

868,350 Refugees Real Losers In Israeli-Arab Conflict of '48

EDITOR'S NOTE: Generations have grown up calling it the Holy Land—the territory centering around Jerusalem, a city where Christian, Jews and Moslems have shrines. But for several years the Holy Land has been torn by strife. There is an armistice, but it frequently echoes to gunfire. Exactly what is the situation today, on both sides of the armistice line? Mr. Heinzerling traveled 2,600 miles through Arab and Israeli areas, and talked with scores of persons. This is the first of his articles.

By LYNN HEINZERLING Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — There can't be any doubt about who lost the 1948 war between Israel and her Arab neighbors. The losers are still sitting around the battlefield, ragged, sullen and resentful.

These are the Palestine refugees—868,350 in all—officially—who have endured their exile from normal life for nearly six years. Their Arab leaders say they must return to their former homes, none in Israel says they will never return.

Grouped in an irregular, repressible semi-circle around the land frontiers of Israel in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the Egyptian-controlled Gaza strip, the refugees sit and brood over their misfortune. Each year, 25,000 new refugees are born.

They live in tents, in shacks. In mud or straw huts, in caves. Some have found crowded refuge with friends or relatives. They have taken over some old military barracks and stables. Many others, who fled from their homes in Palestine with money, are no longer asking for it.

Their best friend is UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees. It spends some \$23,000,000 each year for their food, education and medical attention.

Only 271,583 of the refugees live in the 61 official UNRWA camps, stretching from Aleppo, Syria, in the north to the desert wastes of Gaza in the south. The rest live in the best they can. At the start of each month, all line up and receive from UNRWA 22 pounds of flour and some rice, dried beans or oil of fat and sugar, with a piece of soap. This usually lasts about 25 days. The refugees must scrounge or barter for their food for the rest of the month.

Some of them are militantly expressive. Many, after five years, are beginning to be resigned to a life of uselessness. But all are eager for their children to know something better than the drab life into which they have fallen.

About 85,000 children are being taught by 2,000 refugee teachers in UNRWA elementary schools. Some 100,000 have been admitted to private or public schools in their countries of refuge.

Dr. Robert Westwater, former chief inspector of the United Nations, is UNRWA's vocational training director. He is a Jew, but UNRWA is not a Jewish organization, he says. It is difficult to find jobs for graduates. Dr. Westwater says he has heard of a widespread feeling that a man who works with his hands is a low caste.

UNRWA is set to "establish the dignity of labor." ONE FORTY to help refugees find jobs shattered on the opposition of refugee spokesmen and Arab press. The UNRWA placement officer, Mrs. Olga Hays of New York, had classified the occupations of 36,000 refugees. She was accused of listing refugee skills for the U. S. Army for possible use in a war with the Soviet Union. She was also accused of being a "Zionist agent."

She had managed to place 3,575 refugees in private employment when the classification was discontinued because of criticism. The Palestine Arabs always were the most literate of Middle Eastern peoples. Dr. Westwater said. Now they are the captives of circumstance. They have become one of the basic political realities of the Middle East. No political leader can ignore them.

Although more than \$121,000,000 has been spent on relief, spokesmen for the refugees condemn UNRWA and most Arab governments offer only grudging cooperation.

Dr. Izzat Tannous, general secretary of Palestine Refugee Committee in Lebanon, calls the UNRWA ration one on which "an animal could hardly live."

REFUGEE spokesmen insist that all refugees must return to their homes, now in Israel, even though more than 600,000 Jewish immigrants have moved into Israel in the meantime and others are still coming. Many of these immigrants are refugees from Europe. They have taken over Arab villages not destroyed and built hundreds of new homes.

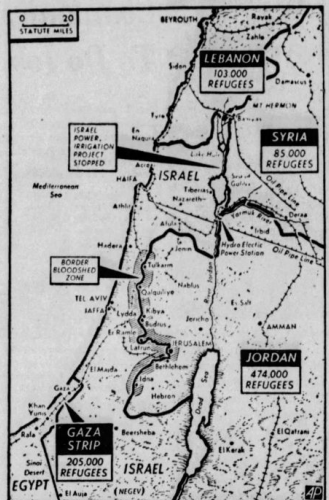
Tannous issued a pamphlet saying: "What kind of a democracy are we living under, when a refugee only a few yards from his home cannot go back to it and live a peaceful and free life?"

The refugees insist on their return to their homeland and the Arab countries, for social, economic and political reasons. They look forward to the day when all refugees will return to their homes.

The Israeli government, in a white paper on the Arab refugee question, says the government has appointed a "refugee question" is a purely political issue. It adds that UNRWA is not to supersede UN law.

It's a terribly complex subject, and the women aren't too sure what it's all about. Neither are the men of UNRWA for that matter.

For Israel to take in a large hostile population united by ties of blood with the sur-



LAND OF HATRED—This is Holy Land, where war has stopped but fighting continues between Arab and Jew. Ringing Israel but fighting continues between Arab and Jew. Ringing Israel but fighting continues between Arab and Jew. Ringing Israel but fighting continues between Arab and Jew.

rounding countries which are bent on its extermination, would be little short of suicidal. But the case against repatriation of the Arab refugees rests not merely on considerations of security. The pattern of Arab life as it was before 1948 (in Israel) is no longer exists and cannot be restored.

Actually, many of the refugees did not want to live in Israel. One responsible source estimated that not more than 25 per cent, mainly landowners, would want to return.

UNRWA has a \$200,000,000 fund for development projects in Arab countries capable of absorbing them. The only major agreements so far are with Jordan for an irrigation and power scheme using the waters of the Yarmuk River and with Egypt for a project involving 50,000 acres of the Sinai desert with Nile River water. It completed, the projects would create perhaps 250,000 refugees self-supporting.

The Yarmuk project is being held in abeyance pending consideration of a new unified scheme for developing the resources of Jordan River. This project, prepared by the Tennessee Valley Authority at the request of UNRWA, would include Israel. This has raised suspicions and doubts in the minds of the Arabs.

Many international officials say Syria, with only 85,000 refugees, has the greatest responsibilities for resettlement of all the Arab countries directly involved. Between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in northern Syria, millions of acres of land in the Euphrates plain are only partly cultivated. The late Husni Az Zaim, who held power briefly in Damascus in 1949, said privately he could settle all the Arab refugees there with \$500,000,000.

UNITED NATIONS officials say that the Arab government cooperated more than any other Arab government in the spirit and in the amount of money. But President Adib Shishkiyeh, who owes his office to a coup d'état, must give no opportunity to the opposition to complain that he has recognized the State of Israel and accepted the principle of settling refugees outside Israel.

He has agreed to turn over public lands for refugees as long as there are refugees in Syria. UNRWA already has drilled five wells in the desert 30 miles from Damascus, grown 200,000 trees and built 20 houses. Eventually it is

to simplify the legal language or gibberish of this business. They don't see why housewives should be expected to understand it. The way they write.

It all started when Mrs. Louis Barker of Chicago and Mrs. Robert Murray of Oshkosh, Wis., decided they wanted to see the Brickler amendment passed. But they found they were completely stopped because they couldn't interest other housewives who couldn't comprehend the meaning. So they have been trying to write it in "kitchen" English.

Independently, another woman, Mrs. Clifford Guest of Bethesda, Md., made the same discovery. She received a Brickler amendment pamphlet put out by its chief sponsor, Frank Holman, a past president of the American Bar Association. Mrs. Guest took the pamphlet and a copy of the Senate hearings on the amendment to her own lawyer, and told him to simplify it.

ANYWAY, at least three women have been trying to do something

Unions and Business Join Forces to Fight Mob in New Jersey

By VICTOR RIESEL Special Press Writer

NEW YORK — There are men who never let fear gnaw their insides. They spurn the midnight threats of anonymous telephone callers. They knock down the crooked dollar. They know that life on dirty money is futile and always the betrayal of someone, somewhere, who trusts you.

Letters To The Editor

Letters must carry the complete name and street address of the writer, though pen names will be printed if the editor deems it better to give preference to all letters are subject to condensation.

Too Immature?

To the Editor of The Press: Some believe that boys of 18 are too immature to vote intelligently.

After looking back at what the so-called mature voters have done for our country in the last decade, why worry about the boys might do? It is quite possible that they might be intelligent enough to vote out the meddlers in foreign affairs, and thereby avoid being cannon fodder. C. J.

30-Hour Week

To the Editor of The Press: The argument of those many people who favor a 30-hour week essentially is that our advances in technology are so great men could produce in 30 hours as much as they now do in 40 hours.

If this were true, and the desired amount of goods were produced in that 30 hours, I'm sure no manufacturer with a large sales volume would want his men sitting around doing nothing for 10 hours a week. Since a 30-hour work week would at this time mean a curtailment of production, there would be less goods to go around and it doesn't matter how much money you have if there are no goods to spend it on. To have more, we must produce more per man-hour.

As the quantity of goods produced by one man in one hour is increased, there will be more available consumer goods, resulting in either wage increases or lower prices; it matters not which one.

When the optimum level of production is reached, manufacturers will gradually cut back the length of the work week to maintain the proper profit level.

They will continue to pay to create goods because they want to sell their products and they know this cannot be done with low wages. M. E. W.

Dewey Assailed

To the Editor of The Press: Another name that Governor Dewey has now been added to the Republican list of names on the "black list" of headline-hungry backstabbing economists of the Sixth. Mr. Arthur, Brownell, Balke, Jenner.

Governor Dewey has engaged in such behind-the-scenes tactics before but this time he has really outdone himself in his attack on Mr. Truman and all Democrats.

It should surely qualify him for a Clean-as-a-Hound's-Tooth Club. Move over, McCarthy! C. E. E.

New Hope

To the Editor of The Press: I sincerely hope that every- one will believe in the speech by the President and by Secretary Benson as favorable as I am. It is the first time in years our leaders have dared face an issue head-on.

My faith in this country's Federal Government has taken new hope in the past few months. K. T. R.

Sees Red Letter Days

To the Editor of The Press: Our Dullissimo foreign policy will make every day a red letter day in our national budget. C. J. F.

Housewives Fight Gobbledygook

WASHINGTON—Delegations of club women from 17 states are in Washington this week to lobby for a new amendment to the Ohio Senate John W. Bricker's controversial constitutional amendment. They want to limit the President's power to make treaties and international agreements so that they would not be superseded by UN law.

It's a terribly complex subject, and the women aren't too sure what it's all about. Neither are the men of UNRWA for that matter.

For Israel to take in a large hostile population united by ties of blood with the sur-



MR. RIESEL It tookger 11 n in that sector. Of New Jersey just across the river from New York. There, the crime syndicate has its base of operations where they can watch the big town, yet be beyond reach of its police and judicial arm.

Yet there, too, some men who lead labor and some executives who run giant plants which equip and fuel the nation have been barred out of the mob. The Justice Department in Washington is watching closely the head of this 71-year-old mother. It comes back because the mob is hard — once you get hooked on it, it's hard to get out of.

And nowhere is it more so than in the state right across the river from New York. There, the crime syndicate has its base of operations where they can watch the big town, yet be beyond reach of its police and judicial arm.

THE CRIME BUSTERS are now ready to roll — after having dispatched the mob to Jersey plants with 100 or more employees asking each to create what, in effect, is a Labor Management anti-rime and anti-gambing committee. There are some 2,000 such committees in the state. Therefore these committees will reach 800,000 working people. Each group will report to the state attorney general on anti-crime posters and leaflets it can use for local distribution. The state attorney general, in course, being prepared by the state labor-management headquarters.

This week the topside committee will go on the radio and the local TV stations. It will tell its story over a national hook-up. To date the state attorney general has received expenses. Soon, however, the big money needed will come from the state labor-management headquarters and unions and corporations.

This is a crusade by both sides — the labor union and the industry. It will tell its story over a national hook-up. To date the state attorney general has received expenses. Soon, however, the big money needed will come from the state labor-management headquarters and unions and corporations.

For it is as wrong to give as to take. Dirty money must move swiftly. This is the year of the spotlight on the mobs in Jersey. It is the year of the most to lose — its reputation.

IN SOME STATES is almost too late for labor to clean its own house. Only the other day a St. Louis mobster was indicted for looking down on Paul Hulan, strong-arm boss of construction jobs in St. Louis. Hulan is agent of Local 42, AFL Building and Hodcarriers Union, Hulan, the man who has the unions and refuse to be taken for bribes.

For it is as wrong to give as to take. Dirty money must move swiftly. This is the year of the spotlight on the mobs in Jersey. It is the year of the most to lose — its reputation.

Hulan profaned the thing labor must cherish most — the right to work. If only there is no other course. This must not become the right of any single man who has the power to deny a price on another man's right to work. In St. Louis you took Hulan out of the land.

Hulan is the first of 17 construction trade union officials to be tried. The Federal attorney there plans to hold one such racket trial each month. Surely there are honest labor men who will not demand there be a shakeup in the holding agencies' outfit. For the construction chauffeurs and the laborers unions which are involved.

IT WAS HULAHAN who really summed up the massiveness of such crime. When he was one contractor, according to testimony, that \$50,000 must be delivered to install scales in a building. If the scales were held to a minimum, men would be pulled off the job and work would have to be done over again because of damages.

Only the very naive, or the thieves themselves, would deny that such words are spoken every day on a thousand construction jobs across the land. There is evidence of this terror will be brought out in months to come at Congressional hearings. The House subcommittee on rackets weaves its way slowly from New York to the other major cities.

Stop the labor movement, among such men as George Healey, the Galie genius in manufacturing industry, Jimmy Petrillo, and others, there are signs of a real desire to get these mobs off labor's back.

A little notice from below would help.

CULINARY ACCIDENTS

From the Dining Table—The kitchen is a hotbed of accidents. It is said to happen in the kitchen. Then they are put on the dining room table.