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Jewish Agency, truce in Palestine, including drafts of 1948
"Articles of Truce for Palestine," 1945, 1948.

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*

VOL. XV No. 165 (30th year)

Monday, July 19, 1945

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

ARAB LEAGUE STATES ACCEPT U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL'S TRUCE ORDER, KING ABDULLAH ANNOUNCES

RHODES, July 18. (JTA) -- The Arab League states have accepted the United Nations Security Council order to cease hostilities in Palestine "with certain reservations," United Nations truce headquarters was informed here today in a message from King Abdullah's headquarters in Amman.

Earlier, the U.N. announced the receipt of the Egyptian and Transjordan Governments' acceptance of the cease-fire order. A U.N. spokesman said an acceptance message from Iraq was still awaited.

PEACE RETURNS TO JERUSALEM AFTER TRUCE IS BROKEN; NEW CEASE-FIRE DEADLINE OBEYED

JERUSALEM, July 18. (JTA) -- Peace returned to Jerusalem late today after the 30-hour truce had been broken and the modern Jewish quarter of the city, where 100,000 Jews reside, was shelled by Arab Legion artillery from the Old City. The truce was resumed after the issuance of a new deadline by the consular truce commission. (See earlier story on page 1.)

ISRAELI TROOPS TO CEASE FIRE AS SOON AS ISRAEL IS NOTIFIED OF ARABS' ACCEPTANCE OF TRUCE

TEL AVIV, July 18. (JTA) -- An Israeli Government spokesman said late today that Israeli troops in the field will be ordered to withhold their fire on all fronts as soon as the Israel Government is officially notified of the Arabs' acceptance of the U.N. Security Council's truce order.



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106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

JERUSALEM TRUCE BROKEN; MANY JEWS REPORTED KILLED BY RENEWED ARAB ARTILLERY SHELLING

JERUSALEM, July 18. (JTA) -- The truce which has prevailed here since yesterday morning was broken today and the consular truce commission was compelled to call for a new cease-fire agreement effective at 3 P.M. this afternoon, Jerusalem time.

Both Jews and Arabs accused each other of breaking the truce. In the Jewish sector of the city, dozens of Jews were reportedly killed when Arab artillery in the Old City opened a fierce barrage on the Jewish section. Israeli mortars replied with equally heavy fire against the Arab positions in the ancient walled quarter.

The Israeli Government's representative here, Dr. Bernard Joseph, is in constant touch with the consular truce commission and has notified the commission of each Arab breach of the truce. Amid a welter of confusing reports, it has been established that Arab Legion forces at noon today attacked the Sheik Jarrach quarter of northern Jerusalem, but were repulsed by Jewish units.

In the absence of U.N. truce observer teams, it is held likely that fighting will continue in Jerusalem until the country-wide truce is imposed. Jewish authorities here have not yet received any direct notification from the Israel Government that the Arabs have accepted the United Nations order to cease fire. The deadline when the Security Council's order must be complied with is 7:00 P.M., Palestine time.

Outside the truce area of Jerusalem's municipal boundaries, Israeli troops today consolidated their lines southwest of Jerusalem by capturing the historic village of John the Baptist, Ein Karem. The village was taken after a show of only token resistance and none of its buildings were harmed. Correspondents who visited Ein Karem after occupation by the Jews reported that the Franciscan monks and nuns were unharmed in the Biblical buildings. With the capture of the village, the Israelis now hold a five-mile-wide corridor all the way from Jerusalem to the coastal plain, except for Arab positions athwart the highway at Latrun.

The International Red Cross will evacuate Jerusalem this week, it was reported today. The agency will close down two refugee centers and will move the camps' inmates to the former Mandatory Power's Government House.

In one of the greatest battles the Jerusalem population has witnessed in the present conflict, the combined forces of the Defense Army of Israel, Irgun Zvai Leumi and Stern Group pounded at the ancient walls of the Old City for eight hours prior to the truce deadline yesterday. Six Jews were killed and 31 wounded in the operation. Irgun shock troops stormed through two dynamited sections of the wall and engaged in an hour-and-a-half bitter exchange of fire. Many actions were fought from house to house. At 5:45 A.M. the Israeli Army announced, it received orders to suspend all fighting.

The assault, apparently designed to wrest the entire Old City from its Arab Legion defenders within a few hours before the truce began, was described by correspondents who observed the battle as "one of the most concentrated" of the war. Heavy shelling and incessant fire could be heard throughout the city during the engagement.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

TEL AVIV RAIDED SIX TIMES BY EGYPTIANS BEFORE TRUCE DEADLINE; SIX KILLED, 20 WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, July 18. (JTA) -- Six Jews were killed and at least 20 wounded yesterday when Tel Aviv was subjected to six Egyptian air raids, it was officially announced. A direct hit on the Strauss Medical Center--which was clearly marked with a Red Cross--accounted for several casualties, an Israeli communique said. One Egyptian Dakota was shot down by Jewish anti-aircraft fire.

Israeli aircraft dropped several bombs on Damascus yesterday morning while other Jewish planes attacked Syrian troop concentrations in northern Palestine towards dusk. (A report from Cairo said heavy anti-aircraft fire was heard last night during a one-hour alert in the Egyptian capital. An alert was also sounded in Alexandria.)

In last-minute operations before the U.N. truce order went into effect, Israeli aircraft bombed the strategic Arab town of Tulkarm, easternmost point of the "Arab triangle." Dispatches from Nazareth, which Israeli seized on Friday, reported that all Arab inhabitants of the ancient town are surrendering their arms to the victorious Jews. The town has already returned to normal life and newsmen interviewing civilians said that "they seemed not unhappy" at the turn of events.

The five Britons abducted last week by the Irgun Zvai Leumi on charges of "intelligence with the enemy" were handed over today to the security section of the Defense Army of Israel, it was announced over the week-end. It is expected that they will stand trial shortly, although it is not known whether they will be tried in Tel Aviv.

MEDIATOR RETURNS TO NEAR EAST; HOPES ORIGINAL PARTITION DECISION WILL NOT BE ABANDONED

LAKE SUCCESS, July 18. (JTA) -- Emphasizing that he had the power to suggest to both the Jews and Arabs certain "adjustments" in the Nov. 29 U.N. Palestine partition resolution, U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte said here over the week-end that he hoped that a permanent settlement of the Palestine dispute could be reached without "abandoning" or greatly modifying the original partition decision.

Bernadotte told newsmen, just before taking off for the Near East to supervise the newly-ordered Security Council truce, that he was encouraged by the Council's preparedness to invoke drastic sanctions, if necessary, to ensure the cessation of hostilities in Palestine. He said he was "delighted" at the "first stage" which achieved a truce in Jerusalem.

Replying to a question about his previously-announced advocacy of a plebiscite for Palestine to settle the conflict, the U.N. mediator said: "I think a plebiscite is the most democratic way to solve questions like this--to go to the people. I have it in mind, but I don't know if this is practicable at present."

He revealed that he will attempt to obtain a "base" on which both parties could agree in time for submission to the next session of the U.N. General Assembly which is scheduled to open in Paris on September 21.

Meanwhile, the Provisional Government of Israel made public a copy of its July 16 White Paper charging that the British Government "decided in April to impose oil sanctions on the Jews of Palestine, while at the same time decided to give to the Arab states, which were already fighting, all the fighting facilities for the forthcoming major operations." The charges were immediately denied by the British delegation here.

U.S. MARINES ORDERED TO JERUSALEM TO GUARD AMERICAN CONSULATE, NAVY DEPT. ANNOUNCES

WASHINGTON, July 18. (JTA) -- A squad of 13 U.S. Marines has been ordered to Jerusalem to guard the U.S. consulate there, the Navy Department announced here.

RUMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY

BUCHAREST, July 18. (JTA) -- Mordecai Namir, Israeli Foreign Ministry representative who is now in Rumania on a special mission, was received by Foreign Minister Anna Pauker today, it was announced here. The meeting marks the first official contact between the Rumanian and Israeli Governments since the former recognized the Jewish state last month.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES REAFFIRMS SUPPORT OF ISRAEL'S STAND TO MEDIATOR'S 'PEACE SUGGESTIONS'

LONDON, July 16. (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews at a meeting today solemnly proclaimed British Jewry's support for the Provisional Government of Israel in rejecting U.N. Palestine mediator Count Folke Bernadotte's "peace suggestions" for Palestine when, by acclamation, it approved a statement by acting chairman of its Palestine Committee, B. Lieberman, reaffirming a resolution adopted last month which declared that further discussions on the present Palestine dispute are possible only on the "basis of recognition of Israel's sovereignty, which includes full control of immigration."

The Deputies also approved a statement rejecting Bernadotte's proposal to place Jerusalem under Arab rule, stressing that the original U.N. partition decision constituted a tremendous sacrifice for the Jews "beyond which Israel cannot go." The meeting also "regretted" the British Government's opposition at the U.N. Security Council to branding the Arab states aggressors in the Palestine war. "Peace can come only when this country and the other Great Powers view the Palestine problem not from the angle of imperialist interests, power politics or oil, but as a great international issue and a challenge to the soul of mankind," the statement added.

Thirty-five surplus U.S. Army scout cars which were to have been shipped to Israel over the week-end from a Wales port were held there today by British authorities on the grounds that the vehicles might be converted to military use.

WORLD ORT PARLEY IN PARIS APPROVES PLANS FOR EXPANDING VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROJECTS

PARIS, July 18. (JTA) -- The annual meeting of the central board of the World ORT Union, which was attended by delegates from 23 countries in Europe and the Western Hemisphere, concluded here today. Plans for the expansion of the organization's vocational training program to speed up the economic rehabilitation of displaced Jews in Europe were unanimously approved.

The parley also adopted a program for instituting vocational training projects in Israel, North Africa and other areas. The American delegation, comprised M. Maldwin Fertig, A. Delowitz, Max Herzfeld, Julius Hochman, A.C. Litten, Mrs. Naomi Finkelstein, Mrs. Ludwig Kaphan and Joseph Baskin, general secretary of the Workmen's Circle, who was elected first vice-president of the organization.

EMPLOYEES GROUP ACCUSES A.M.G. OF DISMISSING JEWS; PROTEST TO ARMY SECRETARY ROYALL

MUNICH, July 18. (JTA) -- The Bavarian Employees Association today cabled a protest to Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall in Washington against the dismissal of 12 American Jews employed by the American Military Government in Germany. The message charged that A.M.G. authorities in Bavaria and Berlin had dismissed 12 employees because they are Jews.

Herbert Baker, president of the association, charged that A.M.G. authorities were pursuing a policy of firing employees who are not native American citizens. Referring to the 12 A.M.G. employees fired recently, he said, "by coincidence, all were Jews."

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UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

2 Park Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

April 22, 1948

Dear Judge Proskauer:

Sudden developments out at Lake Success make it necessary for me to be out there for some meetings today. I regret very much that I won't be able to make lunch.

Attached is a piece of paper which has no official standing at all but which I believe is worth your very careful consideration as a basis for a truce. There are some administrative and procedural questions which are not dealt with, but if the program outlined in the attached eleven points makes any sense as you see it, I believe there is a real chance for agreement. If your reaction is favorable, I shall try it out in other places. I have already gone far enough to be hopeful that the people I was in touch with might be able to buy it as a single package, in spite of the fact that certain parts of it are quite disagreeable. I hope the same might be true on your side.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Rusk

Attachment:

Eleven points

Judge Joseph M. Proskauer
11 Broadway
New York, New York

1. Immediate and complete cessation of all military activities, acts of violence, terrorism and sabotage.

2. Cessation of movement into Palestine of armed bands and fighting personnel, groups and individuals, whatever their origin.

3. Cessation of the importation of weapons and war materials into Palestine.

4. Immobilization of all armed elements, bringing their activities under the control of a Security Council Truce Commission.

5. Indefinite suspension of formal political steps (such as the declaration of a Jewish State in a part of Palestine or the declaration of an Arab State in the whole of Palestine) which would prejudice an eventual political settlement of Palestine.

6. Jewish community to continue its preparation for the administration of Jewish life in Palestine; the Arab community to continue its preparation for the administration of Arab life in Palestine; Jews not to attempt to assert their authority over Arabs and Arabs not to attempt to assert their authority over Jews.

7. Collaboration by central and local Jewish and Arab authorities under the supervision of a Security Council Truce Commission to maintain public order and essential public services and to adjust administrative problems where Jewish and Arab mixed communities make concerted action necessary.

8. Maximum effort by all communities to preserve the Holy Places and all activities connected therewith.

9. Freedom of passage and communications throughout Palestine for all categories of traffic declared by the Security Council Truce Commission to be peaceful and non-prejudicial in character.

10. Immigration of 4,000 displaced persons per month during the period of the truce.

11. Temporary international administration of a Jerusalem-Jaffa enclave, with boundaries to include the Holy Places, the Jerusalem water supply, the airfield at Lydda, the Jerusalem-Jaffa highway and railroad, and the city and port of Jaffa.



CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT

April 25, 1948

ARTICLES OF TRUCE FOR PALESTINE

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine, hereinafter referred to as the Signatories, accept the following articles of truce for Palestine effective midnight, April 30-May 1, 1948; and accept responsibility for insuring compliance by the Arab and Jewish communities of Palestine therewith:

ARTICLE 1

All military or para-military activities, not authorized by the Security Council Truce Commission, as well as acts of violence, terrorism and sabotage, shall cease immediately.

ARTICLE 2

Armed bands and fighting personnel, groups and individuals, whatever their origin, shall not be brought into Palestine nor be assisted or encouraged to enter Palestine during the period of the truce.

ARTICLE 3

Weapons and war materials shall not be acquired or imported into Palestine by the Signatories, nor shall any assistance or encouragement be given to the importation or acquisition of such weapons and war materials.

ARTICLE 4

All Jewish and Arab armed elements in Palestine shall be immobilized and their activities during the truce shall be under the control of the Security Council Truce Commission.

ARTICLE 5

Any person or group of persons of non-Palestinian residence found by the Security Council Truce Commission, after proper investigation, to have committed acts of violence, terrorism or sabotage contrary to the terms of this truce, shall be immediately expelled from Palestine. (Any person who shall have resided in Palestine for a period of at least one year shall be deemed a Palestinian resident.)

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ARTICLE 6

During the truce and without prejudice to the future governmental structure of Palestine any de facto governmental or municipal organization now existing in any part of Palestine shall accord full equal rights to all inhabitants of the area in which it is functioning; formal steps to proclaim any such organization as a sovereign state shall be suspended during this truce.

ARTICLE 7

The Signatories agree that the Security Council Truce Commission shall act during this truce as a mediator to maintain by mutual collaboration public order and essential public services and to adjust administrative problems.

ARTICLE 8

All persons, groups and organizations in Palestine pledge their maximum effort to preserve the Holy Places and to protect all activities connected therewith.

ARTICLE 9

All traffic and communications throughout Palestine of the nature declared by the Security Council Truce Commission to be peaceful and non-prejudicial in character shall be allowed complete freedom of movement and operation by all parties in Palestine.

ARTICLE 10

During the period of the truce, 4,000 Jewish displaced persons shall be allowed to enter Palestine each month, the selection and administration of such immigration to be assumed jointly by the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the International Refugee Organization, in consultation with the Security Council Truce Commission. All other immigration shall, during the period of the truce, be subject to the agreement of the Security Council Truce Commission, the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

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ARTICLE 11

The Signatories agree to the institution of patrols both by land and by sea to ensure that immigration into Palestine does not exceed the agreed number; such patrols to be coordinated by the Security Council Truce Commission.

ARTICLE 12

The Signatories agree to the establishment of a temporary international security zone for the protection of the City of Jerusalem and to the establishment of other security zones if the Security Council Truce Commission finds that the presence of large Jewish and Arab populations within a single municipality requires such action to preserve the peace.

ARTICLE 13

The Signatories agree to the establishment of a Palestine Truce Council, composed of three representatives of each Signatory, to effect the joint action necessary for the execution of this truce and to assist the Security Council Truce Commission in carrying out its functions.

ARTICLE 14

This truce shall remain effective for 3 months, and thereafter unless either the Arab Higher Committee or the Jewish Agency for Palestine gives at least 30 days notice of termination.

Above draft submitted by Mr. Rusk to Mr. Shertok and Judge Proskauer Sunday night, April 25th. Articles 7, 8 and 13 incorporate changes suggested that evening by Judge Proskauer.

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FIRST PROVISIONAL DRAFT

April 27, 1948

ARTICLES OF TRUCE FOR PALESTINE

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept the following articles of Truce for Palestine effective midnight, April 30-May 1, 1948, and accept responsibility for insuring compliance by the Arab and Jewish communities of Palestine therewith:

ARTICLE 1

All military or para-military activities, not authorized by the Security Council Truce Commission, as well as acts of violence, terrorism and sabotage, shall cease immediately.

ARTICLE 2

Armed bands and fighting personnel, groups and individuals, whatever their origin, shall not be brought into Palestine nor be assisted or encouraged to enter Palestine during the period of the truce.

ARTICLE 3

Weapons and war materials shall not be acquired or imported into Palestine by the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine, nor shall any assistance or encouragement be given to the importation or acquisition of such weapons and war materials.

ARTICLE 4

All Arab and Jewish armed elements in Palestine shall be immobilized and their activities during the truce shall be under the supervision of the Security Council Truce Commission.

ARTICLE 5

Any person or group of persons of non-Palestinian citizenship found by the Security Council Truce Commission, after proper investigation, to have committed acts of violence, terrorism or sabotage contrary to the terms of this truce, shall be immediately expelled

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from Palestine or placed in custody under arrangements to be made by the Security Council Truce Commission.

ARTICLE 6

During the truce, and without prejudice to the future governmental structure of Palestine, existing Arab and Jewish authorities shall accord full and equal rights to all inhabitants of the area in which such authorities are functioning; further, no steps shall be taken by Arab or Jewish authorities to proclaim a sovereign state during this truce.

ARTICLE 7

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept the Security Council Truce Commission during this truce as a mediator to maintain by mutual collaboration public order and essential public services and to adjust administrative problems.

ARTICLE 8

All persons, groups and organizations in Palestine pledge their maximum effort to preserve the Holy Places and to protect all activities connected therewith.

ARTICLE 9

All traffic and communications throughout Palestine of the nature declared by the Security Council Truce Commission to be peaceful and non-prejudicial in character shall be allowed complete freedom of movement and operation by all parties in Palestine.

ARTICLE 10

During the period of the truce, 4,000 Jewish displaced persons shall be allowed to enter Palestine each month. The selection and administration of such immigration shall be assumed jointly by the International Refugee Organization and the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in consultation with the Security Council Truce Commission and the Arab Higher Committee. The Security Council Truce Commission and the

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Arab Higher Committee shall determine, in consultation with the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the quotas and selection of all non-Jewish immigration.

ARTICLE 11

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept the institution of patrols both by land and by sea to insure that immigration into Palestine does not exceed the agreed number and conforms with the selection requirements set forth in Article 10, above; such patrols shall be arranged and coordinated by the Security Council Truce Commission.

ARTICLE 12

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine undertake to assist the United Nations in the establishment of a temporary international zone, as a matter of emergency, for the protection of the City of Jerusalem and in the establishment of other temporary international zones if the Security Council Truce Commission finds that the presence of large Arab and Jewish populations within a single municipality requires such action to preserve the peace in Palestine.

ARTICLE 13

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine undertake to participate in the establishment of a Palestine Truce Council, composed of three representatives of each, to effect the joint action necessary for the execution of this truce and to assist the Security Council Truce Commission in carrying out its functions.

ARTICLE 14.

This truce shall remain effective for three months, and thereafter unless either the Arab Higher Committee or the Jewish Agency for Palestine gives at least thirty days notice of termination to the Security Council Truce Commission. The Security Council Truce Commission shall immediately notify the Security Council of the receipt by it of any such notice of termination.

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THIRD PROVISIONAL DRAFT

MAY 6, 1948

ARTICLES OF TRUCE FOR PALESTINE

PREAMBLE

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept the following Articles of Truce for Palestine effective midnight, May 12-13, 1948, and accept responsibility for insuring compliance by the Arab and Jewish communities of Palestine therewith.

ARTICLE 1

All military or para-military activities, except police functions authorized by the Security Council Truce Commission, as well as acts of violence, terrorism and sabotage, shall cease immediately.

ARTICLE 2

During the period of the truce, armed bands and fighting personnel, groups and individuals, whatever their origin, shall not be brought into Palestine nor be assisted or encouraged to enter Palestine.

ARTICLE 3

During the period of the truce, weapons and war materials shall not be imported into Palestine nor shall any assistance or encouragement be given to the importation into Palestine of such weapons and war materials.

ARTICLE 4

Any person or group of persons found by the Security Council Truce Commission, after proper investigation, to have committed acts of violence, terrorism or sabotage contrary to the terms of this truce, shall be immediately expelled from Palestine or placed in custody under arrangements to be made by the Security Council Truce Commission.

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ARTICLE 5

During the period of the truce, and without prejudice to the future governmental structure of Palestine, existing Arab and Jewish authorities shall function as Temporary Truce Regimes in the areas in which such authorities are now exercising control and shall accord full and equal rights to all inhabitants in such areas.

ARTICLE 6

During the period of the truce, and without prejudice to the future governmental structure of Palestine, no steps shall be taken by Arab or Jewish authorities to proclaim a sovereign state in a part or all of Palestine or to seek international recognition therefor.

ARTICLE 7

During the period of the truce, the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept, as a matter of emergency, the authority of the Security Council Truce Commission to arrange the necessary collaboration between Arab and Jewish authorities required for the maintenance of public order and essential public services.

ARTICLE 8

During the period of the truce, freedom of movement and communications shall be accorded all persons and traffic throughout Palestine except as may be declared by the Security Council Truce Commission to be in violation of the truce or prejudicial to a final political settlement.

ARTICLE 9

All persons displaced from their homes in Palestine by recent disorders shall be permitted to return to their homes and resume their normal occupations unless the Security Council Truce Commission shall decide in specific cases that such repatriation would jeopardize these truce arrangements.

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ARTICLE 10

During the period of the truce, existing Arab and Jewish authorities shall continue to apply the existing laws of Palestine unless otherwise authorized by the Security Council Truce Commission. / Land

ARTICLE 11

During the period of the truce, and without prejudice to future decisions on the question of immigration, the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept, as a matter of emergency, the authority of the Security Council Truce Commission to deal with the question of immigration into Palestine. / Im Mig.

ARTICLE 12

All persons, groups and organizations in Palestine pledge their maximum effort to preserve the Holy Places and to protect all activities connected therewith; to this end the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine accept, as a matter of emergency, the authority of the Security Council Truce Commission to establish special security arrangements for the protection of the City Of Jerusalem and of the Holy Places.

ARTICLE 13

The Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine undertake to participate in the establishment of a Palestine Truce Council, composed of three representatives of each, to effect the joint action necessary for the execution of this truce and to assist the Security Council Truce Commission in carrying out its functions.

ARTICLE 14

This truce shall remain effective for three months, and thereafter unless either the Arab Higher Committee or the Jewish Agency for Palestine gives at least thirty days notice of termination to the Security Council Truce Commission. The Security Council Truce Commission shall immediately notify the Security Council of the receipt by it of any such notice of termination.

CONFIDENTIAL

Silver

16 East Sixty-Sixth Street
New York 21, New York
June 10, 1948

Hon. Trygve Lie
Secretary General of the United Nations
Lake Success, New York

Sir:

I have the honor to convey to you, for the information of the Security Council, the observations made by Mr. Moshe Shertok, Foreign Minister of Israel, in his communication to the United Nations Mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte, in accepting the cease-fire and truce proposal made by the Mediator. I have received the text of these observations in a cable from the Foreign Minister of Israel reading as follows:

"1. The Provisional Government of Israel has given careful consideration to the communication addressed by you to the undersigned on June 8, 1948, indicating the date and hour on which the proposed cease-fire and truce arrangement is to come into effect, and setting out interpretations of the resolution and decisions as to its application adopted by you.

"2. The Provisional Government of Israel desires to inform you that it has decided to accept the cease-fire and truce proposal and is prepared, if the other side accepts likewise, to issue an order for a cease-fire and the cessation of acts of armed force for the period of four weeks commencing on Friday, June 11, 1948 at six o'clock in the morning, G.M.T., corresponding to ten o'clock in the morning Israeli time.

"3. While the Provisional Government of Israel attaches no conditions to this decision, it finds it necessary to make certain observations which are set forth in the following paragraphs. In this connection we beg to point out that forty-eight hours elapsed between your last meeting with the undersigned in Haifa and the receipt of your communication under reply here. We cannot but assume that during this time the representatives of the Arab League, or of the governments composing it, had opportunities for further consultation with you by direct contact and by oral elucidation of various points at issue, opportunities denied us by the fact that you were in Cairo.

"4. The Provisional Government of Israel maintains the position set forth in my message to you of June 7 as regards restrictions you intend to impose on the entry into Israel of Jewish immigrants of military age during the truce period. It regrets its inability to agree that the policy you propose to adopt in this regard accords with the Resolution of the Security Council of May 29, inasmuch as that Resolution embodies no other limitation on the immigration of men of military age than that they should not be mobilized or trained for military service during the truce, which limitation the Provisional Government of Israel had accepted from the outset. As a result of the interview between the undersigned and yourself at Haifa on June 3, and your oral message transmitted through Mr. Reedman on June 4, the Provisional Government of Israel felt justified in assuming that you agreed that no numerical limitations would be imposed on the entry of immigrants of this category and that you accepted as adequate the arrangements agreed upon in that interview and further specified in the subsequent message, regarding the surveillance of such immigrants after their arrival in Israel during the truce period. Most of the details in these arrangements had in fact been proposed by you and accepted by the undersigned. The Provisional Government of Israel regards your present interpretation as a departure from the text of the Resolution and from the agreement of June 3 and 4, and begs to express the hope that you will so exercise your discretion as to eliminate this discrepancy as far as possible.

"5. Regarding paragraph 6 (4) of your communication, I must point out that the Resolution of the Security Council did not envisage measures preventing or delaying the entry of Jewish immigrants into Israel, irrespective of their age or sex. While the Provisional Government of Israel is ready to cooperate fully with the Mediator in order to facilitate his task of supervision and control, it will regard as unjustified any attempt to interfere with the normal flow of Jewish immigration into Israel.

"6. With reference to paragraph 6 (8), the Provisional Government of Israel assumes that the provision regarding the form of relief will not effect the parts of Jerusalem in Jewish hands to the extent that the safety of passage to and from them, and the supply of food to them, may have been secured by the operation of Jewish forces at the time of the commencement of the cease-fire and truce.

June 10, 1948

"7. With reference to paragraph 6 (9), the Provisional Government of Israel assumes that an attempt by any Arab Government to impose a commercial blockade on Israel by confiscating or holding up cargoes of normal supplies consigned to it will be regarded as a warlike act and as prohibited.

"8. The Provisional Government of Israel notes with satisfaction your statement transmitted yesterday through Mr. Reedman that you accept as valid its contention, conveyed to you in my message of June 7, that it would be unwarranted to institute strict control on the movement of Jewish immigrants in the initial phase of the truce while leaving unchecked possible movements of troops and war material from one Arab country into the ~~other~~ or into Palestine. The Provisional Government of Israel welcomes your assurance that you will adjust your policy accordingly.

"9. If the truce is rejected by the other party and the whole matter is referred back to the Security Council, the Provisional Government of Israel reserves the right to revert to its original position regarding interpretation of the provisions of the Resolution of May 29, without it being committed to any concessions implied in the present acceptance of the cease-fire and truce proposal.

"10. The Provisional Government of Israel confidently hopes that if the cease-fire and truce materialize, you may find it possible to make such arrangements as will ensure complete equality of contact with you and access to you for both parties concerned."

May I request that the contents of this letter be made available to members of the Security Council as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Aubrey S. Eban
Acting Representative
Provisional Government of Israel

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1220

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SIDE REJECTS PROLONGATION FOR THREE DAYS ALSO EXPRESSING
READINESS DISCUSS DEMILITARIZATION WHOLE CITY JERUSALEM.
CABLE ALSO CONFIRMED MEDIATOR NOTIFIED HIM ARAB GOVERNMENTS
REJECTED BOTH PROPOSALD MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM FOR EXTENSION
TRUCE AND ACCEPTED PRINCIPLE DEMILITARIZATION ONLY FOR OLD
CITY JERUSALEM. FURTHERMORE THIS MORNING ONE AM GMT
-EGYPTIAN FORCES CONSISTING TWO ARMoured COLUMNS AND
INFANTRY LAUNCHED OFFENSIVE AGAINST OUR POSITIONS IN SOUTH
PALESTINE. BATTLE NOW IN PROGRESS. EBAN CONVEYED THIS ROSS
WHOSE FIRST REACTION THAT SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD NOT ACCEPT
ARAB REJECTION AS LAST WORD AND PROCEED IMMEDIATELY DISCUSS
CHAPTER SEVEN BUT SHOULD FIRST ISSUE STIFF WARNING
IMMEDIATE CESSATION HOSTILITIES. HIS REASONING FIRSTLY NOT
CERTAIN WHETHER ARABS REALLY MEAN BUSINESS OR THIS JUST
TRYON THEREFORE WORTHWHILE MAKING FINAL ATTEMPT COMPEL THEM
BACK DOWN BEFORE REGARDING TRUCE AS FINISHED SECONDLY SUCH
WARNING WILL HELP MOBILIZE RELUCTANT=

:END SHEET ONE=

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1220

(24)

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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CL182-CL181 PD WUX NEWYORK NY DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE
TEMPEL 105 ST & ANSEL RD SHEET TWO=

1948 NOV 8 PM 12 26

MEMBERS SECURITY COUNCIL AND PAVE WAY FOR STRONGER MEASURES
EBAN SEEKING FULLER DISCUSSION AMERICAN DELEGATION THIS
MORNING MEANWHILE STRESSING EFFECTIVENESS ANY SECURITY
COUNCIL REACTION LARGELY DEPENDENT SPEED STOP MEETING
SECURITY COUNCIL TODAY POSSIBLE BUT NOT YET FIXED. HAVE
ARRANGED MEETING EXECUTIVE MONDAY MORNING ELEVEN REGARDS=

COMAY=



TRUCE IN PALESTINE - DRAFT RESOLUTION

As Amended by the Jewish Agency

Considering the Council's Resolution of 1 April 1948 and the conversations held by its President with the representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Arab Higher Committee with a view to arranging a truce between Arabs and Jews in Palestine;

Considering that as stated in that Resolution, it is of the utmost urgency to bring about the immediate cessation of acts of violence in Palestine, and to establish conditions of peace and order in that country;

Considering that the United Kingdom Government, so long as it remains the Mandatory Power is responsible for the maintenance of peace and order in Palestine ~~and should continue to take all steps necessary to that end; and that in so doing it should receive the cooperation and support of the Security Council in particular as well as of all the members of the United Nations;~~

The Security Council:

1. Calls upon all persons and organizations in Palestine and especially upon the Arab Higher Committee and the Jewish Agency to take immediately, without prejudice to their rights, claims, or positions, and as a contribution to the well-being and permanent interests of Palestine, the following measures:

(a) Cease all activities of a military ~~of para-military~~ nature, as well as acts of violence, terrorism and sabotage;

(b) Refrain from bringing into Palestine armed bands or individuals, whatever their origin, armed or ~~capable of bearing arms~~ *new 15ed*

entering Palestine with the purpose of taking part in the fighting, ✓
and from assisting or encouraging the entry into Palestine of such
armed hands and individuals.

(c) Refrain from importing ~~of armaments~~ or assisting or
encouraging the importation ~~of armaments~~ of weapons and war
materials;

(d) ~~Refrain pending further consideration of the future~~
~~government of Palestine by the General Assembly from any political~~
~~activity which might prejudice the rights, claims, or positions of~~
~~either community~~

(e) Assist to the best of their ability in the effective
maintenance of law and order and cooperate with the Mandatory
Authorities for the effective maintenance ~~of law and order and~~ of
essential services, particularly those relating to transportation,
communications, health, and food and water supplies;

(f) Refrain from any action which will endanger the safety ✓
of and the access to the Holy Places in Palestine.

2. Requests the United Kingdom Government for so long as it
remains the Mandatory Power to use its best efforts to bring all
those concerned in Palestine to accept the measures set forth under
Paragraph 1, above, ~~and subject to retaining the freedom of action~~
~~of its own forces to supervise the execution of these measures by~~
~~all those concerned~~ and to keep the Security Council and the General
Assembly currently informed on the situation in Palestine.

3. Calls upon all governments and particularly those of countries
neighboring Palestine to take all possible steps to assist in the
implementation of the measures set out under paragraph 1, above, ~~and~~

Security

pol. activity

military operations

~~particularly those referring to~~ to refrain from permitting the entry
into Palestine from their countries of armed hands, individuals armed
or ~~capable of carrying arms~~ entering Palestine with the purpose of
taking part in the fighting, and of weapons and war materials, and
to recall their nationals who are now in Palestine for that purpose.

4. (As proposed by the President.)



MEMORANDUM ON THE SUBJECT OF THE TRUCE

- I. The Jewish Agency is ready and has been ready to agree to a cease fire order immediately and for as long a period as is agreeable.
- II. The proposed truce of the United States delegation, which is to extend for a period of ninety days, is not a military truce, but aims at a temporary political arrangement under the guise of a military truce. The Jews are not to proclaim their sovereign state during that period.
- III. Under its terms, the Jews of Palestine would be prevented from acquiring and importing arms while the neighboring Arab States, who are not bound by this truce agreement (since it is limited only to the Arabs of Palestine), will be free to acquire arms and to intensify their military preparedness so that at the end of the three or four months truce period the Jewish military strength would be greatly reduced in relation to the augmented military strength of the Arabs.
- IV. There is no indication as to what would happen after the truce period. Will the United States Government be prepared to recognize the Jewish State then if in the meantime no agreement is reached between the Jews and the Arabs? Will the United States be prepared to defend the Jewish State against invasion from the neighboring Arab States whose military potential will have been substantially increased as a result of the truce.

HARRY SPIEGEL

24826-

30603

SCRANTON, PA

419 MADISON AVE

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



place.

Confidential will have been substantiated if increased as a result of the
these various invasion from the neighboring Arab States whose military
and the United States be prepared to defend the United
States from it in the meantime no agreement is reached between the two

All the United States Government is required to recognize the Jewish
in there is no indication of the Arab
regard for relations to the Arab
people Arab people the Jewish military strength of the Arab
shall ultimately be prepared to meet of the Arab or the Arab or the Arab

the Arabs of Palestine will be free to recognize arms and to recognize
the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people
the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people
the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people the Arab people

III. Under the terms of the Jewish Nationality Law, the Arab people

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

shall be free to

MEMORANDUM OF THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD