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British Declare Martial Law In Palestine As Dragnet Is Spread For Irgun Kidnappers

'DEMOCRATIC ARAB-JEWISH STATE' IS GOAL OF PALESTINE COMMUNISTS

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Immediate evacuation of British troops from Palestine and the establishment of a "democratic Jewish-Arab state" following a transition period under the supervision of a special United Nations committee was urged this week by the all-Jewish Palestine Communist party during testimony before the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine.

Meir Vilner and Dr. W. S. Ehrlich, speaking for the control committee of the Communist party, charged that British rule had been responsible for the animosity between Jews and Arabs and had prevented Arab-Jewish rapprochement. They cited a long list of "crimes, murder, rape and pillage," committed by the mandatory during the 30 years it has ruled this country, particularly in the years 1936-39 and 1946-47. The Communist leaders also listed examples of Arab-Jewish cooperation, particularly in the field of labor.

The Communist spokesman asserted that Britain was building a military stronghold in Palestine as part of a "cordon sanitaire" against the Soviet Union, and not for the benefit of the country. They appealed to the United Nations to remove British "reactionary forces" in order to achieve peace in the Middle East and the whole world.

Questioned concerning their attitude to Jewish immigration, Vilner and Dr. Ehrlich stated that the problem of immigration was never a major problem with the Arabs, who considered the removal of foreign rule more important. They expressed the belief that a future Palestine state would participate with other countries in solving the problem of rescuing the surviving Jews of Europe who wish to leave that continent.

Several committee members, headed by Chairman Emil Sandstrom, wanted to know on what

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Soviets To Open Birobidjan Land To 550 Families

NEW YORK (JTA)—The Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union has instructed the Ukrainian government to make provisions to facilitate the sending of 550 Jewish families to Birobidjan, Jewish autonomous region, the American Birobidjan committee reported this week.

Temporary housing has already been established to receive the new families until permanent homes can be found by the industries in which they will be employed, the report said. It added that some 500 families, mostly evacuees from areas overrun by the Nazis, have arrived in Birobidjan during recent weeks.

Cooperation Here Works To Improve Palestine Housing

NEW YORK (JTA)—Plans are under way to organize an American company to build thousands of housing units in Palestine, where the shortage is extremely acute, as a result of conferences between Aaron Wright, president of the Jewish National Fund and the United Palestine Appeal for Great Britain and Ireland, and American Jewish leaders headed by Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the American JNF.

Wright, who is returning to

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LEAVES FOR PARIS



The National Council of Jewish Women was officially represented at the formal opening of its Home for Unattached Jewish Women, in Paris, on July 2, by Mrs. Moise Cahn (above) of New Orleans. Mrs. Cahn, a national vice president of the organization, is shown prior to her departure for France, at LaGuardia Field, New York.

Haganah Abandons Search For Two Missing Sergeants

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Military control was proclaimed in Nathanya and outlying settlements this week as the deadline set by the government for the return of two British sergeants kidnapped there last Saturday passed with no word of the men.

House curfew was immediately proclaimed in the district pending further notice, and troops began moving in and establishing barbed wire entanglements and enclosures for screening people. Military headquarters were established in the building of the municipal council. Persons entering or leaving the Nathanya area earlier were searched and questioned.

Martial rule was clamped down despite an eleventh hour plea by Mayor Oved Ben Ami. The proclamation had been delayed twice before to give the Haganah more time to trace the abducted men. As soon as it went into effect the resistance force withdrew from the search.

Earlier, a Jewish Agency spokesman told correspondents that the agency felt that the imposition of controls would be a grave blunder since the entire population is aiding the hunt for the abducted men and military control would only hamper them. In addition, he pointed out that declaring Nathanya a controlled area and disrupting its economic life virtually means collective punishment of people who are not responsible for the kidnappings.

The Irgun issued a statement that it would not deliver up the soldiers until the sentences of the three condemned Irgunists were commuted. It declared that the men were unharmed and "in a place where they can be kept a month or more."

The controlled area will be commanded by Brig. Gen. Sir Humphrey Gale, who was in charge of Tel Aviv when it was under martial law. The area—in which 15,000 to 20,000 persons live—comprises, in addition to Nathanya, Avichail, Ramath, Tiomkin, Neve Itamar, Ein Hacheleth, Neve Oved, Neve Shalom and a number of smaller communities. The official communique announcing control listed a number of reasons—all terrorist attacks—for the action.

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Europe's Doctors Get 60,000 Books Donated In N. Y.

NEW YORK (JTA)—More than 60,000 medical textbooks, journals, charts and reports have been donated by New York medical schools, libraries and individual doctors to the Joint Distribution Committee's SOS collection campaign, for the use of doctors and students in Europe, it was announced here.

Among the gifts was a donation of 38,500 books and journals from the library division of the New York Academy of Medicine. Columbia university's college of physicians and surgeons contributed approximately 12,000 items of medical data; the Medical college of Cornell university, 3,600; New York university's college of medicine, 1,000.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM EUROPE

FRANKFURT (JTA)—In an apparent attempt to halt the indiscriminate arrests of DP's by American troops searching for stolen goods, American headquarters here has advised all field units that the DP's are entitled to possess various items including specific American supplies and American money.

The announcement inferentially took cognizance of the complaints of a number of relief authorities that the soldiers arrested DP's even when the goods in question were legally acquired. The orders forbade arrests unless illegal possessions could be proved or unless the amount possessed was far more than was needed for one DP or his family. In cases of doubt the troops are advised to consult the camp director and if they seize any goods they are to give an official receipt for it.

Hungary

BUDAPEST (JTA)—Both Jewish and democratic circles here are up in arms over the interview given to the Vienna newspaper Die Welt am Abend by Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, Catholic primate of Hungary.

The cardinal told the Austrian paper that not 600,000 but "only" 500,000 Hungarian Jews were

killed during the fascist regime and that several thousand deportees probably returned to the country, further reducing the toll.

England

LONDON (JTA)—An international conference of experts to discuss the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe will be held in Switzerland between July 30 and Aug. 5, under the auspices of the International Conference of Christians and Jews.

The parley, the first of its kind called by the conference, will be attended by Jewish and non-Jewish members of affiliated organizations in the United States, Britain and continental Europe.

Italy

ROME (JTA)—Italian police have arrested nine Jewish refugees at the port of Ancona, north-east of here on the Adriatic coast, it was reported this week.

The Jews, inmates of the Torino DP camp, are suspected of planning to emigrate illegally to Palestine. They were arrested while talking to Italian sailors. Although no specific charges have been lodged against them, the

nine are slated to be sent to the Lipari penal islands, off Naples.

Sweden

STOCKHOLM (JTA)—The chief prosecutor has ordered the confiscation of five anti-Jewish pamphlets published and circulated by Einar Aaborg, internationally known Swedish anti-Semite. Distribution of any copies which have not been seized has been prohibited.

The action was taken in connection with the indictment brought this week against Aaborg by the prosecutor. Aaborg is president of the so-called Swedish Anti-Jewish league.

Rumania

BUCHAREST (JTA)—A group of 126 Jews this week sailed for Palestine and the western hemisphere aboard the liner Transylvania.

The majority of the immigrants are bound for South American countries, while 39 are going to Palestine and a small number to the United States.