

גירוש מעפילי 'יגור' ו'הנרייטה סאלד' לקפריסין

מאמר שפורסם בזמנו במגזין LIFE

החומר התקבל באדיבות עמוס רשף, שאביו ראובן מאיר פרשטנברג העפיל בספינה 'יגור'

CIVIL WAR THREATENS IN PALESTINE AS BRITISH START "OPERATION IGLOO"

Last month in Palestine the atmosphere was icy with cold hate. Recently, in what they called "Operation Igloo," the British took drastic measures against Jewish refugees trying to enter the Holy Land without permits. Starting at midnight Aug. 11, all Jews attempting to land illegally were forcibly transshipped to the nearby island of Cyprus for indefinite internment behind barbed wire. The first two shiploads of illegals to be deported were photographed exclusively by LIFE's David Duncan. When the British transferred them to Cyprus, fighting broke out in the Haifa port area. There were 10 casualties.

Tempers were still more taxed when a British court condemned to death 18 members of the terrorist Stern gang for railroad sabotage. By way of answer, the "Voice of Israel," the Jewish underground radio, warned of more violence. Extremists, possibly those who had bombed the King David Hotel, threatened to blow up the central post office in Jerusalem. British troops set up machine guns in Jerusalem's main streets and ringed the all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv. Meanwhile, the number of deportations to Cyprus mounted to about 3,000. Then Jewish swimmers, apparently equipped with underwater oxygen apparatus, attached mines to the hull of one of the deportation ships, the *Empire Rival*, and blew a hole in her hull.

Official U.S. intercession in Palestine strife is based on the 1924 Anglo-American Convention which forces Britain to consult with the U.S. before making changes in the mandate. President Truman has not endorsed the newest British plan to partition Palestine (*see map, p. 10*) and placate the Arabs with a loan of \$250,000,000. He has privately suggested instead a modified partition by which the Zionists would get more land and both factions would have more self-government. The President also stated that he intends to ask Congress to admit a fixed number of Europe's displaced persons, including Jews, into the U.S.



TRAPPED TO THE GUNWALES, the small blockade runners *Hevriata* and *L.O.F.* hover tantalizingly close to the green hills of the Promised Land and Haifa harbor

(far right) on Aug. 12. Both ships had sailed more than two weeks before from near Marseilles with 1,300 Eastern European Jews; many of whom had fought as guerrillas

during the war. Some British officials claim Zionists overcrowd refugee ships and also keep them unsanitary by dumping refuse on deck in order to win the world's sympathy.

אוגוסט 12: ספינות המעפילים יגור והנרייטה סאלד מתנדנדות במימי מפרץ חיפה



WIRE CAGES, with barbed wire overhead, served as home for 1,300 Jewish illegals during 240-kilometer trip on *Empire Rival*. At Cyprus some Jews started hunger strike.



ILLEGALS WERE LOADED onto the *Empire Rival*, sailing for Cyprus, by troops of the British 1st Division. Deck was enclosed with wire to keep Jews from escaping.



IN DESPAIR a woman wails upon learning that she cannot land. Previously illegals were allowed in, their number subtracted from current month-to-month quota of 1,500.



NATIVE PALESTINE POLICE in tarbooshes and carrying rifles board jam-packed *Henrietta Szold* and *Yajur* before evacuating Jews to dock and then to the *Empire Rival*.