

# Crum on Palestine

## Legalize Haganah, Attorney Urges, Accuses Forrestal of Oil Interests

CLEVELAND, March 10 (U.P.)—Enforcement of the U. N. decision to partition Palestine can be accomplished by legalizing the Haganah, the Jewish militia in the Holy Land, Bartley Crum, San Francisco attorney and author, said tonight.

## Three British Police Aid Arab Army

JERUSALEM, March 10 (U.P.) — Three British constables were caught taking part in an Arab assault on the Jewish village of Neve Y AACOV, a Palestine government spokesman announced. They were seized by British army troops.

The Jewish extremist Stern Gang and the Haganah organization immediately accused the three Britons of being the perpetrators of the Ben Yehuda street bombing in Jerusalem last month in which some 60 Jews were killed.

A government announcement said the three constables were "absent without leave." It said the government feared their presence with Arab forces would lead to serious repercussions from angered Jews.

Identified only as Ross, Ackhurst and Stephenson, the three were brought back to Jerusalem's army prison under heavy guard.

Haganah already had plastered the streets of Jerusalem, Haifa and Tel Aviv with thousands of posters alleging that these three constables and a fourth named White had joined Arab forces and were participating in attacks on Jewish settlements.

The army was summoned to Neve Y AACOV, midway between Jerusalem and Ramallah, when Haganah sent a wireless signal to its headquarters in Tel Aviv saying "we are being attacked by the Arab Legion." This message was relayed to army headquarters which rushed units to the Jewish village.

Ross, Ackhurst and Stephenson were caught in an armored car without number plates when the troops arrived, according to an announcement. The Arab attackers apparently escaped.

Jews at Neve Y AACOV said they believed the attackers were members of the Legion because of their uniforms.

It was pointed out, however, that the uniforms of the Syrian "army of liberation" in Palestine are similar to the Tran-Jordan legionnaires of King Abdullah and it was believed the former had launched the attack. There was no report of casualties.

## Northern Palestine Arabs Order Martial Law

IN NORTHERN PALESTINE, March 10 (P)—Fawzi Bey Al Kaukji tonight ordered martial law in all northern Palestine effective at dawn tomorrow.

Fawzi Bey is commander of Arab forces gathered here to fight the partition plan.

His headquarters said military courts, conducted by Arab lawyers now attached to his army, would begin sitting in all major towns and cities.

Prisons are being established in a mountain top village where Fawzi Bey's headquarters are located. Several persons already have been arrested and are awaiting trial before military courts.

The Arab commander said "every order from this headquarters will now become the law of the land (northern Palestine) for civil and military alike."

A member of the former Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine and author of "Behind the Silken Curtain," Crum addressed 5000 persons at a "Save the U. N." mass meeting here. His talk was sponsored by the Jewish Community Council and the American-Christian Palestine Committee.

"The U. S. embargo on military equipment should be lifted so that the Haganah can be armed and token Danish, Belgian and Dutch troops can be sent into Palestine to help the U. N. commission," Crum said. He added "I would rather see enforcement not by the U. S. or Russia but by nations without interest in the Near Eastern oil."

Crum said Palestine "is no longer only a Jewish problem. It is tied to world peace." He said failure to support partition would be akin to doing what the League of Nations did when Japan invaded Manchuria.

"We'll be putting the first nail in the U. N. coffin," he asserted.

## 'U. S. WELCHED'

Crum added that the U. S. had "welched on its own policy in the Palestine decision" because of "Arabian oil."

He assailed Secretary of Defense Forrestal and said he "should be in no position to act as judge on the Palestine issue."

Crum said Forrestal's position in the Cabinet was a powerful one insofar as making decisions on the Palestine question were concerned.

"Forrestal's position on the Palestine problem may be motivated by his connections as former president of Dillon, Reid & Co., a banking house which participated in floating of large loans for Standard Oil and the Texas Company, both heavily involved in oil operations in the Middle East."

Crum said the Arab states were not fighting the Jews as much as they are carrying on acts of aggression "against the only the place in the world where the U. N. will have sovereign power as of May 15."

## ARMS BAN

"It is incredible to me that President Truman should tolerate an arms embargo directed against the only force in the Middle East—the Haganah—which is resisting this aggression."

## Commons Approves Decision To Quit Palestine May 15

LONDON, March 10 (U.P.)—Commons approved 240 to 30 tonight the government's decision to lay down the Palestine mandate May 15 even if the United Nations is not ready to take over and the Holy Land is embroiled in civil war.

Only rebellious leftwing Laborites voted against the government's mandate bill after Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech Jones served notice that British troops in Palestine will protect only themselves after May 15.

Conservatives teamed with the Labor majority to defeat a rebel amendment to reject the bill on the grounds that it does not provide for independent Jewish and Arab States and does not facilitate the transfer of jurisdiction to the U. N.

The House then read the government's bill for the second time without a formal vote. The second reading is the crucial one.

In debate on the bill, Creech Jones again denounced the partition plan as "impractical and unworkable."