

Bank Robbed in Tel Aviv; Jews Blueprint New Regime

Stern Gang Is Suspected in Big Holdup

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12 (UP)—Twenty bandits believed to be members of the Stern gang robbed Barclay's Bank in Tel Aviv of more than \$37,000 today and British reinforcements were rushed to the Palestine-Syrian border where new fighting broke out between Arabs and Jews.

The U. S. Consulate in Jerusalem officially announced it knew nothing about press reports that U. S. Marines would be sent to furnish additional guards for the Consulate. It said all the Consuls in Jerusalem had discussed the advisability of bringing in guards from their respective countries, if the British could not furnish more protection.

But the U. S. Consulate said it wanted to make plain this was a common problem for the Consulates in Jerusalem, and the American Consulate was not the only one considering a stronger guard.

The Syrian border fighting, described as skirmishes, was around the settlements of Dan and Kefar Sazid, which 800 Arab invaders attacked last Friday. There was no indication whether the Arabs today had filtered across the border.

Military patrols were shot at between Dan and Kefar Sazid and British reinforcements rushed in and helped the Jews shoot back at the Arabs.

There was no immediate report of casualties, but six persons were killed in other parts of Palestine. Two others—a British Consulate and an Arab—died of old wounds. It is believed the holdup men in the Tel Aviv bank robbery were members of Irgun Zvai Leumi or the Stern gang, Jewish police, who have replaced British police in the area, did not reach the bank until 30 minutes after the holdup.

4000 Britons Reportedly Offer to Fight for Arabs

LONDON, Jan. 12 (UP)—Sources close to the Arab office said today that 4000 Britons, mostly former servicemen, have offered their services to fight for the Arab cause in Palestine.

British Supplying Arms to Egypt, Iraq, Trans-Jordan

LONDON, Jan. 12—British diplomatic sources confirmed tonight that Britain was supplying arms to Egypt, Iraq and Trans-Jordan, but asserted she was doing so in fulfillment of "contractual obligations" made since the end of World War II. These sources declined to comment on Zionist allegations in New York that the value of the equipment amounted to \$25,000,000.

Woman Burned

Mrs. Pearl Irene Daggett, 21, suffered severe burns yesterday when she backed into a gas heater in her room at 314 Twenty-first street, Oakland.

Government Being Set Up Despite Strife

JERUSALEM, Jan. 12 (AP)—Against a background of virtual civil war the Jews of the Holy Land went forward today with their plans for a provisional government for the separate Jewish state to be established in accordance with the decision of the United Nations.

(At Lake Success, meanwhile, the Jewish Agency for Palestine called on Britain to provide a beachhead area as soon as possible to permit large-scale immigration of Jews into the Holy Land. The all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv adjoining Arab Jaffa is being considered for this immigration.)

(The demand was made at a news conference by Moshe Shertok, head of the agency's political department, who will consult with the five-man United Nations Palestine Partition Commission.)

(Shertok said the agency also would ask the U. N. to set up an international military force to make effective the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab countries by next October 1.)

Details of the planning for the provisional Jewish government were disclosed by a spokesman for the Jewish Agency, who told a news conference that the bloodshed of the past six weeks has not retarded progress in any way.

He said the formation of 15 ministries of the provisional government, which will have an annual budget of approximately \$50,000,000, would be completed by the end of this month.

The spokesman said that security provisions, including formation of a militia, were being excluded from the planning since "that is a matter for Hagannah at present and will be integrated when the time comes." Hagannah is the Jewish militia.

A high level policy committee of the agency and Yehud Leumi, the Council of Jews in Palestine, which are planning the provisional government, have virtually completed their task, the agency spokesman said.

CONSTITUTION

A constitution is being formulated, but final draft and adoption will be the work of a constituent Assembly which will be elected after the British withdrawal.

(Shertok said at Lake Success that it is "absolutely vital" that effective measures be taken "and taken in time to defeat the attempt now in progress to defeat the U. N. decision (partition) by military sabotage.")

(Regardless of whether the International Military Force materializes, Shertok said, the Jews are prepared to sponsor an army of 15,000 to 25,000 men in Palestine.)

(If this project (the international force) is found to be impracticable," Shertok said, "we would not be deterred from carrying out our responsibilities.")

MANILA Surplus Sale

MANILA, Jan. 12 (AP)—Sale of \$14,330,000 worth of Army surplus goods for \$55,000 to an unidentified American firm was disclosed today by a government source who said the deal was subject to cancellation by President Roxas.

Arms Sale For Palestine Being Studied

ASBURY PARK, N. J., Jan. 12 (AP)—Spurred by the demands of two Congressmen for an explanation of the sale of 199 tons of war surplus high explosives earmarked for Palestine and seized in a two-State roundup, Federal officials today studied legal aspects of the transactions.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine said over the week end it had made the financial arrangements for the quantity of explosives found here Thursday, and stated the materials were "legally procured to await legitimate shipment."

Leonard M. Weisman, exporter who aided the Jewish Agency purchase of the explosives, said in New York that counsel would be engaged to bring suit to recover 130 tons confiscated by authorities.

Weisman said at a news conference the authorities would request the return of the explosives to ship them over to a "privately authorized trucking company for shipment to a storage warehouse in this country, to be held until export licenses could be obtained to send them to Palestine."

Weisman said the explosives, bought with funds sent here by the Palestine Jewish Agency, were for the use of Hagannah, Jewish defense force in Palestine, and were to have been shipped to arrive after May 15, 1948, the date set for partition of Palestine. He said they were to be used for defense purposes only.

The two Congressmen, Representatives Taber (R., N. Y.), and Auchinloss (R., N. J.), demanded the War Assets Administration and the War Department explain why the Army surplus explosives were being sold "at a time like this."

The State Department had banned shipments of arms and munitions to the Middle East since December 5.

Far Eastern Aid Program Is Indicated

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 (AP)—The Administration indicated today a Far Eastern recovery program may be proposed soon by President Truman.

Mr. Truman's budget message to Congress listed under "proposed legislation" two appropriations totaling \$750,000,000, in addition to the Marshall Plan, for "other foreign aid, including China."

Congress was told the President will make definite recommendations shortly in a special message, covering "several countries."

Two aspirants for the Republican presidential nomination, Senator Taft (Ohio) and Governor Dewey of New York, have criticized Mr. Truman's foreign aid program for its failure to give help to China.

High Administration officials, who met with reporters to give a background of information on the budget, declined to elaborate. They did state however that this aid would not go to the 16 countries receiving reconstruction help under the European Recovery Plan, and one added this comment:

"There are situations in the Far East which may need looking into, the same as the 16 nations in Europe."

This aroused speculation whether Mr. Truman would suggest a conference of Far Eastern countries to draw up a program of self-help and an estimate of goods-and-dollars needed.

Two China aid appropriations already have been requested, one for \$300,000,000 in this fiscal year which ends next June 30, and another of \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 1949. The expenditures for these sums are estimated at \$60,000,000 this year and \$440,000,000 in fiscal year 1949, leaving \$250,000,000 in appropriated funds which might be paid out later.

Slain Missionaries Chinese Area Being Evacuated by Mission Families Following Killings

HANKOW, Jan. 12 (AP)—The wanton slaying of two American women missionaries and a Finnish medical missionary by "bandits" 150 miles northwest of this central China city last week has set off a mass evacuation of foreign religious workers.

The movement is similar to that of 1927, when 6000 missionaries left the interior of China to escape a wave of antiforeign violence.

Various mission officials here are completing plans to remove by plane about 200 members of missionary families from areas most closely threatened by troops and followers of Communist generals Liu Po-cheng, Chen Keng and Chen Yi.

Other missionaries in areas less immediately threatened are being urged to seek safety in Hankow.

The three missionaries slain were the Misses Martha J. Anderson of Minneapolis, Esther Victoria Nordlund of Chicago, and Dr. Alexis Friedrich Berg of Helsinki, Finland, attached to the Evangelical Covenant Mission at Siangyang in Hupeh province.

(Miss Nordlund, a missionary in China for the last 21 years, is the sister of Mrs. Joseph Anderson, 10441 Longfellow avenue, Berkeley, Calif.)

Arthur Hansen, former Chicagoan now managing Lutheran missionaries in this area, said the bodies had been recovered and were now on the Yangtze river port of Shasi awaiting transportation to Hankow for funeral services.

A Swedish missionary who interviewed witnesses said the slain group was en route by public bus to Kiangling, Hupeh province, for a mission council.

On the afternoon of January 7 the bus was halted by a road block 30 miles north of the town of Kiangling.

Chennault Air Line Ordered to Fly Relief to Mukden

SHANGHAI, Jan. 13 (AP)—Major General Claire L. Chennault's commercial airline (CAT) received an emergency order today (Tuesday) to begin special flights into besieged Mukden, Manchuria, to carry war supplies and to evacuate officials' families if necessary.

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Griswold, Greek War Chief Reported in Disagreement

ATHENS, Jan. 12 (AP)—Vice Premier Constantin Tsaldaris said tonight friction had developed between the American mission to aid Greece and War Minister George Stratos.

He said a conference will be held tomorrow to consider complaints made by Dwight P. Griswold, chief administrator of the mission, against the Minister, Griswold outlined his position in a memorandum signed several days ago.

Major General William G. Livesay, head of the military portion of the American aid program; Premier Themistokles Sophoulis, Stratos and Tsaldaris himself will attend tomorrow's meeting.

Griswold, informed sources said, complained about Stratos' insistence that certain points be fortified and the Minister's action in proceeding with enlargement of the Greek national guard without previously having obtained Griswold's approval.

Increases in the Greek army and national guard were approved recently by the American mission.

Stratos also has recommended Greek combat officers be given an increase in pay. Meanwhile, dispatches in Athens newspapers indicated another major encounter between Greek army troops and Communist-led guerrillas was shaping up in northwestern Greece. These advisers said movements of a large force of guerrillas and a number of army units were under way in that area, the scene of recent bitter fighting.

Korea Commission Starts to Work ---Minus Ukraine

SEOUL, Jan. 12 (AP)—With the Soviet Ukraine boycotting its operations and El Salvador unheard from, the U. N. Commission on Korea began functioning today. It started by electing Dr. E. P. S. Menon of India as temporary chairman.

The commission is seeking means of unifying Korea as an independent nation. Ever since the Japanese surrender, the country has been divided between American and Russian occupation forces.

Melecio Arranz, Philippines delegate, sought to postpone organization until authority could be obtained from the U. N. to proceed without the Ukraine or until the Ukraine would appoint a delegate.

Arranz finally agreed to the suggestion of Dr. Zeki Djabi of Syria that a temporary chairman be chosen "until a permanent chairman can be elected." Menon then was elected unanimously.

In his acceptance speech, Menon said two wars had been fought with Korean independence as their "ostensible object," but independence "turned out to be a mockery and a sham."

He urged, "Let it not be said by frustrated historians that a world war had been fought for Korean independence as one of its planks, but which also betrayed the people of Korea." Djabi, who also spoke, said the commission should ask a general amnesty for political prisoners "in the American zone as well as the Russian zone," because "they might truly represent a considerable section of the people."

Final Word on Foreign Newsmen Is Left to U. N.

LAKE SUCCESS, Jan. 12 (AP)—The United States agreed today that the United Nations would have the last word in deciding whether any individual correspondent should be accredited to cover news of the world organization in this country.

This agreement was reached at an all-day conference between representatives of the U. S. Government and the United Nations on the procedures for accreditation of correspondents.

The meeting grew out of the recent arrest of two U. N. correspondents whose activities the United States said were objectionable. One of these correspondents, Sayed S. Hasan of India, sailed for home last week. The other is a Greek correspondent, Nicholas Kiriazidis, who has remained in the New York area and retains temporary U. N. accreditation as a correspondent.

Under the newly devised procedure, the U. N. will notify the U. S. of all applications for accreditation, the U. S. will send in within two weeks any comment it wishes to make, and then the U. N., after considering the views of the U. S., will make its decision and notify the State Department.

The same procedure will apply to renewals of accreditation or any other changes, except that during the period of consultation the correspondents in question will continue to enjoy the status of accredited newsmen.

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Gandhi Plans Another Fast Aimed at Peace

NEW DELHI, India, Jan. 13 (AP)—Mohandas K. Gandhi announced today (Tuesday) he was undertaking a fast in an effort to restore peace among the Hindu, Sikh and Mohammedan religious communities in India.

The statement by the aging Hindu apostle of nonviolence, whose frail health recently has caused concern among his thousands of followers in India, made clear Gandhi's understanding that many of his disciples opposed his hunger strike.

Some said they feared that if Gandhi died while fasting, the non-Moslem communities of India would take frightful vengeance upon the Moslems, blaming them for causing him to abstain from food.

Indian Planes Run Into Flak on Kashmir Front

NEW DELHI, Jan. 12—Royal India Air Forces' planes, operating over the Kashmir front, encountered anti-aircraft fire today from well-entrenched insurgent forces, according to an Indian army communique. This was the first reported use of anti-aircraft by the foe in the Kashmir warfare.

The communique also reported that Indian artillery dispersed a raiding force of 700 in Naushehra and that forward pickets in this sector observed 32 of the foe's vehicles moving by night.

From private sources recently in the area, it was learned today that the Indian army is concentrating heavily along the Indo-Pakistan border opposite Sialkot in West Punjab province of Pakistan. Pakistan, being aware of this activity, is said to have stationed three brigades (about 5400 men) of its regular army in Sialkot.

From these developments it would appear that if India invades Pakistan to get at raiders' bases, heavy action would develop at once in the Sialkot area.

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