

# Jewish Palestine Not in Conflict Palestine Jewish Troops 'Discover' With M.E. Federation Refugee Camp in Italy

LONDON, Monday (Palcor) — A Jewish Palestine was not incompatible with a Middle East Federation declared the Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, Mr. Moshe Shertok, who is now in London, but it would be folly to pin any faith on a Federation as a panacea when its materialization and character did not depend upon the Jews.

Mr. Shertok was speaking at yesterday's annual conference of the Labour Zionist (Poalei Zion) Party in Britain held at Caxton Hall. Numerous messages received included one from Mr. J. Middleton, on behalf of the British Labour Party, who stated that today, as in 1917, they supported the Jewish claim to a National Home. Prof. Harold Laski declared in a message that the future welfare of the Jewish people would depend on work in Palestine and no other Jewish community had so fully realized the great ideal enunciated by the Prophet Amos. Others who wrote to the conference included Lord Strabolgi, numerous Labour M.P.s, and a member of the Dutch Government.

Mr. B. Adler-Rudel, who was in the chair, praised Palestine Jewry for its noble response to rescue work among European Jewry but regretted that the rest of World Jewry had inadequately followed this example.

## Tribute to Wingate

Mr. Shertok began his address with a moving tribute to Major-General Orde Wingate, whose death was a cruel blow to the Jewish people and Zionist cause with which he had completely identified himself.

*The blue and white colours of the Jewish units, the Yishuv's defenders and the ghetto fighters are lowered in our*

thoughts over that distant grave in the Burmese jungle.

Mr. Shertok said that the White Paper had been badly shaken morally and politically but was still holding sway. But for the White Paper, tens of thousands could have been saved; even under its provisions, if the distribution of certificates had not been slowed down, many thousands of Jewish lives might have been saved.

Concerning the Arab unity movement, Mr. Shertok said that the only result so far was negative opposition to Zionism.

## Understanding with Britain

But just as their main quarrel was with Britain today, went on Mr. Shertok, it was with Britain that they must achieve their main understanding as regards the future.

The stage had been reached when the Zionist purpose must be clearly stated. So long as no attempt had been made to limit the ultimate dimensions of Jewish growth in Palestine, the definition of the ultimate goal had been unnecessary. But the present juncture, which was a turning point in the history of the Middle East, the Jewish people and the world, made it imperative clearly to define the objective, which was not only a dire need for the survivors of the European massacres but a historical necessity for the Jewish people.

The political resolutions laid before the conference demanded equal rights and freedom for all people in all countries; challenged the legality of the White Paper; expressed solidarity with Palestine Jewry and pride in its war contributions and self-restraint under the provocative circumstances of the Ramat Hakovesh and Hilda searches; vehemently denounced acts of terrorism; welcomed the achievements of the Histadruth; and insisted on the urgency of complete unity within the Histadruth.

## RETURNING FROM LONDON

LONDON, Saturday (Palcor). — Rabbi Y. L. Fishman and his daughter, and Dr. E. Schmorak have left England for Palestine.

Mr. M. Shertok has already left for Cairo earlier to Italy.

## MR. SHERTOK IN CAIRO

Mr. M. Shertok Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency, is expected in Cairo tomorrow from Italy. It is believed that he will be to Jerusalem for a short time. Dr. B. Joseph will meet Mr. Shertok in Cairo.

Dr. Bernard Joseph returned to Jerusalem yesterday from Cairo where he met Mr. M. Shertok, who had arrived there from London.

## MR. SHERTOK TO REPORT

The Inner Zionist General Council is to hold a session in Jerusalem at 10.30 on Thursday morning, May 11, when Mr. M. Shertok, head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, will report on his visit to London.

Mr. and Mrs. Shertok will not be at home tomorrow.

By SAM HALE

U.P. London Correspondent

LONDON (Airgraph). — The "discovery" by some Palestinian Jewish troops with the Eighth Army in Italy of the Jewish refugee camp at Ferramonte was described to me by the Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department in Jerusalem, Mr. M. Shertok, in an interview here.

The Jewish officers and soldiers drew up a list of those in the camp on behalf of the Agency, and the officers were entrusted with the task of choosing 300 persons deemed most qualified for immigration certificates.

It was on the eve of the Day of Atonement when some Jewish soldiers riding in a car on which the blue-white Shield of David was painted were hailed by someone on the road, who then guided them to the camp.

There they found a group of refugees from Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia and other countries who had started out to reach Palestine by sea but were intercepted by Axis vessels and

taken to Rhodes and thence to Italy. Mr. Shertok went on.

There was much joy and some sadness for one old man approached and asked if they knew his son, who he said was a Jewish soldier in the British Army. In the course of the conversation, it developed that these soldiers did know his son, but that he had been among the soldiers lost in the sinking of a transport.

The winter was coming, and the original group which had been brought from Rhodes had been added to since then by other refugees from various countries. They lacked comforts. The Jewish soldiers returned to their units, and four companies of these soldiers in a single day raised £2,000 for the help of the refugees.

Some of the soldiers adopted orphans. Others found relatives in the camp. One Jewish unit adopted an old couple among the refugees. Jewish soldiers are looking after that camp.

And now there has been an Army order sanctioning the painting of the Shield of David on all vehicles used by Jewish Units, Mr. Shertok concluded.

## Dr. Weizman Pays Tribute to Gen. Wingate

LONDON, Saturday. — The Zionist President, Dr. Weizman, and Mr. M. Shertok of Jerusalem were the principal speakers at a packed memorial service for Major-General O.C. Wingate held on Thursday in the conference-room at the Jewish Agency offices in London.

Dr. Weizman stated that a religious memorial service would be held at the Great Synagogue in London on April 25, but it was customary for Zionists to commemorate all great "Zionist leaders." Orde Wingate championed the National Home, completely identifying himself with the Zionist objective, because he believed in its justice.

The Zionist President gave some personal memories of General Wingate, whom he first met in Palestine, recalling his resentment that the Jews were frustrated instead of being assisted in their National Home.

## Wanted to Come Back

His sorrow was too fresh for an appraisal of the terrible loss which the Jewish people had suffered. Wingate's thoughts were ever turned to Palestine even when he was distinguishing himself elsewhere, and his great wish was to return to that country to assist the Jewish people to realize their ideal.

The widow, Mrs. Lorna Wingate, was unable to attend as she is in Scotland, but other members of the family, including the late General's two sisters and his brother Major Granville Wingate, were present. Others attending were the Marchioness of Reading, Mr. Norman Bentwich, Rabbi Y. L. Fishman, and Dr. E. Schmorak.

Dr. Weizman expressed his heartfelt sympathy with the family on behalf of Palestine Jewry and Jews everywhere. Conveying the feelings for General Wingate of Palestine Jewry, Mr. M. Shertok said

## MR. SHERTOK BACK FROM LONDON

### VISITED JEWISH TROOPS IN ITALY

The Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, Mr. Moshe Shertok, returned to Jerusalem on Thursday night from England.

On his way back he visited Palestinian Jewish units in Italy and Cyrenaica and also visited Jewish refugee camps in Italy.

It is understood that he intends to return to England in due course.

CAIRO, (PTA-Delayed). — Palestine Jewish military units in Italy have won praise from the British authorities for their effective performance. Mr. Moshe Shertok reported in an interview here after an 11-day inspection tour through all Allied-held areas.

## Aid to Refugees

It was gratifying, he said, to see Jewish units very much in evidence with the distinctive insignia carried by men and vehicles. That there was much fraternization between Palestinian and American Jewish soldiers who were visiting their messes in very large numbers. For many of these American Jews, Mr. Shertok said, it was their first contact with anything Palestinian, and it was giving them a new conception of Jewish brotherhood.

Mr. Shertok paid tribute to the Palestinian Jewish soldiers for the aid they had extended to Jewish refugees in Italy. He told how they raised money among themselves to help the destitute and pointed out that they had showed a marked sense of responsibility in the way they had re-established contact between the first groups of

## "WHITE PAPER NOT THE LAST WORD"

### MR. SHERTOK ADDRESSES LONDON MEETING

LONDON, April 3 (PTA-Delayed) — Declaring that the White Paper was not the last word and that the hour called for total Zionism, Mr. M. Shertok, speaking at the Poalei Zion Conference here this week called for the development of contacts with the United States, the U.S.S.R. and with the Arabs, but he emphasized: "Our hope remains in a fundamental understanding with Great Britain."

Resolutions passed at the annual Conference of the Zionist Labour Party in London (as reported yesterday) called for the continued expansion of Jewish settlement, welcomed President Roosevelt's warning to the Nazis, appealed to the United Nations to hasten the rescue of European Jewry and demanded full equality of post-war relief and reconstruction taking into account the special needs of the Jews.

The Conference also sent greetings to Soviet Jewry

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