

FROM MONTH TO MONTH

THAT THE JEWISH STATE MAY LIVE...

DURING the past decade humanity has witnessed and paid dearly for treachery by the ruling circles of many countries. Munich and Spain are only two tragic instances. Seldom, however, has betrayal been so transparent and flagrant as in the case of Palestine.

Last November the United Nations arrived at a decision to partition Palestine into two independent states. Our own government was a partner, though a reluctant one, in this decision. A five nation commission was established to implement partition. Yet this commission was never allowed to set foot in Palestine because Great Britain was determined to prevent the execution of the UN decision. Realizing, however, that this step alone would not guarantee the success of its machinations, the British rulers deliberately set about to create chaos and civil war.

In the face of sabotage and attack the *Yishuv* proceeded to carry through the UN decision. On April 28 Pablo Azcarate reported to the UN on behalf of the advance party of the five nation commission that "partition is an actuality in Palestine. . . . All that is lacking is the formal and legal recognition of a fact which exists."

Confronted with the possibility that a Jewish state might still be established, Great Britain brought forward its trump card—the Transjordan army.

Perhaps the most disgusting aspect of the tragic farce now being enacted, is the air of innocence assumed by British spokesmen when the question of the Transjordan army is brought up. Or, for that matter, the way American and French spokesmen at the UN have with poker face asked the British delegate whether Britain would not use its good offices to urge King Abdullah to refrain from invading Palestine. And all this when it is commonly known that "The Arab Legion, trained, armed, paid, and commanded by the British, is not Abdullah's to command. Not one soldier of the legion will set foot in Palestine if the British do not want it." (*The Nation*, April 24, 1948.)

The significance of this British move cannot however be fully grasped unless the role of our own government is brought into the picture.

Some Critical Facts

Two major problems worry American ruling circles and determine the major outlines of their strategy. First, strategic and military interests, and second, oil. While America and Britain are united in their military and strategic inter-

ests, they are rivals in the race for oil and economic positions. So long as Britain was the dominant influence in the Middle East, it could continue the game of appearing to be the friend of the Arabs at one moment and the friend of the Jewish people at the next. The United States, however, began to force Britain out of one position after another. Britain was forced into open repudiation of all promises to the Jews and finally into open hostility toward them and close ties with Arab reactionaries. Britain hoped thereby to cling to its hold on the Middle East.

As Britain became tremendously weakened at the end of World War II, a definite pattern began to appear not only in the Middle East, but all over the world. Wall Street and its bi-partisan administration were bent on world domination. Britain could no longer retain influence and control alone. Wherever possible, American dollars and even military aid were doled out to maintain British administrative and military control while real power moved into Wall Street hands. Where necessary, American military forces intervened directly.

In Palestine, Britain had to maintain control in the face of growing popular unrest and the American drive to strengthen its own positions at the expense of Britain. Britain's position was becoming untenable. For while Britain was forced to make concessions to America, it was at the same time obliged to bear the brunt of administrative and military responsibility. Because of this Britain tried to force America to assume a share of the responsibility for the subjugation of Palestine.

The establishment of the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry in 1945 on a unilateral basis outside the framework of the UN was one such attempt. Anglo-American contradictions and rivalry, however, prevented any accord and left Britain in a more difficult position than ever. When the issue finally came before the UN, America was forced to vote for partition because of the forthright position of the Soviet Union and the new democracies and world democratic opinion generally. America's stand was also in part a response to domestic political pressures. But in the main, America agreed to partition because it visualized a plan through which it could gain even greater control. Failure of American plans was caused first of all by the Soviet fight, which upset the American apple cart, and second, by the determined struggle of the *Yishuv* for real statehood.

Increased Desperation of Wall St.

It was no accident that the Austin speech repudiating American promises of support for partition, came close on the heels of the Truman declaration before Congress and at the St. Patrick's Day affair. These speeches registered the increased aggressiveness of Wall Street and its desperation at the fact that the Truman-Marshall Plan wasn't working according to schedule. These policy declarations also reflected a deepening fear of growing sentiment in America for peace. The earlier pose of liberalism was forsaken, the mask was thrown aside.

The trusteeship plan signifies a new and more dangerous policy on Palestine. The administration hopes thus to be able to exclude the Soviet Union from further participation in the problem. Under the guise of some form of UN supervision, the United States will advance to complete domination of Palestine, through Britain if possible, through some other combination of forces if necessary. If neither succeeds, America will resort to direct military intervention. With the trusteeship plan and a deal on a truce, the United States hopes to force both the Jews and Arabs to terms.

American foreign policy makers were using the trusteeship plan to insure not only military and strategic bases, but also to help dislodge Britain from many of the positions to which it was tenaciously clinging.

Britain is well aware of this and has stubbornly refused to agree to the American trusteeship plan. While Britain concurs with America on the need to maintain the area as a military-strategic base, it has no desire to be the scapegoat. And it is this, in great measure, which prompted Britain to threaten invasion by the Transjordan army. This invasion is Britain's trump card to force American agreement with some variation of the Morrison-Grady partition plan which would leave Britain in control.

The dilemma arising out of Anglo-American rivalry is very real, and few have described it more cogently than Walter Lippmann. "It may be," he said, "that in the end the solution will be to reunite the whole of Palestine on both sides of the Jordan in a loose confederation of two or three autonomous but not wholly sovereign states, perhaps with Abdullah as king of a greater Palestine.

"Such a solution is not inconceivable if Britain and America jointly decided to promote it—Britain using its influence with Abdullah and America its influence with

the Jewish Agency." (*New York Herald-Tribune*, April 27, 1948.)

Lippmann's whole article visualizes the need for a compromise with Britain in such a way that America will gradually be able to ease its way into mastery of the situation. What is grimly apparent, however, is that whatever plan is finally agreed upon, there is not the slightest intention of granting independence and sovereignty to the *Yishuv*.

At this writing the date for proclaiming the Jewish state is two weeks away. Will Jewish leaders go through with it? It is known that heavy pressure is being brought to bear on Jewish leadership to give up proclamation of the Jewish state on May 16 in favor of some plan whose imperialist aims are not too conspicuously exposed. It is no secret that threats have been made that the flow of United Jewish Appeal funds to Palestine will be halted, if the Jewish Agency persists in its avowed aim of proclaiming the Jewish state. It is well known that the Zionist Actions Committee in Tel Aviv bitterly debated the decision to proclaim the Jewish state. Hesitancy and fear exist in the hearts of many Agency leaders. Above all, these leaders are terrified at the thought of breaking decisively with imperialism, upon which they placed so much hope over the years.

But now if ever must Jewish leadership be utterly deaf to the guiles of imperialism, closely attentive to the molds of the Jewish people, and irreconcilably and militantly active in the interests of our people. For whatever happens on May 16, the fight for a Jewish state will go on. If the Jewish state is not proclaimed, it will be because imperialism was insistent on betrayal and Jewish leadership had capitulated. This will create profound disillusionment and disorientation among Jewish forces that have been fighting so valiantly. If the Jewish state is proclaimed, it will be because of the determined efforts of the democratic world forces and in spite of the machinations of imperialism. In that event, imperialism will still remain the enemy of the Jewish state. And the struggle for independent statehood will continue but on a much higher level, with new vistas opening up for the heroic defenders of the *Yishuv*, and for the democratic forces of the world which stand at their side.

The true friends of Jewish statehood, Jewish and non-Jewish, must be united in firm and unshakable unity if the Jewish state is to become a reality.

BLOOD FOR PATRIOTS

THIS is being written a few days after the magnificent victory of Jewish arms at Haifa. The fighting quality of the sons and daughters of the Jewish people has been proved once again.

This is, however, only the first battle. The struggle of the *Yishuv* to establish an independent Jewish state in line with the decision of the UN will be bitter and costly both on the diplomatic front and on the military front. No doubt



"Why should we stab partition in the back when we can stab it to its face?"

there will be defeats and victories before final triumph.

This much we know already. Modern warfare bases itself on an unbreakable unity of front and rear, in which both front and rear are interconnected, interdependent and constantly interchangeable. The rear of the Jewish forces fighting for self-determination is not just Palestine, but wherever Jewish hearts and minds quicken to the fate of our people, respond with pride in the achievements of our people. And the rear encompasses all areas where men of good will are concerned with justice and progress, and with the development of humanity to new heights of freedom.

The blood of patriots must be replaced. The spectator at the heroic struggle of our people in Palestine for independence can become an active, can translate his sympathy into a concrete and life-giving contribution by enlisting as a blood donor for our Palestine heroes.

We urge everyone who reads this to take the responsibility upon himself or herself to organize groups of donors. Contact the American Red Mogen Doved, 220 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., for information.

"Through your blood shall you live."