

WHITE PAPER GIVES REASONS FOR RAID ON AGENCY

LONDON, Wednesday.—A White Paper issued to-day, giving information relating to acts of violence in Palestine states that information in possession of the Government when it undertook the recent action in Palestine led it to draw the following conclusions:

1. The Haganah and its associate force, the Palmach, working under the political control of prominent members of the Jewish Agency, have been engaging in carefully planned movements of sabotage and violence under the guise of "Jewish Resistance Movement."

2. The Irgun Zvai Leumi and Stern Group worked since last autumn in co-operation with Haganah High Command in certain operations.

3. The broadcasting station "Kol Israel," claiming to be the voice of the Resistance Movement and working under the general direction of the Jewish Agency, has been supporting these organisations.

Evidence for these conclusions was derived mainly from three sources:

1. Information showing that between the 23rd of September, 1945, and the 3rd of November, 1945, seven telegrams passed between London and Jerusalem and a further telegram on the 12th of May, 1946, copies of which are interpreted and set out in the White Paper.

2. Various broadcasts by Kol Israel between the 31st of October, 1945, and the 23rd of June, 1946, referring to specific acts of violence and sabotage.

3. Information on various dates derived from a pamphlet "Hamaas," a publication of the Stern Group, "Herut," a publication of Irgun Zvai, and "Eshnav," a publication of the Jewish Resistance Movement, examples of which are set out in the Paper. The evidence relates to widespread sabotage operations of the 31st October, 1st November, 1945, 20/25th February, 1946, and 16/18th June, 1946.

All three military organisations participated in these actions, not only causing serious destruction, but also loss of life. The White Paper gives details of the attacks on railways, police launches and the Haifa Refinery on the 31st October and 1st November, 1945, stating that the railway attacks were carried out by Palmach, also on the same night the Irgun Zvai attacked Lydda station, while the Stern Group blew up the oil refinery, adding that the incident was carefully planned as part of a deliberate policy intended as a warning to the Government of the consequences, if the Government did not comply with the wishes of the Yishuv. The Jewish Agency Executive was not prepared to wait for a declaration of Government policy, but decided to cause one serious incident in order to influence the policy, which was plain from the telegrams.

The White Paper gives the text of a telegram purporting that it was sent by Dr. Sneh from Jerusalem to London on the 23rd of September, 1945, also a telegram from Dr. Joseph and a reply from Mr. Shertok from London dated 12th October, and further cables between London and Jerusalem purporting to show that the Agency sought and obtained the co-operation of the dissident organisations, Irgun Zvai and Stern Group, and also agreed to their isolated actions.

The White Paper further claims that "Kol Israel" was working with the agreement of the Jewish Agency.

The Paper further claims that "Palmach" attacked R.A.F. radar station at Haifa on February 20, 1946, and two days later attacked the Mobile Force Camps at Shaffa, Kfar Vitkin and Sarona, while on February 25, the Irgun Zvai and the Stern Group followed it up with attacks on airfields at Lydda, Petach Tikvah and Quastina, which were intended as a second warning, since the first warning was disregarded.

Lastly the White Paper quotes the attacks on road and rail bridges by Haganah and the Stern Group's attack on the Haifa railway workshops and the kidnapping of British officers as well as the text of "Kol Israel" broadcasts stating that the Jewish Resistant Movement had destroyed the bridges.

In conclusion the White Paper says that the foregoing evidence was not complete. All the evidence in the Government's possession and the instances quoted were not a complete list of the incidents of violence and sabotage during recent months.

"It is a fact that during the first six months of 1946 nearly fifty separate incidents, involving violence, have occurred resulting in many cases in loss of life and great material damage. The above operations which were of a widespread character and caused extensive damage were followed by the kidnapping of the British officers, and it was no longer possible to adopt a passive attitude. Unless the Government was prepared to yield to threats of violence and to abandon all hope of establishing law and order, it was bound to take active steps against the persons and organisations who made themselves responsible for planning and carrying out the outrages."

Russia To Raise Palestine Issue Before UNO?

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—It is reported that Russia will raise the Palestine issue when the question of Transjordan's membership comes up before the U.N.O. Committee during the next few days. It is, however, not known what stand the Soviet Government will take in this matter.

STATEMENT BY S.A. JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES

THE South African Jewish Board of Deputies, representative of the Jewish community in the Union, has issued the following statement on the outrage in Jerusalem.

"The news of the latest outrage in Palestine has shocked the Jewish community. On behalf of the community the Board has previously placed itself on record in unequivocal condemnation of such acts, and now re-affirms its previous declaration.

"The Board associates itself with the call to the Palestine Jewish community by the Jewish Agency for Palestine to rise up against these abominable outrages.

"On behalf of the South African Jewish community the Board expresses its deepest sympathy with the victims of the dastardly act and hopes that the individuals responsible will be speedily brought to justice."

BRILLIANT WEISSENBERG RECITAL

The "maturity" bogus so often heard about in regard to young musicians was convincingly dispelled by Sigi Weissenberg in his brilliant second recital at the City Hall on Tuesday night.

So often any deficiencies in a young artist's performances are attributed to "immaturity" that one might just as well search for staleness in older artists. It should be remembered that all virtuosi commenced their concert careers as youngsters, and in most cases proved themselves accomplished artists from the very start.

The writer recollects Menuhin's first appearance in London. He was only twelve. The audience was a very distinguished one, including all the musical celebrities of the time, and an atmosphere of tense expectation prevailed. Menuhin gave a flawless interpretation of Brahms' violin concerto that astounded his critics.

In Sigi Weissenberg we have a pianist who combines a keen sense of musical intellect with complete mastery over his instrument. The astounding boldness and clearness of his polyphonic playing of the Bach Italian concerto, the deep musical insight he displayed in the slow movement and the rhythmic finale made it a most creditable performance. But it was in the great Liszt Sonata in B Minor that Weissenberg reached the heights of artistic perfection, and the audience showed its appreciation in no uncertain manner.

In the second half followed works by the impressionist Debussy. The left hand Nocturne by Scriabine was played as I have never heard it played before. The Flying Bee by Rimsky-Korsakov and the colourful Triana by Albeniz were likewise a veritable delight to listen to.

Weissenberg was recalled time and again. He responded generously.

(Continued at foot of next column)

MR. N. KIRSCHNER TO ADDRESS PUBLIC MEETING IN JOHANNESBURG

Mr. N. Kirschner, Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, will address a public meeting at the Coronation Hall, on Sunday next, July 28, at 8.15 p.m. He will speak on "Present Position—There and Here."

The meeting has been organised by the S.A. Zionist Federation.

COMMUNIST LECTURER ATTACKS ZIONISM

MOSCOW, Friday.—The newspaper "Izvestia" featured a report of a public address by Mr. V. Lutzky, a well-known Communist Party lecturer, who said that "Imperialism and its Zionist allies broke the age-long friendship between two fraternal peoples—the Arabs and the Jews—and brought about mutual hostility."

He contended that Zionism created the present conflict in Palestine. A democratic solution would be an acceptance of the fact that Palestine was predominantly an Arab country and should be constituted as such, but that the Jews there should be treated as equal citizens. Palestine should be an independent Arab country.

playing no fewer than five encores. Weissenberg certainly has a great future and might yet become the genius of our generation of his particular instrument.

J.I.

South African Zionist Federation

Jews of Johannesburg

Palestine Needs Your Help

MR. N. KIRSCHNER
(Chairman, S.A. Zionist Federation)

will address

A PUBLIC MEETING

at the

CORONATION HALL, Cor. CLAIM AND PLEIN STREETS

on

Sunday, 28th July

at 8.15 p.m.

Subject: PRESENT POSITION - THERE and HERE