

# הודעת ממשלת בריטניה על גירעון של עולים "כלתו-ליגאליזם" לברקרוסין - (13 באוקטובר 1946)

No country in the world has been a better or more consistent friend of the Jewish people than Britain. Wherever the Jews were persecuted the voice of Britain was lifted in protest and, wherever possible, action was taken to mitigate their lot.

When they were persecuted by Hitler, the British people not only protested most vigorously, but a large body of refugees from Nazi barbarism were received in our country. Even during the war, when our people were hard pressed for shelter and supplies, more were allowed in. Altogether 200,000 refugees—a large proportion of them Jews—landed in Britain.

It was under the British mandate that nearly 400,000 Jews settled legally in Palestine, where a great Jewish community now exists. When it was threatened with Nazi invasion—a terrible threat to the Palestinian Jews—British arms prevented that dread possibility. The Jews in Palestine were given arms so that they might be equipped for their own defence and to enable them to take part in the common struggle. In Britain there are no pogroms: Jews enjoy all the rights of civil liberty.

Such is the record of this island, now the subject of bitter and unfair attack by many—though by no means all—Jews, on account of the unhappy events in Palestine, in the course of which British soldiers, doing their duty, have been killed, wounded and kidnapped, not in open and straightforward battle, but from ambush, and even in the course of hospitality. Moreover, Civil Servants serving Palestine no less than Britain, and ordinary quiet citizens going about their peaceful business, have been the victims of outrage more worthy of Nazis than of the Jewish victims of Nazis.

Against this background, His Majesty's Government give the facts and their decision about the illegal immigration to Palestine which threatens

# חוקר המכשיר האוויר-טוראלי למיזם פעולות מתועה נגד העולה הכלתי ליגאליזם באמצעות מטרות ומטרות אחר - (4 במאי 1939)

SECRET  
 Original Intelligence Department,  
 Intelligence, Palestine Police,  
 P.O. Box 690,  
 Jerusalem.  
 4th May 1939.

TO: Mr. [Name]  
 C.I.D. [Name]  
 C.I.D. [Name]

Subject: Co-operation with E.M. [Name]

Further to secret circular No. 100/2/4/8 dated April 2nd, 1939.

1. A [Name] [Name] composed of E.M. [Name]

"Hero" (flagship) "Savoy", "Savoy" and "Savoy"

arrived at Haifa on April 29th, to assist the Palestine Government preventive service in patrolling the coast,

and preventing the landing of illegal immigrants and contraband.

2. The Commander of E.M. [Name] has decided that one destroyer will be on patrol continuously. The

destroyer on patrol will communicate by V/F to E.M. [Name]

ships in port and will transmit reports to duty officers, [Name] C.I.D. (telephone No: 532 [Name]) who, in turn,

will dispose of such reports as may be necessary.

3. Reference para. 1 of the instructions to Police [Name] in my previous circular; Port and Marine will

notify E.M. [Name] when aircraft are landing on [Name] [Name].

4. Aircraft on patrol will communicate by V/F direct with Haifa Civil Airport who have been directed to relay

messages to E.M. [Name] and Duty Officer, [Name] C.I.D.

5. Aircraft on patrol will communicate by V/F direct with Haifa Civil Airport who have been directed to relay

messages to E.M. [Name] and Duty Officer, [Name] C.I.D.

[Signature]  
 SECRETARY-GENERAL  
 C.I.D.

Copy to: - P.A.T.  
 Police Material,  
 Civil District,  
 [Name].

displaced Jews are moved from points of departure as far distant as Poland down to the Mediterranean seaboard. Thence, herded into over-crowded and unseaworthy ships with insufficient food, and in conditions of the utmost privation and squalor they are brought across the Mediterranean, inspired by a conviction carefully instilled into them that this is their only road to safety. In all this process the laws and regulations of the countries concerned are ignored; identity and ration cards, travel documents, etc., are forged on a large scale; food, clothing, medical supplies and transport, provided by U.N.R.R.A. and other agencies for the relief of suffering in Europe are diverted to the maintenance of what is openly described as "the underground railway to Palestine."

His Majesty's Government have been distressed to receive reports of persecution and pogroms against Jews in Eastern and South Eastern Europe. It is a tragic situation that in countries which have been liberated by Allied—including British—arms and sacrifice, the very anti-Semitism against which we fought should raise its ugly head. It is to be hoped that the Governments of the countries concerned will bring this shame to a sharp and decisive end.

Apart from its illegality, the immigration and traffic to Palestine is a source of grave danger to law and order in Palestine. The reception and guarding of large numbers of illegal immigrants places a severe strain on the administration. Their arrival has greatly increased tension between the Arab and Jewish communities in Palestine. And since there is evidence that the terrorist element among the Jews has been reinforced from the ranks of the illegal immigrants, their promiscuous introduction clearly cannot be tolerated any longer. As the Mandatory Power for Palestine, His Majesty's Government have responsibilities towards the population of that country. It is obviously not in the interests of Palestine generally that such illegal activities should be allowed to continue.

The recent increase in illegal immigration—which sets aside consideration of priority and equity—is also operating with great unfairness towards those Jews who would otherwise have been able to enter Palestine legally under the quota, and much suffering has arisen from this cause. Even Jews long resident in Palestine who have succeeded in tracing near relatives living in distressing conditions in Europe and

both civil war and a breakdown of Government in that historic land. In December, 1945, the quota of 75,000 Jewish immigrants permitted to enter Palestine under the provisions of the White Paper was exhausted.

Nevertheless, pending a final decision on future policy for Palestine, His Majesty's Government authorised the continuance of Jewish immigration at the rate of 1,500 a month. Instead of this provision being accepted pending decisions on long-term policy, there has been an increasing flow of illegal immigrants into Palestine. The numbers of these illegal immigrants have had to be set off against the monthly quota, and those already held in camps in Palestine or on ships in Haifa harbour, are more than sufficient to absorb the whole quota for many months ahead. However, illegal immigrants in considerable numbers are known to be on their way to Palestine.

Moved by sympathy for the suffering of the Jewish people in Europe, His Majesty's Government have hitherto allowed illegal immigrants to land, in spite of the grave embarrassment caused to the Palestine authorities both in the administration of the quota and by the necessity for detaining in camps those whose entry was not immediately possible under the quota.

The patience, forbearance and humanity thus shown by His Majesty's Government has, however, been interpreted by those responsible for the traffic as a sign of weakness and as an encouragement to redouble their efforts to increase the flow of illegal immigrants still further.

The point has now been reached when it is clear that the present illegal traffic is not, as has been maintained, a movement arising spontaneously among the European Jews who see in Palestine their only hope for the future. Nor are those who encourage and direct it inspired solely by the sympathy which is so widely felt for suffering. Recent developments have revealed the illegal immigrant traffic as a widely ramified and highly organised movement supported by very large financial contributions from Zionist sources, which has been built up and put into operation by unscrupulous persons in an attempt to force the hand of His Majesty's Government and anticipate their decision on future policy in Palestine.

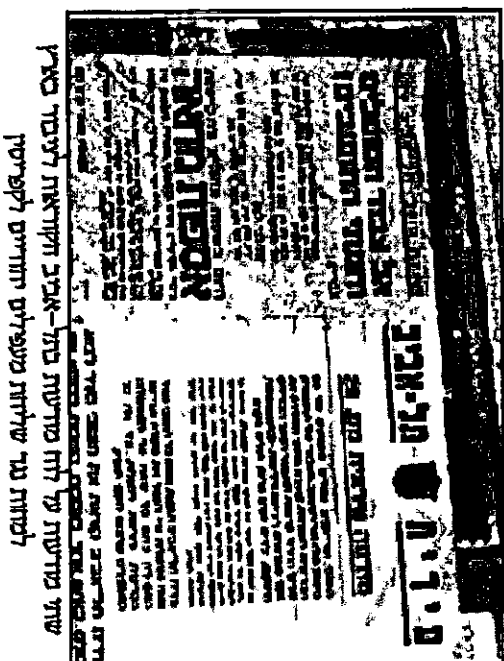
The organisers maintain a closely knit network of agents in the countries of Eastern and Southern Europe, by whom considerable numbers of

practical scheme for harmonising the claims of these two historic peoples.

(New Judaea, Vol. XII, Nos. 10-11, July-August 1946, pp. 172-173)

מחבר: שער, דוד. גירוש קפריסין 1946-1949. ירושלים: הספריה הציונית, תשנ"א.

עמ' 321-325.



who wish to bring them to Palestine, are unable to do so because all potential legal immigration has been pushed aside by this illegal traffic. It is also a matter of concern to His Majesty's Government that a large proportion of the illegal immigrants come from the countries of Eastern Europe, and not from the Displaced Persons Centres in Germany, Austria and Italy, to the emptying of which the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry attached great importance.

The continuance of this traffic at the present time is likely to have an adverse effect on the hope of a general settlement in Palestine. It is well known that His Majesty's Government has accepted as a basis for negotiation a plan drawn up by British and American experts which is designed to provide for increased immigration into Palestine under conditions which would not disturb the peace and economy of the country.

For all these reasons His Majesty's Government can no longer tolerate this attempt to force their hand in framing a new policy for Palestine. They have made urgent representations to the Governments of the countries from which the immigrants are despatched in order to stop the traffic at its source. In addition instructions have been given to the Palestine authorities that the reception into Palestine of illegal immigrants must cease.

Accordingly, immigrants arriving illegally will henceforward be conveyed to Cyprus or elsewhere and housed in camps there until a decision can be taken as to their future. Meanwhile, it is fully understood that many of the illegal immigrants concerned have come through conditions of great hardship in circumstances not under their control, and all reasonable measures will be taken for their health and well-being.

In announcing this decision, His Majesty's Government wish to make it clear that, while they cannot tolerate this attempt by a minority of Zionist extremists to exploit the sufferings of unfortunate people in order to create a situation prejudicial to a just settlement, they are deeply sensible of the sufferings undergone by a Jewish community and are anxious to bring them to an end and as soon as possible.

It is clear that a permanent solution of this complicated question can only be brought about if Jews and Arabs are prepared to enter upon discussions in a realistic and constructive spirit in order to evolve a

אלון גל

## נתיב פתחים עזרים

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