

Hangings and Deportations Highlight Palestine War Between British Imperialists and Jews

By AL FINDLEY

The following three news items, epitomizing the Jewish problem, appeared in the press on Wednesday, July 30:

● **NEWS ITEM:** A large quantity of soap, manufactured from the bodies of Jewish concentration camp victims, was buried today in the Bukovina Jewish cemeteries with religious services.

● **News Item:** 4,500 Jews aboard three British deportation ships arrived at French ports and refused to land. They declare they "will not land as long as they are alive."

● **News Item:** British hang three Irgunists. Irgun announces it will hang two British sergeants.

To these items appearing on the same day should be added an earlier one: "United States Congress adjourns without action on the Stratton bill, which would allow some DPs to enter the U. S."

EMPIRE VERSUS JEWS

It is not hard to understand what is driving the Jews to migrate to Palestine. The first news item would be sufficient illustration. But to that is added the general decay and misery of post-war capitalist and Stalinist European society, plus the persistence and the continued growth of anti-Semitism in Poland, Hungary and Rumania. What would be hard to understand is that the Jews should choose to remain. To the Jewish DPs, the need for a new home is one of life and death.

It is this deep-rooted feeling and need that the British Empire stifles. The disintegrating British Empire that once ruled the world now finds itself impotent as against its rivals, the American and Russian imperialists. Its colonial empire is falling apart in India, Burma, etc. But there is still one group that the imperialists of Britain can dominate—the helpless Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The British Navy rammed and boarded the Exodus 1947 outside Palestinian territorial waters and put the 4,500 refugees on three small vessels lacking food, water and air, and shipped them back to the hell they had escaped. No longer are the British satisfied with sending these refugees to the concentration camps of Cyprus, where they at least have the consolation of a limited priority in admission to Palestine. This time the Foreign Office has set out to show those "d—n Jews" who rules the waves. Back they go to the port of embarkation—France.

Some Jewish journalists have attributed this viciousness to the personality of Bevin. How simple! But British cruelty to the Jews is not the result of personality or party. It began with the conservative Churchill in 1920, continued with the liberal Lord Samuels and the laborite Lord Pasfield, reached a height of viciousness in the "White Paper" of Chamberlain and remained the policy of war and post-war democratic England.

These men have this in common: They place "national" interests above anything else; they desire to perpetuate the Empire as long as possible.

For the sake of the Empire they are willing to sacrifice whatever liberal, human or "socialist" ideals they possess. The disintegrating British Empire is desperately attempting to maintain its grip on the Near East. For that it needs the support of large sections of the Arabian, ruling class. The needs of the land-starved, usury ridden, Arab peasant; the desperate need of the Jews for a haven, are of

Jews Can't Tell One from t'Other



WINSTON CHURCHILL



ERNEST BEVIN

no importance as compared even with a temporary continuation of the Empire.

ZIONISTS DISCUSS ATTITUDE

These truths seem to be trickling into the minds of the leaders of Zionism, as can be seen by the reports that all parties in Palestine are now engaged in discussion of a fundamental re-evaluation of their attitude toward England. Prof. Brodetsky, English, member of the Jew-

ish Agency, declared that "the actions of the British toward the 4,500 Jews on the Exodus 1947, ends all hope of cooperation between the Jews and England." The complete rupture of relations between the British occupation authorities and the Jewish population through mass civil disobedience, that had been decided on a year and a half ago and given up under pressure from bourgeois Zionists, is once again being talked about.

The Haganah, after a long period of inactivity, has swung into action again, attacking a radar station and blowing up a deportation ship. The "Neemunel Hamaree" group of militants in the Haganah, issued another demand for continued militant resistance by the Haganah.

Whether this militancy on the part of the official leaders of Zionism will endure, remains to be seen, the probabilities are that with the first minor concession on England's part, such as sending the 4,500 to Malta or Africa, their militant talk will evaporate. Only the rank and file of the Jewish workers can see to it that militant resistance is continued.

HANGINGS, COUNTER-HANGINGS

The utter disregard of the imperialists for the lives of their own soldiers and the futility of the terrorist policy of the Irgun and Stern groups can be seen from the hangings and counter-hangings of last week.

The British condemned to death three Irgunists for participating in the attack on Acre prison. Disregarding an appeal from the UN Investigating Committee, the death sentences were confirmed. The Irgun, claiming that they were engaged in military espionage, kidnapped two British sergeants and let it be known that they would be hanged if the three Irgunists were executed. The kidnapers were punished by the imposition of military law on Natchanya and other Jewish communities, but the combined efforts of the

British house-to-house search and Haganah action were unable to find the kidnapped soldiers.

The British government knew that the kidnapped soldiers would be hanged. Yet on Tuesday, July 29, the Irgunists were executed. During the last two years close to 200 British soldiers have been killed by underground activities. What are the lives of two more when the life of the Empire is concerned? The Foreign Office is willing to sacrifice ten, or one hundred times ten, if it will help the "City" (London equivalent of Wall Street) maintain its rule.

The Jewish population is expecting strong repressive measures as a result of the hangings. What they will be, no one knows. However, the High Commissioner has announced that last year's martial law will not be reimposed. Apparently the British have learned that such action is futile and only angers the population into greater sympathy with the terrorists. The government will concentrate its efforts toward forcing the Jewish Agency into active struggle against the terrorists.

DEMAND TROOPS GET OUT

While the government is deciding on what repressive actions it will take, it is closing its eyes to terrorist actions by fear-drunk soldiers and police, who twice invaded Tel-Aviv. The first time they indiscriminately shot and killed five Jews, and destroyed property; then ran amok in armored cars at the funeral of their five victims, injuring thirty-three more.

This complete demoralization of occupation troops is nothing new. It is the fate of all troops who face a hostile population and has always happened. These troops have a tendency to later become the tools of the most demagogic and reactionary elements of the home politicians. In the Palestinian situation, because of the close connection between anti-

Semitism and fascism, these troops are becoming ripe for Mosley's Union of British Fascists. At home, too, these incidents are being used by Mosley. For the first time in modern history, anti-Semitic pogroms (organized by the fascists) took place in three cities in England last weekend. The continued occupation of Palestine by British troops, will inevitably breed more incidents, which will be grist for the fascist mill. It is therefore of immediate interest to the British working class to demand the immediate return of the troops.

The policy of the Irgun and Stern groups is a terrorist one. Terrorism to us is not a term of abuse. It is the term applied to the killing of oppressive rulers or their agents, in the belief that with the killing of an individual here and there the attention of the people will be aroused and that this slow attrition will force the oppressors to abandon or modify their policies. That is the declared aim of the Irgun and Stern groups. Whether their aims and objects are justified or not, their method is a futile one. It substitutes the actions of a few brave people for mass action by the entire population. In Palestine it has simply served the British as a FORMAL (not real) pretext for imposing restrictions on the population, for hanging seven Jews in the last six months.

The hanging of the two British soldiers has evoked an unprecedented flow of moral indignation. Starting from the Colonial Minister, Zionist leaders, the heads of both Judaism and Christianity and the usual assortment of liberals all have joined in an outpouring of moral preachments. We for our part do not share this moral indignation against the Irgun. While opposing their action and policies as futile and reactionary, we direct our indignation against the oppressors, those who "legally" murdered three misguided youths, those who prevent harassed and persecuted refugees from finding a haven.

Say "No!" To the Landlord --

(Continued from page 1)

this question? First we tell the landlord "NO." We ORGANIZE as tenants to resist the landlords. We organize in the apartment building, in the block, in the area, in the WHOLE CITY. We refuse to pay more rent. We are paying far too much rent now. We tell the landlord we will only accept LOWER RENT, not higher rent.

There is something else we have to watch for: that is the attempt of the landlords to get higher rent by refusal to paint and make repairs. We demand repairs and new paint just as before.

We can do all these things if we are organized as tenants. There are more tenants than landlords. One landlord may be renting out a hundred houses or a thousand apartments. But that's one hundred or a thousand people against one. That's true, however, only if the thousand are organized. We are organized in

the factory against the employer, let's get organized in the street against the landlord.

Suppose some hard-headed and arrogant landlords try eviction procedures. There are all sorts of landlord-made laws about how and under what conditions tenants may be evicted. The law varies from state to state. But, ORGANIZATION will take care of attempts at evictions. Evictions can be stopped by tenants, provided we are organized.

During the depression the unemployed workers organized in the National Unemployed League, stopped evictions. Hundreds and sometimes thousands of the unemployed would assemble at the home of the fellow worker who was to be evicted. When the deputy sheriff or the constable came with the eviction notice, he was not favorably received. There were times after the family had been evicted and the furniture placed on the sidewalk that the unemployed

organization would carry the furniture back into the house.

There are many ways to take care of this disgraceful attempt of the landlords to raise rents. But absolutely nothing effective can be done unless tenants are organized. We must be organized so that we can protect ourselves!

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