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STATE OF ISRAEL IS BORN

The first independent Jewish State in 19 centuries was born in Tel Aviv as the British Mandate over Palestine came to an end at midnight on Friday, and it was immediately subjected to the test of fire. As "Medinat Yisrael" (State of Israel) was proclaimed, the battle for Jerusalem raged, with most of the city falling to the Jews. At the

same time, President Truman announced that the United States would accord recognition to the new State. A few hours later, Palestine was invaded by Moslem armies from the south, east and north, and Tel Aviv was raided from the air. On Friday the United Nations Special Assembly adjourned after adopting a resolution to appoint a mediator but without taking any action on the Partition Resolution of November 29.

Yesterday the battle for the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road was still under way, and two Arab villages were taken. In the north, Acre town was captured, and the Jewish Army consolidated its positions in Western Galilee.

Most Crowded Hours in Palestine's History

Between Thursday night and this morning Palestine went through what by all standards must be among the most crowded hours in its history. For the Jewish population there was the anguish over the fate of the two hundred Hagana men and women in the Kfar Etzion bloc of settlements near Hebron. Their surrender to a fully equipped superior foreign force desperately in need of a victory was a foregone conclusion. What could not be known, with no communications since Thursday morning, was whether and to what extent the Red Cross and the Truce Council would secure civilized conditions for prisoners and wounded, and proper respect for the dead. Doubts on some of these anxious questions have now been resolved.

On Friday afternoon, from Tel Aviv, came the expected announcement of the Jewish State and its official naming at birth, "Medinat Yisrael"—State of Israel, with the swearing in of the first Council of Government. The proclamation of the State was made at midnight, coinciding with the sealing from Haifa of Britain's last High Commissioner. Within the hour, President Truman announced in Washington that the Government of the United States had decided to give de jure recognition to the Jewish State, with all that such recognition implied. The Assembly of the United Nations, meeting since the middle of April for "harder study" of the Palestine problem was thus left by one state or another, to ratify the Two-State decision of November last year, or "together with nothing concrete to its credit. The Assembly adjourned with the resolution to appoint a mediator between the Jews and Arabs, to cooperate with the Security Council's Truce Commission in Jerusalem.

Russian Recognition Awaited
Russia and her allies had given their assurance of their intention to recognize the Jewish State, whereas she did not do so. As a result of Washington's action and the Eastern Bloc's stand, other countries are expected to send their recognition to the newly born state.

Nor did the Arab Bloc remain idle. True to their promises, or threats, the members of the Arab League completed their plans for a full-scale invasion of Palestine in what has been described as a Moslem "crusade" against the Jews. Tel Aviv was bombed twice yesterday by Egyptian war planes. One of the enemy planes was shot down by a Jewish fighter plane, and the pilot taken prisoner, showing that this move against the civilian population was not a surprise, and that the Jewish preparations include anti-aircraft defenses.

A black-out has been ordered for the whole of Jewish Palestine. Tel Aviv itself having blacked out on Friday.

At the same time, the air was filled with reports of two Egyptian columns on the move from the south toward Gaza and Beer Sheva, and of intensified shelling from across the northern border.

ACRE CAPTURED

Acre, the sea-coast town across the bay from Haifa, was captured by Jewish forces yesterday, the Hagana Radio reported. The surrender of the town, and subsequently two villages in the north, came after a strong Jewish attack.

Double Summer Time in Jerusalem

At midnight tonight all clocks in Jewish Jerusalem will be advanced two hours. The Emergency Convention has instituted double summer time in order to save fuel. The measure does not apply to the rest of the country.

JEWS TAKE OVER SECURITY ZONES

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday. The cracks of small-arms fire and explosions of mortar shells were still being heard in the early hours of this morning as the battle entered its third day.

Repeated efforts on Friday evening and again on Saturday by the U.N. Truce Commission to bring about a "cease fire" were brought to naught when the Arab representatives failed to agree within the specified time limit.

On Friday morning, Jewish forces entered the Russian Compound and Zone C to re-occupy the buildings requisitioned from Jews last year. This operation was almost bloodless, but beyond the western edge of Zone C, Arabs engaged the Jews in Jaffa Road. The Arabs were forced back and the Barzilai Block Area was taken.

In other parts of the city fighting raged up. Jews entered one after another the areas evacuated by the British. By last night, the quarters and strongpoints held by Hagana included the German Colony and part of the Baka's Quarter in Zone A, all of Zone B except for the Had Cruse area, Sheikh Jarrah (where the Jewish flag was flown from the Mufti's house), the Men Shearita Police Station and Alshayk Harbaks on the Bethlehem Road. The I.S.L. were in occupation of the Neopola Police Station.

Yesterday afternoon eight cannon shells Jewish Jerusalem from the Arab village of Nebi Baww, more than 100 shells falling in the north-western quarters. Several persons were injured.

Jewish casualties in the two days of fighting were eight killed and a number of wounded. Arab casualties are not known.

EMERGENCY

A state of emergency in the Jerusalem area was declared to exist by the Hagana Area Commander as from yesterday in what is the first Order of the Day to be issued in almost 2,000 years by a Jewish Military Commander of the city.

The Order said: "With the declaration of the independence of the State of Israel and the ending of the British Mandate over Palestine, the Jewish people have entered upon a new phase of their history. It is the duty of the Jewish people to defend their State and their people against all enemies. The Jewish people are hereby ordered to observe the following regulations: 1. Every individual must place himself at the disposal of the authorities... 2. All persons required for the work of the Military Command... 3. The streets of the city... 4. The Jewish people are hereby ordered to observe the following regulations..."

Egyptian Air Force Spitfires Bomb Tel Aviv; One Shot Down

Kol Israel, the Tel Aviv broadcasting station, reported at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon that Tel Aviv had been bombed three times in the previous evening and morning, and that one plane had been shot down and its Egyptian pilot taken prisoner.

In the first raid, four planes attacked from a height of 500 feet. Two dropped bombs, while the others strafed the city. Little damage was done. In the second attack two hours later, the airport to the north of the city was bombed, and an Air France plane parked there was damaged. The third raid was launched shortly before midnight, but the planes were driven off without causing any damage.

2 Columns Cross Southern Border

CAIRO, Saturday (UPI). — A command issued today by the Egyptian Ministry of National Defense reported that two columns of Egyptian troops, including artillery and armor, had crossed the Palestine border, preceded by aircraft.

One column was reported to have crossed the frontier 35 miles inland and to have attacked the "Jewish village of Ajlun on the road to Beer Sheva, wiping it out because its inhabitants had refused to surrender." (Ajlun is a police post near the frontier, about 25 miles from the nearest Jewish settlement.)

The column then entered Be'er Sheva, according to this Cairo report, another column crossed the border at midnight, traveling north along the coast road towards Gaza.

Egyptian sources later reported that their forces had reached the Negev settlements of Nirim and Etzion, but could give no further details.

In Cairo, at midnight, 2,000 Egyptian Police, commanded by 370 Officers, started a roundup of suspected Zionist sympathizers and arrested 600 persons within 24 hours.

According to Hagana sources, Jewish soldiers had off an Egyptian "army" operation, an attempt to lead troops near Ashdod, 28 miles north of Gaza. The ship which attempted to make the landing was forced to turn back, these sources said.

Arab Legion Cross Border
It was reported in Jerusalem last night that troops of the Arab Legion had crossed the border into Palestine in two places, over Alshayk Bridge and near the Palestine Electric power station at Nakarata.

According to Reuters, the long convoy of the first route of heavy-borne troops, artillery and armored cars, was headed by King Abdullah, who fired a symbolic pistol shot towards Palestine and wished his troops success in their campaign.

In Cairo, a group of journalists have asked the Egyptian Premier, Nokrassa Pasha, for an interview to discuss the proposed blockade of news, the Cairo Radio has reported.

U.S. RECOGNIZES JEWISH STATE

WASHINGTON, Saturday. — Ten minutes after the termination of the British Mandate on Friday, the White House released a formal statement by President Truman that the U.S. Government intended to recognize the Provisional Jewish Government in the de jure authority representing the Jewish State.

The U.S. is also considering lifting the arms embargo but it is not known whether to Palestine only or the entire Middle East, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Jewish Provisional Government.

The White House press secretary, Mr. Charles Ross, told correspondents today that reaction so far to the recognition had been overwhelmingly laudatory. He said this step had been discussed with Mr. Marshall and Mr. Lovett before action was taken, and it had their complete support.

Mr. Ross said that the President had decided several days ago to grant American recognition to the new Jewish State, but due to protocol regulations he could not announce his policy until a formal letter arrived. "We were able to move very quickly when the messenger brought the letter," he said, "because the President had already determined the course of action to be taken."

Provisional Government

A few minutes before five (midnight Palestine time), Mr. Elyahu Epstein, of the Jewish Agency's Washington Office, handed a letter to the White House, requesting the U.S. to recognize the new Jewish State. "With the full knowledge of the deep bond of sympathy which existed and has been strengthened over the past 30 years between the U.S. Government and the Jewish people of Palestine," the letter said, "I have been authorized by the Provisional Government of the new State to order this message and express the hope that your Government will recognize and welcome Israel into the community of nations."

In Frankfurt, General Lottin D. Clay, of the U.S. Military Command in Germany, said today that Jews in Germany and Austria would be asked to leave for the State of Israel as soon as official word of America's recognition was to hand.

EGYPTIAN INVASION BEFORE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

LAKE SUCCESS, Saturday. — Israel today appeared to an emergency meeting of the Security Council to order a halt in Arab invasion into Palestine and, if necessary, to impose economic and military sanctions.

Dr. Mordechai Eliaz, representing the day-old Jewish State, appeared in the Council to set forth against the invading Arab States, because "every hour counts." He stated that King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan, through the instrument of the Arab Legion, was clearly committing an act of aggression. At the beginning of the session, Dr. Issa Nahshin, of the Arab Higher Commission, declared that Egyptian forces had been invited by the A.H.C. to assist in the establishment of law and order. He asked: "What right has the Jewish Agency, which represents world Jewry, to insist against the action, before the Security Council?"

Proclamation by Head Of Government

The creation of "Medinat Yisrael," the State of Israel, was proclaimed at midnight on Friday by Mr. David Ben Gurion, until then Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and now head of the State's Provisional Council of Government.



Special Assembly Adjourns

FLUSHING MEADOWS, Saturday. — The Special U.N. Assembly, called four weeks ago to discuss the U.S. proposal for a temporary Trusteeship for Palestine, adjourned yesterday until its next regular meeting in September without having taken any decision as to the fate of the Jewish State. The Assembly adjourned after a session of two hours in Palestine. The Assembly adopted only one motion — to appoint a special mediator to go to Palestine and cooperate with the Truce Commission.

President Truman's announcement that the U.S. was proposing to recognize the new Jewish State reached Jerusalem during the session before the American delegation itself knew about it.

All the afternoon, the Assembly had been tied up in a debate after much filibustering. It rejected the Franco-U.S. proposal for a special administration for Jerusalem. As the debate dragged on, correspondents sat with stop-watches to see whether a decision would be taken before the six o'clock deadline (N.E. Summer Time) when the Moslem truce terminated. As noon hour was reached without a vote, they rushed to the booths, and about ten minutes later, the tickers in the local news agency offices flashed President Truman's recognition.

Groggily and dazed as they were, the floor was half deserted and the American delegation had not been officially informed. The first to mention the Jewish State from the tribune was St. Gertrude, who said by way of word for further action on the American initiative proposal, since the Jewish State had been recognized as a reality by the U.S. He asked what was being proposed for the Arab area of Palestine which was still without a government.

Shortly afterwards, Mr. Philip Jessup, the anti-Partition fighter, attacked the new U.S. recognition of the Jewish State, insisting, however, that the passage of the American initiative proposal was more necessary now than ever.

The Assembly closed at 11. Between the first from the White House and the final vote there was an eerie atmosphere in Flushing Meadows. The lights of the television cameras played on the tribune, lighting up one Arab speaker after another who attacked the steps and expressed in a low voice frustration and anger.

To the last minute, officials of the State Department had been lobbying right on the floor against the Jewish State, even while the President's statement was already on the wires.

The Assembly did not adjourn until midnight, at which time the U.S. decision of November 29, 1947, was announced.

2 Villages Taken In Road Battle
In the battle for the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road, the Hagana on Friday night took the six-village roadside (N.E. Summer Time) when the Moslem truce terminated. As noon hour was reached without a vote, they rushed to the booths, and about ten minutes later, the tickers in the local news agency offices flashed President Truman's recognition.

Sir Alan Sails From Palestine
The High Commissioner's departure from Palestine on Friday according to plan — he appeared on the steps of Government House at 8 o'clock in the morning, wearing a full General's uniform. There he received a "squad of honours, consisting of 30 men of the Highland Light Infantry, the last British troops to leave Jerusalem.