

BRITAIN RECOGNISES ISRAEL

Journeys End. The first of 10,000 Jewish refugees released from internment in Cyprus, arrive at Haifa. United Nations had previously barred them from entering the country, as they were all of military age. Fighting having ceased, re-unions between long lost relations now write a happy ending to a tragic story.

The decision to release the Cyprus immigrants preceded British recognition of the provisional Israeli Government. With the new state now acknowledged by the majority of the United Nations, Israel's first general election became a matter of some importance. The voting would show whether this vital Middle East area would swing left and therefore to Russia or - whether it would follow President Weismann's decision to align its interests with those of the Western World. For the voters (many of whom are refugees from Europe) it is the first free election they have ever experienced. The present acting Prime Minister, Ben Gurion, leader of the moderate Socialist party, is generally acknowledged as the best man to bring to a successful conclusion the peace negotiations with the Arabs. In a 90-per-cent poll the elector's choice is white-haired Ben Gurion - Israel's man of peace.