"We have today dispatched an urgent message to the President of the United States and to our Department of State, inquiring as to the accuracy of the British Foreign Office statement that the United States Government was informed earlier this week of the British decision to arrest various leading members of the Jewish

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Agency. We cannot believe that our Government, which is fully committed to the program of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, and to achieving the immediate transportation of 100,000 displaced European Jews to Palestine, would be accessory to this vicious and tyrannical act. We await the statement of our Government impatiently, and we trust that the President will not only refute the assertion of the British Foreign Office as false, but will make clear that the British action is an affront to the Government of the United States, and calculated to annul the objectives with regard to Palestine to which it is committed.

"In announcing the arrests, General Sir Alan Cunningham, High Commissioner for Palestine, stated that it was designed to 'root out terrorism and violence' in the Holy Land. Nothing could have been more calculated to provoke open warfare in Palestine than the Nazi-like detention without just cause of these spokesmen of world Jewry. Responsibility for the bloodshed and human misery which now seem inevitable in Palestine must be placed squarely where they belong -- at the doorstep of No. 10 Downing Street.

"Nor is it Palestine Jewry alone that is involved, for Britain is trampling on the rights and feelings of the Jewish people throughout the world, to whom the promise of the Jewish National Home was made. Step by step, the present British Government, with fatal obtuseness and unmatched cynicism, is following to the bitter end the policy of betrayal initiated in 1939 by the Chamberlain Government.

"If it is the intention of the British Government to break the spirit of the Jewish community of Palestine and of Jews throughout the world, it is greatly mistaken. We know the spirit of Palestine's Jews. They have come home and they are there to stay. Brave and resourceful, they are prepared to fight to the last man for the future of their people.

"As for the Jews of America -- we know that their response, too, will be immediate and unmistakable. If Britain chooses to stamp herself by her actions as the enemy and betrayer of the Jewish people, she must also assume the consequences of our determination to defend the Jewish people against her attacks with every weapon at our command."

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"PLAN" OF ANGLO-AMERICAN CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE DENOUNCED BY
AMERICAN ZIONISTS AS "CONSCIENCELESS ACT OF TREACHERY"

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DR. SILVER CHARGES JEWISH REFUGEES ARE BEING USED AS "HOSTAGES"
BY BRITAIN AND U.S.

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council and President of the Zionist Organization of America, today attacked the "Federalization Plan," recommended to the American and British Governments by the Anglo-American Cabinet Committee on Palestine, as a "conscienceless act of treachery, dooming the helpless Jewish survivors in Europe to further death and humiliation and driving the Jews of Palestine to further desperation."

Speaking for the entire Zionist movement in the United States -- the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrachi and Poale Zion -- Dr. Silver denounced as "revolting" and "immoral" the Cabinet Committee's recommendation that the admission of 100,000 homeless European Jews to Palestine, first urged almost a year ago by President Truman and unanimously recommended as an immediate step by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, be made "conditional" on the adoption of the "federalization" proposal.

"In plain English, this means that 100,000 helpless refugees are to be used as hostages by Britain and the United States in order to extort from the Jewish people acceptance of a political formulation which clearly repudiates every international commitment made to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine --

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a formulation which the governments concerned surely know the Jews cannot accept," Dr. Silver said.

The text of Dr. Silver's statement follows:

"The 'federalization plan,' recommended to the American and British Governments by the Anglo-American Cabinet Committee, is a conscienceless act of treachery, dooming the helpless Jewish survivors in Europe to further death and humiliation and driving the Jews of Palestine to further desperation.

"The Cabinet Committee's recommendation that the admission of 100,000 homeless European Jews to Palestine, first urged almost a year ago by President Truman and unanimously recommended as an immediate step by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, be made 'conditional' on the adoption of the 'federalization' proposal, is as revolting as it is immoral. In plain English, this means that 100,000 helpless refugees are to be used as hostages by Britain and the United States in order to extort from the Jewish people acceptance of a political formulation which clearly repudiates every international commitment made to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine -- a formulation which the governments concerned surely know the Jews cannot accept.

"That the lives of oppressed men, women and children, who have already passed the limits of endurance, should thus be used as pawns in Britain's imperialistic maneuvers -- and that the United States should now be a party to this abomination -- does not augur well for the world of peace and justice which, it was hoped, would emerge from the ruins of the greatest of all wars. We respectfully suggest to those who are responsible for shaping government policy on this question that what is required above all in the present situation is simple morality.

"In making public the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on April 30th of this year, President Truman declared: 'I am very happy that the request which I made for the immediate admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine has been unanimously endorsed by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. The

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transference of these unfortunate people should now be accomplished with the greatest dispatch . . . I am also pleased that the committee recommends in effect the abrogation of the White Paper of 1939, including existing restrictions on immigration and land acquisition, to permit the further development of the Jewish national home. It is also gratifying that the report also envisages the carrying out of large-scale economic development projects in Palestine which would facilitate further immigration and be of benefit to the entire population. In addition to these immediate objectives, the report deals with many other questions of long-range political policies and questions of international law which require careful study and which I will take under advisement.'

"As recently as July 1st, the White House announced that 'The President added further that it was his determination that these most recent events should mean no delay in pushing forward with a policy of transferring 100,000 Jewish immigrants to Palestine with all dispatch, in accordance with the statement he made upon the receipt of the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. The President indicated that the government of the United States was prepared to assume technical and financial responsibility for the transportation of these immigrants from Europe to Palestine.'

"That is what the President of the United States said on July 1st. The recommendations of the Cabinet Committee therefore constitute nothing less than a complete reversal of American policy as stated by this nation's Chief Executive.

"The unfairness of the 'plan' itself can best be illustrated by quoting directly from the dispatch in this morning's New York Times, which reported the facts: 'The Zionist district would include 1,500 square miles, compared with the 2,600 recommended by the Peel Report proposing partition in 1936, and the 45,000 in the area constituting Palestine when it was originally promised as a Jewish 'national home.' Forty percent of the present population of Palestine, then, would be offered three percent of the land internationally pledged to the Jewish people.

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"This is a plan for the ghetto-ization of the Jews in their own Homeland. Even that small portion of the country remaining for Jewish settlement under the 'plan' would be controlled almost completely by the same British Colonial Administration, whose only right to be in Palestine in the first place is the duty assigned to it by the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate: facilitation of the development of the Jewish National Home. We quote again from the New York Times dispatch: 'Under such a constitution, Palestine's provinces would have considerably less autonomy than was enjoyed by Britain's American colonies in the 18th Century.

"But, like those American colonists, the Jews of Palestine -- and Jews throughout the world -- will not submit to this evil decree. For the Jews of Europe it is now Palestine or death; for the Jews of Palestine it is now liberty or death. The Zionist Movement of this country will be actively identified in this historic struggle. The Jewish people will not be destroyed!"

The Council announced that a detailed analysis of the "federalization plan" would be submitted to the State Department.

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NEW ZIONIST EXECUTIVE MEETS

Subcommittee To Decide On Participation In London Talks

Basle, Switzerland, Dec. 30, (Palcor) --The crisis over future leadership which stalked the World Zionist Movement since the closing of the Zionist Congress last Tuesday, was resolved here over the week-end by the election of a new Zionist Executive, by the decision against electing a president and by placing the question of participation in the London conference in the hands of a subcommittee representing all parties.

The new Zionist Executive, which held its first meeting Sunday, was elected by the General Council (Zionists Actions Committee) by roll-call vote of 51 to 17. It consists of nineteen members and one deputy member, without a president but with chairmen in charge of affairs in American and Palestine. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, America General Zionist leader, will be chairman of the Executive in the United States. David ben Gurion, leader of the powerful labor bloc, will be chairman in Jerusalem. Dr. Nahum Goldmann has been assigned to London. The entire new executive was present at the first meeting except Dr. Silver who is enroute to America by air.

The new Zionist Executive is composed as follows: In America -- Dr. Silver, Chairman; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Mrs. Rose Halpern, Hayim Greenberg and Moshe Shertok, members. The latter two members it is believed will be in charge of affairs in Washington, with Shertok retaining his position as head of the Political Department.

In Jerusalem -- David ben Gurion, Chairman; Dr. Isaac Gruenbaum, Eliahu Dobkin, Moshe Sneh, Eliezer Kaplan, Jewish Agency Treasurer, Dr. Fritz Bernstein, General Zionist and editor of the Hebrew daily Haboker, Golda Meyerson, Rabbi J.L. Fishman, Rabbi Wolf Gold and Jacob Shapiro, the latter of Hapoel Hamizrachi, members. Moshe Kolodny is a deputy member with the right to vote on matters pertaining to immigration. Golda Meyerson and Moshe Sneh will be in charge of the Political Department in Jerusalem.

In London -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Berl Locker, Dr. Selig Brodetsky and S.Z. Shragai, of Hapoel Hamizrachi.

At a plenary session the General Council voted 47 to 32 in favor of a proposal by Moshe Sneh not to elect a president. The leftist Hashomer Hatzair, which dissented in the election, protested against the Biltmore Program and against partition. The militant leftist Tnuath Achdut Avodah also issued a dissenting declaration.

The question of retaining the office of President was brought up after the confirmation of the new Executive, by David Remez, chairman of Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council) who proposed that separate elections be held to choose a president from among the new Executive. Dr. Silver declared that he would not be able to enter the new Executive if a president was elected since many members of his and other groups are opposed to a president. The Council then proceeded to vote on Sneh's proposal.

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The Council voted in favor of a proposal by Moshe Shertak to appoint a commission, based on representatives of all parties, to consider Jewish participation in the London Conference if and when a change of conditions occurs. The proposal had the support of David ben Gurion and Emanuel Neumann who argued that the resolution adopted by the World Zionist Congress did not exclude participation. The Council elected a presidium consisting of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, as a senior member, Judith Epstein, Joseph Sprinzak, Zalman Rubashov, Rabbi Meir Berlin, Meier Grossman, Rabbi J.K. Goldbloom, Baruch Zukerman, S. Neufeld, Meier Yaari, Dr. Chaim Bogroshov and Zeru-bavel.

Discussion of the election of an Inner Zionist Council (Smaller Actions Committee) and whether it should reside in Palestine was postponed and a proposal to elect a small committee to consider the whole matter was adopted.

NEW ZIONIST COALITION REPRESENTS FIRM MAJORITY, MEETING NEXT WEEK

Ben Gurion Hopes Weizmann Will Remain Elder Statesman,

Adviser To Movement

Basle, Switzerland, Dec. 30, (Palcor) -- Support from the overwhelming majority of the Zionist Movement will be behind the newly elected World Zionist Executive when it holds its first political meeting in London next week. The coalition of parties which constitutes the new Executive can rely on a majority of the 370 delegates to the Zionist Congress which closed here last Tuesday. The Executive's full session was marked by complete understanding on all political and organizational questions.

After welcoming the "new" members of the Executive, many of whom were members of the former Executives, David ben Gurion, Chairman, conveyed the Executive's greetings to Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former president of the World Zionist Organization and expressed the hope that Dr. Weizmann will continue, as in past decades, to render his service to the Jewish people as elder statesman and advisor to the Zionist Movement.

AGUDATH ISRAEL SEEKING TO ENTER JEWISH AGENCY

London, Dec. 30, (Palcor) -- The ultra-orthodox Agudath Israel, at its annual conference here last week, decided that it "would not at any time agree to or support" any plan for the future of Palestine "which implies the exclusion of Jews from within any part of Palestine." The conference demanded that the Jewish Agency be broadened to include all shades of opinion and stated that Agudath Israel desires to enter the Agency.

(Continued on Page 3)

IRGUN CARRIES OUT THREAT: FLOGGS BRITISH OFFICER, 3 SOLDIERS FOR FLOGGING OF ONE JEW

Jerusalem, Dec. 30, (Palcor) —A British Army major and three sergeants were kidnapped, flogged and then set free by bands of armed men in Tel Aviv, Nathanya and Rishon LeZion December 29 as Irgun Zvai Lomni carried out its threat to flogg British soldiers if a Jerusalem military court's sentence of flogging was carried out against 16 year-old Abraham Kinkhin, a member of Irgun convicted for participation in a bank robbery attempt in Jaffa September 13th. The flogging sentence, which was in addition to 18 years in prison, was carried out against Kinkhin two day earlier.

The first British reprisal victim was Major Brett, of the Second Parachute Brigade, Sixth Air-Borne Division, who was sitting with his wife in the of the Hotel Metropole, in Nathanya, when five armed men entered the lobby, warned his wife not to cry out and escorted the major to an automobile waiting outside which sped away. The landlord of the hotel gave an alarm and within a few minutes hundreds of police and troops cordoned off the entire township. About an hour after the kidnapping just as a house to house search was about to begin Major Brett, clad only in underclothes, returned to the hotel and reported that he had been taken to a lonely spot and given 18 strokes, the same number that Kinkhin received.

The next victims were two sergeants who were seized in a Tel Aviv street by eight armed men who took them to a park where each was given 18 strokes. The sergeants were tied to a tree and police were telephoned where to find them, but both freed themselves and made their own way to the station house before police arrived.

A fourth flogging occurred in Rishon LeZion where a sergeant of the Sixth Air Borne Division was seized, taken to an orange grove and given 18 strokes.

Pamphlets found posted all over Jerusalem this morning carried the cryptic message "Forty minus one," which was taken to mean the traditional 39 strokes meted out by ancient Jewish courts for certain offences.

Four Jews, one of them badly injured, were captured by British troops when their car attempted to break through a road-block near Nathanya and exchanged fire with a military patrol. Two raw-hide whips were found in the car along with one sub-machine gun, two pistols and four plastic hand grenades. Earlier in the evening three cars, including one belonging to the Jewish Agency, were stolen in Tel Aviv. The drivers were held in Ruth Park for three hours, after which they were released and two of the cars were returned. The driver of the third car was told it would be found in Petah Tikvah, not far from Wilhelmina.

40 BRITISH FACE TRIAL FOR NATHANYA RIOTING

Nathanya, Dec. 30, (Palcor) —Forty British soldiers of the Sixth Airborne Division have been confined to barracks and may be tried for rioting here December 26th during which more than 1000£ (\$4,000) damage was caused by British troops. Protests against the soldiers' actions have been lodged with their commander by Mayor Ben Ani of Nathanya.

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The soldiers, from a nearby camp, invaded the streets of Nathanya, shooting in the air and detonating scare bombs and incendiary bombs. Residents locked themselves in their homes and called the police who did not arrive, however, until an hour after the soldiers left. Some eyewitnesses report that several officers were among the rioters.

Eschnab, publication of Haganah, central Jewish Resistance Movement, predicted December 2nd, that British troops would riot in Nathanya on the pretext of a Christmas celebration.

(New York Times correspondent Homer Bigart reports from Jerusalem that Harold Gray, Chief Censor, phoned all Jewish editors and asked them to play down the Nathanya riot to "avoid making it sound like an anti-Semitic outbreak." According to Mr. Bigart who reads neither Hebrew nor Arabic, and yet expresses the opinion that British censorship in Palestine is very lenient, all Hebrew papers except two, treated the incident as a drunken brawl.)

ARAB STATES UNANIMOUS AGAINST PARTITION SAYS JAMAL HUSSEINI

Jerusalem, Dec. 30 (Palcor) — Jamal Hussein, Chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Executive stated here December 29th that "despite contrary rumors all the Arab states are unanimous in their opposition to partition of Palestine." "We will oppose partition with whatever force we have and if our lives are lost before we reach the end, the Arab peoples will take up this opposition after us," Jamal said.

Mr. Hussein, who just returned from an Executive meeting in Cairo where his cousin, the exiled Mufti, is a guest of King Farouk, stated that the Executive plans a country-wide conference here this week when its decisions will be disclosed to delegates. He listed the Executive's chief aims as strengthening of the "national fund for preventing land sales to Jews" and intensification of the anti-Zionist boycott.

TWO APPOINTED TO MOSLEM COUNCIL

Jerusalem, Dec. 30, (Palcor) — Two new members have been appointed by the High Commissioner to the Moslem Supreme Council, controlling body of all Arab religious and charitable funds in Palestine, to replace two members who retired on old age pensions. The new members are Judge Ali H-sna Bey, who will leave the bench, and Hassan Dajani, former Jaffa municipal councillor.

The Palestine Arab Higher Executive last week demanded that elections be authorized for the Moslem Supreme Council, but the Government stated that it saw no necessity for elections, which were abolished in 1926 when the now exiled Mufti gained control of the Council. An election now would be dominated by the Executive which is controlled by the Palestine Arab (Mufti's) Party.

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12.30.48

HAGANAH CONTRADICTS NEW YORK PRESS REPORTS OF ARAB "ARMY" MERGER

Arabs Invite Syrian Nazi Agent As Peace-Maker

New York, Dec. 30, (Palcor) — Reports that the rival Arab military youth organizations Najada and Futawah, the latter organized by Jamal Husseini, leader of the Palestine Arab (Mufti's) Party, have merged into an Arab "army" of at least 20,000 to "fight the Jews" were played up in dispatches in the New York press last week from correspondents in Jerusalem. The latest issue of Eschnab, publication of Haganah, central Jewish Resistance Movement, just received here, reports continued internecine warfare between the two military groups. The raid on the Jaffa offices of Najada only two weeks ago has been widely attributed to Futawah. Arab leaders are seeking to bring in Amin Kawari, a former Nazi collaborator now in Syria, to try to effect unity between the rival groups.

United Press correspondent, Eliav N. Simon, in a dispatch from "somewhere in the Judean Hills," reports that Mohammed Nimr el Hawari, Jaffa lawyer who commands Najada told him that all members of the merged forces will swear allegiance to Haj Amin el Husseini, the Mufti now in Egypt. Mr. Simon's dispatch describing his visit to "Najada territory" gives the impression of a bristling partisan army operating in great secrecy. Dispatches from Palestine only last week however tell of Najada drilling within sight of the High Commissioner's residence and of its parades, in U.S. Army surplus uniforms, through the streets of Jaffa and Jerusalem.

FRANCO FLIRTING WITH ARAB LEAGUE

New York, Dec. 30, (Palcor) — Azzam Pasha, Secretary General of the Arab League, confirmed last week that he has a standing invitation to visit Spain, but denied press reports that the suggested visit was to negotiate political and cultural agreements between Spain and the Arab States, the New York Times reports from Cairo. Azzam Pasha said the invitation was extended by the Spanish Minister in Cairo last summer when he was preparing to go to London for the opening of the Palestine conference.

Azzam Pasha also denied a Baghdad press dispatch that the Arab League has received a note from the Spanish Government promising to fulfill certain Arab demands in Spanish Morocco if the Arab States would take a positive stand in behalf of Spain in the United Nations.

ARAB COMMUNISTS READY TO COOPERATE WITH MUFTI, LEADER TELLS PALCOR
(Via Mail From Jerusalem)

New York, Dec. 30, (Palcor) — Arab Communists in Palestine regard the Palestine Arab Higher Executive as a "symbol of Arab unity" and are ready to cooperate at any time with the Palestine Arab (Mufti's) Party which controls the Higher Executive, Emil Touma, editor of the Arabic Communist daily Al Itikhad and head of the League of National Liberation, an Arab Communist front organization, told the Palcor correspondent at an interview in Jerusalem.

Touma said Arab Communists don't see eye-to-eye with Moscow concerning the status of the Jews. We recognize them as a people, he said, but distinguish between a people and a nation — Jews have no right to territorial concentration or political independence. This is contrary to the Soviet conception, as for example the autonomous Jewish province of Biro-Bidjan in eastern Siberia. Boulus Farah, Communist trade union chief, told the Palcor correspondent that Arab Communists regard with suspicion any official joint action between Jewish and Arab trade unions through Histadruth (Jewish labor federation) for political purposes. All Arab, regardless of class, are victims of Zionism, he said.

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U.S., FRANCE IN SHOW-DOWN WITH BRITISH AT SECRET CONFERENCE ON DPS

New York, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—Gustave Kullman, Swiss senior Assistant Director of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, is believed to be the chief intriguer for the British in their effort to bottle-up Jewish DPs trekking to Palestine the New York Times reports in a dispatch from London. He has submitted reports charging that American military authorities, with the cooperation of the French, are facilitating the escape of Polish Jews across the American occupation zone of Germany into France. His reports have resulted in a secret conference of American, British and French officials in Paris to deal with the problem of eastern European refugees infiltrating into France.

The conference was called under British pressure. George Warren, representing the United States, insisted that the discussions be confined only to war criminals entering France and supported the French position that victims of racial persecution be helped.

Kullman's close association with the British is evidenced by the British Government recommending him for a high post on the International Refugee Organization. Sir Herbert Emerson, chief of the Intergovernmental Committee, has maintained close contact with the British Foreign Office. The Committee, which received \$5,000,000 for refugee maintenance and resettlement, ended the year with a million and a half dollars left over, indicating that it did little towards resettlement and rehabilitation.

STONE GETS GUILD AWARD FOR PALESTINE SERIES

New York, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—I.F. Stone, Chief of the Washington Bureau of the New York newspaper PM and Albert Deutsch, PM columnist were among the recipients of the New York Newspaper Guild's annual journalism awards. Stone received the award for his series of articles, now available in book form, on his trip "Underground to Palestine." Among others who received awards were Renee Fruchtbaum, of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, for her work in helping expose the anti-Semitic, anti-Negro Columbians Inc.

MIZRACHI DRIVE FOR 100,000 MEMBERS

New York, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—The Mizrahi Organization of America, orthodox religious wing of the Zionist Movement, launched last week an intensive membership drive to enroll 100,000 members throughout the nation, Rabbi S.M. Zambrowsky, national executive secretary, announced.

ARAB STATES TO ATTEND LONDON CONFERENCE

New York, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—The Arab League announced that delegates from its seven member states would be represented at the London conference on Palestine when it resumes January 21st, to veto any partition scheme which may be brought up, the Associated Press reports from London. The League's decision came despite the Palestine Executive's recent appeal to the Arab states to boycott the sessions unless the British Government accepted the Executive's conditions. These include recognition of the exiled Mufti as the leader of Palestine Arabs.

(Continued on Page 7)

BRITISH SEARCH HADERA AFTER TERRORISTS ATTACK

Jerusalem, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—British troops, December 5, cordoned off the town of Hadera and commenced an extensive search for arms following a terrorist attack at 1:30 am against the military rail transport office. Twenty persons have been detained so far.

During the search troops uncovered an arms cache containing one Thompson machine-gun, two magazines, four rifles, twelve automatic pistols, three mines of the electrically detonated type, complete with cables and press buttons and a quantity of explosives and ammunition.

ARAB SHOT AT BY MUFTI TERRORISTS IN JERUSALEM OLD CITY

Jerusalem, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—Arab terrorists last Friday made the second attempt in two months on the life of Mohammed Nasr Dashiti, an Arab "sentenced" to death by them for selling land to Jews. Two Arabs entered a shop in the Old City and shot at Dashiti but missed him. In fleeing they fired on their pursuers wounding one Arab passerby.

The first attempt on Dashiti's life was made last November 13th when a number of Arabs were arrested on suspicion, but released on bail. Mr. Dashiti received several threatening letters informing him that he had been "sentenced" to death. Arabs say they dare not inform police even if they know the attackers. The attempted assassination was not mentioned in the Arabic press.

PALESTINE PHILHARMONIC INVITED BY N.Y. PHILHARMONIC

Jerusalem, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—The Palestine Philharmonic Orchestra has been invited by the New York Philharmonic to present a series of concerts in New York City, it was announced here January 3rd. Negotiations for the concerts are now underway.

TEL AVIV CELEBRATES WRITERS BIRTHDAY AS RIFLES DARK

Tel Aviv, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—While rifles and automatic weapons cracked in the streets of Tel Aviv last week, the birthday of the late Hebrew poet Chaim Nachman Bialik was celebrated in Bialik House, where the Bialik Prizes for literature and lexicography were awarded to Gershon Schoffman and Yehudah Grazovsky respectively. Schoffman received the prize for the first volume of his collected works; Grazovsky, for his new Hebrew dictionary.

MUFTI WANTS "INVASION" OF PALESTINE, ARAB LEAGUE RECOGNITION FOR

PALESTINE EXILE GOVT.

Jerusalem, Jan. 6, (Palcor)—An invasion of Palestine by an Arab army composed of seven divisions contributed by each of the seven member states of the Arab League, was one of the secret decisions taken by the Arab League Council at its meeting in Bludan, Syria, last spring. Eschnab, publication of the Jewish Resistance Movement reports. The exiled Mufti, and his supporters, at a recent meeting of the Arab League Council in Cairo, have demanded that this project, intermittently shelved by the Arab League, be implemented and that the zero hour for invasion be the close of the London conference on Palestine, providing the conference does not fulfill the demands of Palestine Arabs. The invasion scheme is one of the two secret

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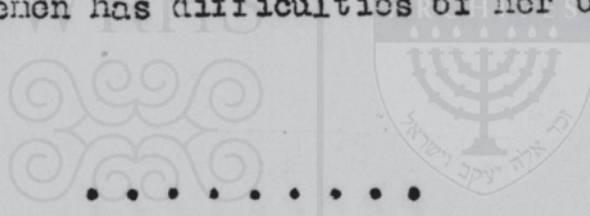
PAGE 8

Bludan decisions which the Mufti demands must be implemented now. The other calls for the establishment of an Arab exile government for Palestine to be set up either in Cairo or Damascus, under the Mufti's leadership, to be recognized immediately by the seven Arab states which will seek recognition for it by those Governments whose policies the Arab states support in the councils of the United Nations.

The invasion plan calls on each of the Arab states to organize and equip divisions of private citizens, not in the regular army, to be led by the "military experts" of the defense ministries of the various states, who would resign their posts. The Arab countries are not known to have any real military experts. The Army would march on Palestine under orders to avoid conflict with British troops if possible, but not to retreat if the British give battle.

At the recent meeting of the Arab League Council in Cairo, Eschnab reports, the Mufti, through a memorandum, and his cousin Jamal Hussein, in person, bitterly assailed Azzam Pasha, Secretary General of the Arab League, for postponing the Bludan decisions. The Egyptian representative on the Council was absent because of the internal crisis in Egypt. The representatives of Iraq, Transjordan and Yemen had nothing to say until they consulted with their governments. It is doubtful whether Iraq or Transjordan would take any decisions in which Britain did not concur. The tiny country of Yemen has difficulties of her own squeezed between the British and Soviet orbits.

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January 8, 1947

VOLUME XIV—NUMBER 5

BEN GURION IN LONDON, CONFERS WITH COLONIAL SECY.

London, January 8, (Palcor)—David ben Gurion, Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, arrived here from Paris this morning and conferred with Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones for some time at the latter's invitation. Later Mr. Ben Gurion held conferences with his colleagues in the Zionist Executive, including Moshe Shertok, head of the Agency's Political Department, Nahum Goldmann, Berl Locker, Solig Brodetsky and Hayim Greenberg.

A three day organizational meeting of the Executive, under the chairmanship of Moshe Shertok, concluded here today. Problems relating to the respective departments were discussed.

JEWISH PALESTINE BESET WITH DOUBTS SINCE DROPPING OF WEIZMANN

LEADERSHIP, TIMES SAYS

London, January 8, (Palcor)—Acute uncertainty over the future prevails in the Jewish community of Palestine today, as a result of the change of leadership at the 22nd World Zionist Congress, the Times says in an editorial today.

"Weizmann's defeat by a coalition of incompatibles, held together only by distrust of Britain left world Zionism without a president at this critical juncture," the Times says. "The unfortunate decision against participation in the London conference also severed the long honorable connection of Stephen Wise with the inner councils of American Zionists. The policy of both these statesmen has been to rely on the traditional friendship of Britain, and the result has been the creation of a compact, well organized Jewish community in Palestine. Now that policy is in effect repudiated by the World Zionist Congress and the Jewish community in Palestine is beset with doubts."

The editorial stresses that terrorism is the "chief obstacle in the path of early satisfaction of Jewish aspirations. When confronted with wanton violence, authorities in Palestine must take stern action. It is essential to Jewish interests," the editorial concludes, "that terrorism be actively and passively opposed by Jews, otherwise their cause will continue to be identified with violence in British public opinion." If Mr. Ben Gurion can arouse the Jewish community to appreciate its peril he will render a great service to the Zionist cause."

PALESTINE IN THE AMERICAN PRESS

Report Irgun, Sternists Agree To Truce in Terror War

New York, January 8, (Palcor)—The British Cabinet has decided not to impose martial law or other drastic measures on Palestine for the time being in order to give the Jewish Agency and the Jewish community a chance to demonstrate their willingness and capacity to stop the terrorists themselves, press dispatches from London state today.

(Continued on Page 2)

1.8.47

Indications that terrorist activities may have ceased for the present are contained in press dispatches from Jerusalem today quoting unconfirmed reports that the extremist Stern group and Irgun have agreed to declare a truce in their current terror war against British security forces in Palestine. The alleged truce was reportedly brought about by Haganah, central Jewish resistance movement, the largest underground group. In a broadcast over its illegal radio station earlier this week Haganah gave an ultimatum to the Sternists and Irgunists warning that if their terrorist activities did not cease it would step in, even though internecine warfare between Jewish underground groups might prove disastrous to Jewish Palestine.

Reports from London yesterday said the Government was waiting for Cabinet ratification of plans for a vast all-out offensive to crush Palestine terrorists once and for all.

Bevin Reported Set To Recommend Partition

New York, January 8, (Palcor)—Foreign Secretary Bevin and Colonial Secretary Creech-Jones have agreed, according to a Government source, to recommend to the British Cabinet that Palestine be divided into independent Arab and Jewish States, the Associated Press reported in a dispatch from London today. Such a division, the AP says, would probably reserve Jerusalem, the key oil port of Haifa, and possibly other areas as "neutral" territory under British trusteeship. The Cabinet is expected to hear the recommendations at a special meeting tomorrow.

The London Telegraph's diplomatic correspondent reported last week that the Cabinet would recommend Thursday a plan to partition Palestine giving 40 percent to the Jews as an independent state and the remainder to the Arabs. Both Arab and Jewish states would receive dominion status, the correspondent said.

Suggests U.S. Sponsor Partition Proposal

Washington, D.C., January 8, (Palcor)—Belief is high in official Washington circles that the Palestine problem may be settled peacefully within a few weeks on the basis of a partition between Jews and Arabs, William Philip Simms, Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor, writes in his syndicated column.

Partition, Mr. Simms says, would prove acceptable to all parties concerned if it were proposed by a relatively neutral party like the United States, either through President Truman or some other appropriate agency. "All agree that the present tragic situation cannot continue. Either the British will have to put down the revolt, or surrender, leaving Palestine to the United Nations. Admittedly neither alternative appeals to London and the probabilities are that the Zionists don't like either much better. Both sides stand to lose. Meanwhile tens of thousands of displaced Jews, homeless, cold and miserable, await a solution," Mr. Simms writes.

(Continued on Page 3)

1.8.47

British Request U.S. Halt Solicitation of Funds For Palestine Extremists

Washington, D.C., January 8, (Palcor)--Retiring Secretary of State Byrnes disclosed yesterday that the British Government has requested the suppression of advertisements in the American press soliciting American contributions for Jewish underground forces in Palestine. Mr. Byrnes said the request is being studied and revealed that it was made by British Ambassador Lord Inverchapel who cited advertisements by the American League for a Free Palestine, a Peter H. Bergson affiliate, and by the Political Actions Committee for Palestine Inc., of which former Representative Joseph Clark Baldwin is chairman.

The British asked that the U.S. Treasury Department revoke its ruling that contributions for the underground forces are tax exempt. The ruling, on the theory that such contributions are charity, has been prominently displayed in the advertisements as an incentive to prospective contributors.

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PRESS RELEASE from

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER APPEALS TO BRITISH TO HALT MILITARY OFFENSIVE IN PALESTINE

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AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADER WHO CALLED UPON JEWS IN PALESTINE
TO REFRAIN FROM ACTS OF DESPERATION URGES BRITISH GOVERNMENT
"NOT TO TAKE THE PATH OF REPRISAL"

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New York, Jan. 8 -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and President of the Zionist Organization of America, yesterday appealed to the British Government not to embark on its proposed military offensive in Palestine.

Warning that such action by British troops against the Jewish people of Palestine would serve only to "create new obstacles in the way of mutual understanding," the American Zionist leader who Monday night called upon all Jews in Palestine "to refrain from those acts of desperation which are endangering our political position, both in Palestine and elsewhere" and appealed for a truce, declared:

"No just and sound solution of the Palestine problem can be achieved by taking the path of reprisal. American public opinion, Jewish and Christian alike, will not condone military oppression in the Holy Land and the subjection of the entire population to the tyranny of martial law."

Dr. Silver's statement reads:

"On my arrival Monday from Washington, where I conferred first with Lord Inverchapel, the British Ambassador, and later with Mr. James Byrnes,

(more)

the Secretary of State, on the Palestine question, I was met with newspaper headlines heralding a full-scale British military offensive in Palestine.

"This operation, which is now allegedly being discussed on a Cabinet level in London, is purportedly aimed at the suppression of anti-British terror in Palestine. Additional troops are reportedly being rushed from Egypt to Palestine to carry out this program.

"In the present circumstances such large-scale action by British military forces, though it be presumably aimed at extremists, is most likely to take the form of reprisals against the entire peaceful civilian population of Palestine. They will be the principal sufferers. This must inevitably produce further embitterment and further deterioration of British-Jewish relations in Palestine and the world over. Far from contributing to a just and sound solution of the Palestine problem, it will create new obstacles in the way to mutual understanding.

"As a friend of Britain, I strongly appeal to the British Government not to take the path of reprisal. No just and sound solution of the Palestine problem can be achieved by these means. I urge the British Government in this grave hour to consider the Palestine problem outside the framework of reprisal and punitive measures.

"American public opinion, Jewish and Christian alike, will not condone military oppression in the Holy Land, and the subjection of the entire population to the tyranny of martial law."

VOLUME XIV - NUMBER 31

February 18, 1947

BRITAIN WILL SUBMIT PALESTINE CASE TO U.N. WITHOUT RECOMMENDATIONS,

BEVIN ANNOUNCES

Will Continue Present Immigration Policy. - Churchill Scores
Additional Delays

London, February 18, (Palcor)—Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin announced in Commons today that the British Government will submit the Palestine issue to the United Nations without making any recommendations of her own. The Government will, however, submit "all valid documents and proposals." Immigration will continue at the present rate of 1500 monthly, he said. Replying to Barnet Janner, Laborite MP and Zionist leader, who asked whether the Government would continue to administer the mandate in the interim period as before the White Paper, Mr. Bevin said that the White Paper was not "exactly in force, in view of the fact that a monthly immigration of 1500 is permitted." He added that the Colonial Secretary will deal further with matters in this connection. A debate on the Palestine question will be held probably early next week.

Immediately after Mr. Bevin made his statement, Winston Churchill rose to ask whether they would continue until September the present policy of keeping a large force in Palestine when they are short of man power in Britain. He criticized the Government for delaying the problem for eighteen months, adding that what Mr. Bevin "announced today could have been done eighteen months ago." The Foreign Secretary protested, saying that the Government could not have done any better than it has done

The Foreign Secretary, in explaining the British decision to submit the Palestine problem to the United Nations, told Commons that Cabinet took this decision because it was unable to reach an agreement with either the Jews or the Arabs. He gave a summary of the original Morrison-Grady plan, followed by a summary of the new British proposal and by a fairly accurate account of the reasons given by Arabs and Jews for rejecting the Government proposal. He said that under these conditions the Government had no other alternative but to submit the case to the United Nations for decision.

Mr. Bevin said:

I am "very sorry" to have to inform the House that the conference with the Arabs and the consultations with the Zionist Organization about the future of Palestine, which has been proceeding in London, have come to an end because it has become clear that there is no prospect of reaching by this means any settlement broadly acceptable to both communities in Palestine.

(Continued on Page 2)

2.18.47

EMERGENCY CONFERENCE ASKS CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE BRITISH VIOLATION OF 1924 PALESTINE CONVENTION

U.S. Urged to Provide Ships To Take 100,000 To Palestine

Washington, D.C., February 18, (Palcor)—Acting on proposals from the floor, the Zionist emergency conference here yesterday resolved to ask Congress to investigate whether the British White Paper violates the 1924 Anglo-American Convention on Palestine, and to call on the United States Government to provide ships for the transportation of 100,000 Jewish refugees from Europe to Palestine during the interim period until the United Nations acts on the Palestine question. Being that an Anglo-American commission has investigated the logistics involved in transporting Jews from Europe to Palestine, the U.S. Government is urged to place ships at their disposal, the conference leaders declared.

Other speakers at the conference included Isaac ben-Aharon, Jewish Palestine's outstanding war hero and a leader of Tnuath Achduth Avodah, who declared that the Jews of Palestine will never yield to military occupation. Hashomer Hatzair representative Friedel asserted that the Jews in Palestine must estimate internal terror because it has a demoralizing effect, and urged that this fight should begin at once. He referred to the recent burning of Hashomer Hatzair clubs in Palestine by dissident groups.

Following are the full texts of the other resolution adopted yesterday:

The extraordinary American Zionist Conference, assembled in Washington at a critical hour in the life of the Jewish people, has reviewed the recent events affecting the future of the Jewish National Home and, deeply conscious of the responsibility now devolving upon the Jews of America, makes the following declaration:

I. BRITISH RULE IN PALESTINE

We condemn the present British regime in Palestine which robs those very ideals in whose name the American people fought side by side with Britain in her moment of peril. The Government which is bound by international treaties to promote Jewish immigration and settlement in Palestine and the development of the Jewish National Home has imposed a rule of brute force upon the Jewish community of Palestine. Tens of thousands of British troops, for whose presence in Palestine the sole justification in international law and morality is Britain's acceptance of the terms of the Palestine mandate, today constitute an oppressive and hostile force seeking to destroy the Yishuv's ability to defend its rights and to continue the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home.

A once great Government has descended to employ its Navy and its Army divisions in military operations against defenseless men, women and children who have lived with death for more than a decade and who ask only the elementary human rights of life, work and home. We reject the attempts being made by the British Government to represent its military actions against Jewish refugees and the Yishuv as designed to preserve law and order. The British Government alone had brought lawlessness to Palestine by imposing a policy declared illegal by the representatives of the civilized world, speaking through the Mandate Commission of the League of Nations. It alone is responsible for the violence, the acts of desperation of Jews in Palestine. New suppression can only result in further violence and the shedding of more innocent blood. Let the cause of this violence be removed, and it will cease.

(Continued on Page 4)

II. DEATH SENTENCES IN PALESTINE

In view of the fact that any new act of repression by the British Government can only increase existing tensions in Palestine and render more difficult a peaceful and just solution of the Palestine question, we call upon the Government of the United States to make an earnest effort to secure the commutation of the pending death sentences imposed on a number of Palestine Jews as part of the repressive policy of the Palestine Government, and to impress upon Great Britain that only further aggravation of the problem can follow the imposition of death sentences upon Jews resisting the offensive British regime in Palestine.

III. TO THE YISHUV

We send a renewed expression of our solidarity and support to the Yishuv and its nationally disciplined and responsible resistance movement.

(Editor Paltor: Revisionists urged the omission of the phrase "nationally disciplined and responsible." An amendment to the effect was defeated by a vote of 255 to 71. Had the amendment been accepted it would have implied recognition of the dissidents. Louis Segal of the Jewish National Workers Alliance presented the case against the amendment pointing out that the original phrasing constituted as fair a formula as possible and that the amendment would run against the decisions of the Zionist Congress and Vaad Leumi.)

The courage and resourcefulness of the men and women of Palestine and their determination to defend Jewish rights against tremendous odds have awakened a sense of pride in the hearts of Jews the world over and have won the admiration of Americans of all races and creeds. The American people have not failed to note the similarity between the Jewish struggle in Palestine today and that of the American colonists for independence. The Yishuv does not stand alone. We shall continue to aid it to the limit of our ability and our resources.

IV. TO THE HOMELESS JEWS OF EUROPE

The cries for help coming to us from our brothers and sisters who still wait for deliverance in the displaced persons' camps of Europe, shall not go unheeded. Along with them, we recognize neither borders nor barriers to their emigration to Palestine. We shall bend every effort to support their irresistible movement towards their homeland — and salvation. In this great work of rescue and mercy we shall not be intimidated by the attempts of hostile British officials to label the efforts of homeless Jews to reach Palestine as "illegal." Illegal is the power that keeps them from their homeland. These lives are precious and we mean to save them.

V. BRITISH POLICY

In defiance of its international commitments, the British Government under Mr. Attlee has by one delaying tactic after another sought to evade its inescapable responsibilities. It has denied the recommendations for immediate action of its own representatives on the joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry and flouted the feelings and opinions of the overwhelming mass of the American people, ostensibly to win the acquiescence of the interested parties. It has recently embarked upon discussions in London whose lack of sincerity has been demonstrated by its actions in Palestine. The Palestine Administration continues to deport Jewish refugees to Cyprus. It continues increasingly to deprive the Jewish community of Palestine of its elementary rights and freedom and to strangle the economy of the country.

(Continued on Page 5)

It has barricaded the streets and caged whole sections of towns. It has subjected many thousands of people to arbitrary search and seizure. It has evicted large numbers from their homes in their own homeland.

Its latest proposals were a modification for the worse of the unacceptable Morrison-Grady plan, already rejected by the American Government. The British Government has now resorted to another maneuver which, while seemingly leaving the decision of Palestine's future in the hands of the United Nations, is calculated to secure the prolongation of arbitrary British rule pending time-consuming deliberations, the results of which Britain may negate with her veto power.

In reviewing the British Government's history of vacillation and faithlessness, we are deeply aware of the fact that hundreds of thousands of Jews might have been saved but for its indefensible policy. We express our deep sense of outrage over this shameful record of the British Government.

VI. THE UNITED NATIONS

Great Britain's announced decision to refer the Palestine question to the United Nations affords an historic opportunity to the members of that international body. A generation has passed since the nations of the world resolved to end for all time Jewish national homelessness and to re-establish Jewish nationhood. They entrusted the British Government with this great task, but the guardian proved unfaithful to its trust and sought to frustrate its fulfillment.

Once again the international community, represented by the United Nations, can reaffirm the decision made following the first World War. To that end, the main elements of the solution — freedom of Jewish immigration to Palestine and the establishment of the Jewish State — should be spelled out in clear and precise terms.

It is only reasonable to expect the United Nations, in dealing with this problem, to be faithful to its role as the guardian of international law by issuing an interim order that pending the final decision, the Mandate for Palestine — the only internationally valid instrument governing that country — be fully applied, free from all restrictive enactments imposed by the Mandatory Government in violation of the fundamental document.

In any deliberations within the United Nations, we expect that the Jewish Agency for Palestine will be given proper representation.

VII. TO THE UNITED STATES

We now look to our own Government to assume leadership in the new situation which has developed regarding Palestine. The United States, which has declared its support of the Jewish National Home in two resolutions of Congress, in the declarations of its Presidents, and most recently, in the practical steps initiated by President Truman, now has an opportunity to demonstrate that it means to honor its pledges. A solution embodying America's traditional policy of support for Jewish national aspirations would provide an additional impetus to world peace and stability, and would advance the principles for which America stands committed in the world.

2.18.47

We respectfully call upon the Government of the United States to employ its great influence both in its relations with the British Government and as a leading member in the United Nations, in the interest of the program for Palestine which it has reaffirmed time and again. Pending a final settlement of this question by the United Nations the great weight of the United States Government should be brought to bear on the Mandatory Government to the end that an interim policy based upon the existing Mandate be set into motion at once providing for at least the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews into Palestine and the removal of the discriminatory land restrictions in the Jewish National Home.

We commend the willingness of the United States Government to undertake the transportation to Palestine of Jewish refugees still languishing in displaced person camps. Our Government has made a special study of the technical aspects of this question and has already planned the logistics involved in such transportation. We, therefore, urge the United States now to take the initiative for the implementation of this great humanitarian project and request our Government to authorize the use of American ships, flying the American flag, for the immediate movement of Jewish refugees to Palestine.

VIII. CONFIDENCE IN ZIONIST LEADERSHIP

We voice our confidence in the leadership of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the American Zionist Emergency Council in carrying forward our program of action during the coming crucial months, and we pledge the full support of American Zionism to these leaders in their efforts to open Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and to attain Jewish statehood.

NEW G.O.C. POSTPONES DEATH SENTENCES OF 3 YOUTHS

Jerusalem, February 18, (Palcor)—General H. C. Millan, new Commander in Chief of British forces in Palestine, has agreed to postpone the death sentences of three Jewish youths arrested last December 29th, the night of Irgun's retaliatory flogging until the Privy Council decides on the sentence of Dov Gornner, convicted Irgunite whose execution was postponed last month, Chief Secretary Gurney announced tonight. The Chief Secretary's announcement was in reply to applications for respite submitted by the parents of two of the youths, Dov Rosenbaum and Eliezer Kashani. The sentences were confirmed by Lt. General Barker as his last official act as Palestine Commander in Chief.

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Mr. Devin said that ever since it came into office the Labor Government tried incessantly to find a solution to the Palestine problem. Most members of the Government believed the White Paper was no solution, and the Government therefore endeavored to devise a different approach with the parties concerned. In view of the keen interest of American Jewry in the aspirations of Zionism, it was thought desirable that the United States Government be associated with these endeavors. The result was appointment of the Anglo-American Inquiry Commission in November, 1945. At the same time it was decided that Jewish immigration would continue temporarily at the rate of 1500 monthly, notwithstanding the limits of the White Paper and the additional 21,000 Jews already admitted since the termination of the White Paper in July, 1945. When the Anglo-American Commission reported that it had agreed, its report was examined by British and American officials who jointly recommended provisional autonomy since described as the Morrison plan, which gave a basis for negotiations with the parties concerned. Neither communities accepted the invitations, but a conference with representatives of the Arab States opened last September which was resumed in January. The Jewish Agency throughout refused to participate in the conference although it was informed that all proposals were open for discussion. But it was possible, at the last phase of the conversations, to hold discussions on an informal basis with representatives of the Jewish Agency. From the outset Arabs and Jews declined the basis for discussions under the provisional autonomy plan of the Government. The Arabs put forward an alternative plan under which Palestine Arabs would achieve independence in a unitary state with a permanent Arab majority. The Government can't see any prospect of negotiating a settlement on that basis. A new proposal was submitted by the Government envisaging establishment of local areas of Arabs and Jews with a substantial degree of autonomy within the unitary state with a central Government in which both Arab and Jews would share.

These proposals provide that Jewish immigrants be admitted over the next two years at a rate of 4000 monthly and thereafter, continuation of the rate of Jewish immigration be determined with due regard to the economic and absorptive capacity of the country by the High Commissioner in consultation with his Advisory Council, or, in event of disagreement, by arbitration tribunal appointed by the United Nations. This plan, while consistent with the principle of the Mandate, has an element hitherto lacking in our administration of Palestine, namely, the practical promise of evolution towards a trusteeship of political institutions rooted in the lives of the people. It was offered as a basis for discussion. These three solutions were already made known in broad outline and we intend to lay before the House later in the week, a White Paper describing much of these in detail. The latest proposals were rejected outright by both Arab delegations and representatives of the Jewish Agency as a basis of discussion. I think it is important that the House should understand the reasons that prompted the two sides.

For the Arabs the fundamental point is that Palestine should no longer be denied the independence attained by every other Arab state, and in accordance with the accepted principles of democracy the elected majority should be free to determine the future destiny of the country. They regard any further expansion of the Jewish National Home as jeopardizing Arab claims in Palestine, therefore they are unwilling to contemplate further Jewish immigration and are equally opposed to the creation of a Jewish state in any part of Palestine.

The Jewish Agency, on the other hand, made clear their fundamental aim is the creation of an independent Jewish State in Palestine. With this in view, they consider that the Government should continue to administer on the basis of the Mandate, enabling them to expand the Jewish National Home until such time as they have obtained by immigration a numerical majority, and demand creation of an independent Jewish state over the country as a whole. When it was made clear that the Government was not able to maintain a Mandatory administration, under the protection of which such a policy would be able to be carried out, representatives of the Jewish Agency indicated that while they themselves would not propose a plan for partition they were prepared to consider, for purposes of compromise, a proposal for a viable Jewish state in Palestine if advanced by the Government.

2.20.47

BEVIN SHIFTS BLAME FOR PALESTINE STALEMATE TO U.S. JEWS

London, February 20, (Palcor)—British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, who declared in Commons, in 1945, that he would stake his political reputation on finding a solution to the Palestine problem, reportedly told a Labor Party caucus here yesterday that his efforts would have been successful had it not been for American Zionists who pressured the U.S. Government not to support the British proposals for a solution thereby wrecking the negotiations with Palestine Jews and Arabs. Mr. Bevin reportedly said that, if it weren't for American Zionists the Palestine question would be solved today in a way which would keep peace there for at least 20 years. This information is credited to a source high in Labor Party ranks, described by some as one of the leaders of the "rebel" group within / Party which is opposed to Bevin's foreign policy. the

Political correspondents in the British press today said Bevin told the Party caucus that if he had only to deal with British Jews he could have secured a temporary arrangement while a permanent solution was being worked out, but the intransigence of American Jews proved the stumbling block. He reportedly stressed, however, that the door is still open for a compromise agreement between Jews and Arabs before the case comes up before the United Nations. Bevin reportedly received general support from his Party, for his decision to bring the Palestine case before the United Nations although no vote was taken.

The Party caucus also heard from Colonial Secretary Creech-Jones who is reportedly at variance with the Labor Party's policy and the Government's decision to "abandon the White Paper."

GLOBAL STUDENT BODY REGISTERED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY'S MEDICAL COLLEGE

Sales Tax To Help Maintain School

Jerusalem, February 20, (Palcor)—Only fifty students yearly, from all over the world will be accepted in the Hebrew University's new Medical College when it begins functioning in 1948, a University spokesman announced here today. The number may be increased as facilities expand. Drugstores throughout the country will charge customers small additional fees to help support the medical school.

The spokesman announced an anatomist of world-wide reputation has already signed with the University as a lecturer.

A number of Palestinian youths specializing in various branches of medical science are being sent abroad to study under tuition systems, while a party of Jewish nurses is going to the United States for specialization in their profession. A special campaign to raise 250,000£ (\$1,000,000) yearly for better hospital facilities has been launched throughout Jewish Palestine. The Hadassah Hospital is being enlarged to hold a total of 450 beds with an auxiliary tuberculosis hospital of 200 beds.

(Continued on Page 5)

PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS ASSAIL BEVIN STATEMENT AS "GRATUITOUS AND INSULTING ATTACK" UPON PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND U. S. JEWS

- - - -

**DR. SILVER DECLARES BEVIN'S CHARGE THAT PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR
IMMIGRATION OF 100,000 WRECKED PALESTINE SETTLEMENT IS
"MISCHIEVOUS DISTORTION"**

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New York, Feb. 26 -- Speaking for the entire Zionist movement in the United States, represented in the American Zionist Emergency Council, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the Council, today declared that "by his speech in Parliament on Tuesday, Mr. Bevin has capped eighteen months of evasion on the Palestine issue with as mendacious, misleading and insulting a statement as ever issued from the lips of a British Foreign Secretary."

"A British politician, who has played such dubious politics, especially in connection with Palestine, as has Mr. Bevin, ought not to lecture any government on the subject of political ethics. Citizens of the United States further will not be impressed by his gross innuendo at their Chief Executive; nor by his renewed slights on the Jews of New York. It is not the first time that Mr. Bevin has called to his aid racial prejudice," Dr. Silver declared.

"Perhaps the most astonishing part of Mr. Bevin's statement is that in which he declares that last summer he was on the road to an agreement when 'the whole thing was spoiled' by the President's statement of October 4th. The fact is that at that time all negotiations on the Palestine issue had for the time being broken down. Indeed, in the opening paragraph of his statement

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of October 4th, the President, with deep regret, drew attention to this very fact. Thus, the charge that the President's renewed request for the immigration into Palestine of 100,000 Jewish displaced persons wrecked an impending settlement is a most mischievous distortion. The President's great act of humanity in once again urging that there be immediate action and in pointing out that the breakdown of discussions meant further delay has been used by Mr. Bevin as the occasion for a gratuitous and insulting attack upon the Chief Executive," the Zionist leader said.

The text of the statement follows:

"By his speech in Parliament on Tuesday, Mr. Bevin has capped eighteen months of evasion on the Palestine issue with as mendacious, misleading and insulting a statement as ever issued from the lips of a British Foreign Secretary.

"Mr. Bevin had hoped that through a series of clumsy delays and airy disregard of international obligations -- not to speak of the solemn resolutions of his own party -- and through the terrorization of the Jews of Palestine by a demonstration of military might, he would succeed in 'solving' the Palestine problem. He staked his political career, he said, on his ability to solve it. But only a man who is amazingly obtuse or appallingly ignorant of the entire matter could have expected that such crude tactics would succeed. Effrontery and bullheadedness are no substitute for knowledge and statesmanship.

"A British politician, who has played such dubious politics, especially in connection with Palestine, as has Mr. Bevin, ought not to lecture any government on the subject of political ethics. Citizens of the United States further will not be impressed by his gross innuendo at their Chief Executive; nor by his renewed slights on the Jews of New York. It is not the first time that Mr. Bevin has called to his aid racial prejudice.

"Perhaps the most astonishing part of Mr. Bevin's statement is that in which he declares that last summer he was on the road to an agreement when 'the whole thing was spoiled' by the President's statement of October 4th. The fact is

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that at that time all negotiations on the Palestine issue had for the time being broken down. Indeed, in the opening paragraph of his statement of October 4th, the President with deep regret drew attention to this very fact. Thus, the charge that the President's renewed request for the immigration into Palestine of 100,000 Jewish displaced persons wrecked an impending settlement is a most mischievous distortion. The President's great act of humanity in once again urging that there be immediate action and in pointing out that the breakdown of discussions meant further delay has been used by Mr. Bevin as the occasion for a gratuitous and insulting attack upon the Chief Executive.

"Mr. Bevin has the insolence to suggest to the United States that Great Britain is the Mandatory Power and that therefore the United States should keep out of the Palestine picture. It is precisely because Great Britain has assumed obligations, amongst others to the United States, that this country is entitled to draw attention to her failure to carry out those obligations.

"Mr. Bevin has chosen to ignore two crucial facts -- that the United States, as one of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers in World War I, and also by virtue of the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, has a direct concern in and responsibility for the administration of the Palestine Mandate. Britain is in Palestine by virtue of that Mandate alone and her breach of it is a matter which automatically involves this country. Mr. Bevin is now in the position of a trustee who has defaulted his trust, who has misappropriated the funds which were placed in his care and who proceeds to revile those to whom he remains responsible, while he calumniates the beneficiaries whom he has defrauded and now seeks to destroy. Mr. Bevin's entire statement, indeed, is based on the premise not that the Mandate must be fulfilled, but that Britain must appease the growing appetite of Arab politicians. His resentment of American interest in this problem is violent precisely because that interest has prevented him from consummating a shameless deal with the Arab states, as a result of which the Jews might have been left to the mercies of the murderous Mufti and of an Arab xenophobia which has already been responsible for the massacre of thousands of

(more)

Assyrians in Iraq and fer pogroms in Baghdad, Cairo and Tripoli.

"Mr. Bevin proposes to deny national status to the Jews because, he contends, they are 'a religious community,' not a nation. His determination not to face the facts in this regard is of fundamental importance. One would expect even the British Foreign Secretary to be aware that the very terms 'Jewish National Home' and 'Jewish people,' employed in the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, do not mean a religious home for a religious community -- they mean a national home for the Jewish nation.

"Finally, Mr. Bevin seeks to distort and confuse the whole meaning and purpose of the Mandate by suggesting that it provided that the 'people in possession must not be disturbed.' The Mandate says nothing of the kind. On the contrary, as the British Royal Commission of 1937 made indubitably clear, 'the primary purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine was the establishment of the Jewish National Home.' To this end, the Mandate obliged the British Government to facilitate Jewish immigration and settlement on the land, so that if and when the Jews became a majority a Jewish state would be established. As Mr. Lloyd George, the then Prime Minister, pointed out, the notion that Jewish immigration would be restricted never entered anybody's mind because it would have been regarded 'as unjust and as a fraud on the people to whom we were pledged.' But Mr. Bevin's interpretation of the Mandate is peculiarly his own and, once again, he distorts the very meaning and purpose of that document.

"We are confident that Mr. Bevin's statement, reflecting ignorance and ill-will, will be rejected with contempt by the American people."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS CALL FOR COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES IMPOSED
ON GRUNER AND OTHER JEWISH YOUTHS IN PALESTINE

- - - -

WIRES TO ACHESON, INVERCHAPEL AND ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PALESTINE
DECLARE ONLY FURTHER AGGRAVATION OF PROBLEM WILL RESULT
FROM EXECUTION OR FURTHER IMPOSITION OF DEATH SENTENCES

- - - -

APPEAL MADE JOINTLY BY ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, HADASSAH,
POALE ZION, MIZRACHI AND UNITED ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS

- - - -

New York, March 27 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, speaking on behalf of the entire Zionist movement in the United States, today urged the British Government to commute the death sentences imposed by British authorities on Dov Gruner and other Jewish youths in Palestine, and also called upon Acting Secretary of State Acheson "to make an earnest effort" to secure these commutations and to "impress upon Great Britain that only further aggravation of the problem can follow the further imposition of death sentences against Jews resisting the oppressive British regime in Palestine."

In wires to Mr. Acheson, the British Ambassador, Lord Inverchapel, and the Acting High Commissioner for Palestine in Jerusalem, the Council pointed out that its request for the commutation of the pending death sentences was being made "in order to decrease existing tensions in Palestine and in the interest of a peaceful and just solution of the Palestine question."

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The three telegrams were signed by Emanuel Neumann, vice chairman of the Council, on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah -- the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Poale Zion -- the Labor Zionist Organization of America, Mizrachi and the United Zionists-Revisionists of America.

The Council's action followed the decision of the Judicial Committee of the British Privy Council to dismiss the appeal filed on behalf of Dov Bela Gruner.

The text of the Council's wire follows:

"THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

"ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE ZIONIST MOVEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY, THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, REPRESENTING THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION HADASSAH, THE LABOR ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA POALE ZION, MIZRACHI, AND THE UNITED ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS, REGISTERS ITS DEEP CONCERN OVER LATEST PRESS REPORTS INDICATING THAT DEATH SENTENCES IMPOSED BY PALESTINE AUTHORITIES ON DOV GRUNER AND OTHER JEWISH YOUTHS MAY BE CARRIED OUT NOW THAT JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH PRIVY COUNCIL HAS DISMISSED APPEAL FOR GRUNER STOP IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT ANY NEW ACT OF REPRESSION BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT CAN ONLY INCREASE EXISTING TENSIONS IN PALESTINE AND RENDER MORE DIFFICULT A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINE QUESTION, WE CALL ON YOU TO MAKE AN EARNEST EFFORT TO SECURE THE COMMUTATION OF THE PENDING DEATH SENTENCES AND TO IMPRESS UPON GREAT BRITAIN THAT ONLY FURTHER AGGRAVATION OF THE PROBLEM CAN FOLLOW THE FURTHER IMPOSITION OF DEATH SENTENCES AGAINST JEWS RESISTING THE OPPRESSIVE BRITISH REGIME IN PALESTINE.

EMANUEL NEUMANN
VICE CHAIRMAN"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOVERNOR DEWEY CALLS ON U. S. GOVERNMENT TO WORK FOR JUST
PALESTINE DECISION WHICH WILL FULFILL TERMS OF MANDATE

- - - -

CALLS FOR UNRESTRICTED JEWISH IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION;
DEMANDS INTERIM POLICY WHICH WILL ENABLE
JEWISH REFUGEES TO ENTER PALESTINE NOW

- - - -

New York, May 27 -- A demand by Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York "that this country do everything in its power to bring about a decision (of the Palestine question) in the United Nations which will be just, that will see to it that the rights of Jews under the Palestine Mandate be not abrogated," was made public today by the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Governor Dewey stated his position on Palestine in a letter to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the Council. He declared: "I believe profoundly that whatever permanent political solutions be arrived at, unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization into Palestine must take place and that there be no hindrances on the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine."

The Governor also called for an interim arrangement "whereby the Jewish refugees of Europe will be permitted to go into Palestine in large numbers," pending a final decision by the United Nations.

The text of Governor Dewey's statement follows:

"As you know, I have, for many years now, vigorously advocated that our country take the position that the tragedies that struck the Jews of Europe

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before and during the last war and the continued suffering of their survivors make it imperative that the terms of the Palestine Mandate be fully and speedily fulfilled.

"I believe that this country should do everything in its power to bring about a decision in the United Nations which will be just, that will see to it that the rights of Jews under the Palestine Mandate be not abrogated; and I believe profoundly that whatever permanent political solutions be arrived at, unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization into Palestine must take place and that there be no hindrances on the development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

"Obviously, also, it is imperative that some interim arrangement be made whereby the Jewish refugees of Europe will be permitted to go into Palestine in large numbers."



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#288 - 5/27/47

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS, COMMENTING ON PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S STATEMENT
REGARDING VIOLENCE IN PALESTINE, URGE THAT GREAT BRITAIN BE FORCED TO
CEASE ILLEGAL ACTS WHICH CAUSE DISTURBANCES

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U. S. SILENCE ON PALESTINE POLICY DEPLORED

- - - - -

New York, June 6th -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing the entire Zionist movement in the United States, today commented on President Truman's statement regarding law and order in Palestine by declaring that "it would be most helpful if the President were also to call upon the Mandatory Government to cease those illegal acts which are at the very root of the disturbances in Palestine."

Pointing out that it is wholly in accord with the view expressed in President Truman's statement that "it is in the interest of the United States as well as of the United Nations that the efforts of the United Nations to solve this problem meet with success," the Council then declared: "However, in view of the fact that the United Nations appeal was addressed not only to the Jews and the Arabs, but to 'all governments and peoples,' may we not suggest to the President that the party directly responsible for violence in the Holy Land - the British Government whose ruthless application of illegal policies tends, in the President words, 'to inflame the passions of the inhabitants of Palestine, to undermine law and order in Palestine, or to promote violence in that country' - should be the first to accede to the United Nations request."

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"In conclusion, we must express surprise that our Government's silence of many months on the Palestine issue should now be broken with the statement issued by the President yesterday. It is to be deplored that during the past crucial months, when the political future of Palestine was under discussion in the United Nations, when the question of Jewish immigration into Palestine was a matter of desperate urgency - as the President himself has maintained - and when the nations of the world were looking to the United States for leadership on these issues, our Government should have chosen to refrain from making that statement of policy which was so eagerly hoped for and so thoroughly warranted by its long series of commitments in support of the Jewish National Home. We trust that silence of this nature - which can only damage a noble cause which the American people have espoused and confuse the United Nations committee of inquiry - will now come to an end," the Council said.

The text of the Council's statement follows:

"The American Zionist Emergency Council is wholly in accord with the view expressed in President Truman's statement yesterday that 'it is in the interest of the United States as well as of the United Nations that the efforts of the United Nations to solve this (Palestine) problem meet with success,' and that no activities should be undertaken by any of the parties concerned which would 'create an atmosphere prejudicial to an early settlement of the Palestine problem and render still more difficult the tasks which the United Nations has before it.'

"In this connection, it should be pointed out that immediately following the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations of May 15th which called upon 'all governments and peoples... to refrain....from the threat or use of force,' the Jewish Agency for Palestine endorsed this plea clearly and unequivocally.

"However, in view of the fact that the United Nations appeal was addressed not only to the Jews and the Arabs, but to 'all governments and peoples,' may we not suggest to the President that the party directly responsible for violence

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in the Holy Land - the British Government whose ruthless application of illegal policies tends, in the President's words, 'to inflame the passions of the inhabitants of Palestine, to undermine law and order in Palestine, or to promote violence in that country,' - should be the first to accede to the United Nations request.

"It would be most helpful, therefore, if the President were also to call upon the Mandatory Government to cease those illegal acts which are at the very root of the disturbances in Palestine. We submit that it would be highly appropriate for the President to insist that the British Government abide by the United Nations resolution - that it end military rule in the Jewish National Home, that it restore civil liberties to the Jewish inhabitants of the country, and that it fulfill its duties as the Mandatory by permitting the immediate entry of homeless Jews into Palestine and by removing the restrictions on Jewish development which British leaders have themselves condemned.

"In conclusion, we must express surprise that our Government's silence of many months on the Palestine issue should now be broken with the statement issued by the President yesterday. It is to be deplored that during the past crucial months, when the political future of Palestine was under discussion in the United Nations, when the question of Jewish immigration into Palestine was a matter of desperate urgency - as the President himself has maintained - and when the nations of the world were looking to the United States for leadership on these issues, our Government should have chosen to refrain from making that statement of policy which was so eagerly hoped for and so thoroughly warranted by its long series of commitments in support of the Jewish National Home. We trust that silence of this nature - which can only damage a noble cause which the American people have espoused and confuse the United Nations committee of inquiry - will now come to an end."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOTIVES BEHIND PALESTINE ARAB BOYCOTT OF UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE EXPOSED

- - - - -

BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S REPORTED ROLE IN HELPING TO PROMOTE ARAB BOYCOTT

ASSAILED BY AMERICAN ZIONISTS; PALESTINE ADMINISTRATION'S

TESTIMONY BEHIND CLOSED DOORS CONDEMNED

- - - - -

New York, June 18 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council today exposed the boycott of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine by the Palestine Arab Higher Committee as "part of a carefully pre-arranged and premeditated tactical game, designed to maneuver the United Nations into regarding the Arab Higher Committee as a 'wronged' group, and thus create an advantageous position for the Arabs in the meeting of the General Assembly which is to take place in September."

In a statement issued on behalf of the entire Zionist movement in the United States, of which it is the official spokesman, the Council also asserted that there is no divergence of tactics as between the Palestine Arab Higher Committee and the Arab League, which is not participating in the boycott. "The Arab League's attitude should not be regarded as a sign of conflict between the two Arab bodies, but rather as the result of a joint understanding as to the strategy to be employed before the United Nations," the Council said.

Pointing out that the five Arab states in the United Nations can still be counted upon to support unquestioningly the position enunciated by the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, and that the Arab Higher Committee also enjoys the frank sympathy of certain governments represented on the UN Special Committee, the Emergency Council declared: "In view of the fact that its interests are more than adequately

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represented within the United Nations, the Arab Higher Committee feels that it can permit itself the luxury of being absent from the UN investigation."

The Council also assailed the British Administration of Palestine, which is reportedly helping to promote and bolster the Arab boycott, and added that the British Government is thus "afforded a better opportunity to lend its support to the Arab viewpoint on the basis of 'fair play' to a party not present during the UN Committee's deliberations." The Council condemned the Palestine Administration's insistence on presenting its testimony to the UN Committee behind closed doors, with the press barred, and with Jewish representatives -- "who would be in a position to refute the Palestine Government's distortions" -- excluded.

The text of the Council's statement follows:

"The Palestine Arab Higher Committee's boycott of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine is not, as the ex-Mufti and his henchmen would have public opinion believe, an action by an 'aggrieved' party in protest against the alleged 'bias' of the UN Committee. It is part of a carefully pre-arranged and premeditated tactical game, designed to maneuver the United Nations into regarding the Arab Higher Committee as a 'wronged' group, and thus create an advantageous position for the Arabs in the meeting of the General Assembly which is to take place in September. Moreover, there is no divergence of tactics as between the Palestine Arab Higher Committee and the Arab League, which is not participating in the boycott. The Arab League's attitude should not be regarded as a sign of conflict between the two Arab bodies, but rather as the result of a joint understanding as to the strategy to be employed before the United Nations.

"The five Arab states in the United Nations -- members of the Arab League -- can still be counted upon to support unquestioningly the position of the Arab Higher Committee, as enunciated by the ex-Mufti. Furthermore, the Arab Higher Committee has the added advantage of enjoying the frank sympathy of certain governments represented on the UN Special Committee, whose views in favor of the Arabs are already on record. In view of the fact that its interests are more

(more).

than adequately represented within the United Nations, the Arab Higher Committee feels that it can permit itself the luxury of being absent from the UN investigation.

"It should be pointed out also that the Arab Higher Committee has nothing further to say to the UN's investigating body. The attitude of the Arabs on the Palestine question being purely negative, what more can the ex-Mufti's spokesmen add to what has already been said by the Arab representatives at the recent Special Session of the General Assembly? Rather than risk being confronted by embarrassing questions during the course of the inquiry -- such as requests for information on the higher standard of living enjoyed by the Arab population of Palestine as a direct result of Jewish achievements -- the Arab Higher Committee prefers to proclaim that it is an 'aggrieved' party, and stay away.

"We cannot overlook recent press dispatches indicating that the British Administration of Palestine has helped to promote and bolster this Arab boycott. By reportedly projecting Arab intransigence at this point the British Government is afforded a better opportunity to lend its support to the Arab viewpoint on the basis of 'fair play' to a party not present during the UN Committee's deliberations.

"We believe, however, that the myth of the British Government's vaunted 'sense of fair play' has been largely dissipated by the actions of British officials themselves. The latest example was the Palestine Administration's insistence on presenting its testimony to the UN Committee behind closed doors, with the press barred and with representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine -- who would be in a position to refute the Palestine Government's distortions -- excluded.

"We are confident that public opinion will see such Arab and British maneuvers for what they are -- duplicitous tactics designed to perpetuate the greatest injustice of our time."