

British Policy Feeds Palestine Crisis

Palestine was an armed camp yesterday, as anti-Jewish riots flared in Cairo and Alexandria, major cities of nearby Egypt, on the 28th anniversary of the Balfour declaration which had promised the establishment of a Jewish homeland.

Great Britain's age-old diplomacy and refusal to abolish the 1939 White Paper which prohibits further immigration into the Holy Land was leading to a major catastrophe.

Jewish lives were already being lost, and a good section of the Arab world was being inflamed against its Jewish neighbors.

In Palestine itself, heavily-reinforced British troops were patrolling the country in armored cars, after terrorist outbreaks of Jewish origin had resulted in four deaths on Thursday and a general disruption of railway traffic.

ARAB GENERAL STRIKE

The Palestine Post, a leading daily paper, declared that "unless there is a change of heart in London, or both London and Washington, an alarming prospect must be faced."

The Jews feel that a "fight for their lives has been forced upon them," the paper added.

It is taken for granted that Clement Attlee's Labor Government is not heeding the worldwide plea to lift the immigration bars. No statement is expected from the British Premier before his Nov. 11 visit to Washington.

The result has been that extremist Jewish organizations are taking the lead to protect the Jewish community. While the Jewish Agency of Palestine deplored these actions, it admitted that the extremists would gain strength unless British policy changed.

OMINOUS SIGNS

At the same time, the Arab population began a general strike in Palestine and elsewhere, while in Egypt bands of Arab youth set fire to a synagogue in Cairo and stole sacred scrolls. Ten people were reported killed in nearby Alexandria, and 350 wounded.

Cairo police said the marauders were "ruffians who saw in the general strike an occasion for loot."

Not only were Jewish shops attacked and the goods sold in neighboring bazaars but the Greek Cathedral in Alexandria was also stoned, as well as the American Seamen's Club. British

military cars were overturned, and European women molested, said United Press.

Rioting crowds appeared to give their actions the character of a general protest against the presence of foreign military forces in Egypt.

Simultaneously, it was announced that Lord Gort, the 6th British High Commissioner since the mandate was assumed and Palestine was taken over by the British, had resigned on grounds of ill-health.

Taking advantage of the violence which is flaring up everywhere, the British Secretary of State for the colonies, George Hall declared in the House of Commons that "unless it stopped and suppressed, progress in relation to Palestine will be impossible and the further steps we had in mind in our endeavor to settle this difficult problem will be brought to naught."

While the heroic Jewish colonists around Jerusalem were taking up weapons to defend themselves, in the face of the heavy British armor, Arab crowds were assembling also on the day of the general strike.

British officers have given orders to the

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British forces not to associate with Jews, according to yesterday's Morning Freiheit, which has further inflamed the colonists, who know how easy the British Military Government in Germany has been on the leading Nazis.

Meanwhile, various Arab societies in Cairo, as well as the Arab League demanded that the Grand Mufti, of Palestine, a notorious pro-Nazi now living in France, be returned.

Jewish military formations must be disarmed, immigration and the sale of land to Jews be halted, the Arab League declared.