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DISASTER FACES 200,000 JEWS IN NEW AREA RULED BY HITLER; NAZI LAWS TO APPLY IN BOHEMIA

LONDON, March 15. (JTA) -- Grave consequences today threatened the more than 200,000 Jews in all sections of former Czecho-Slovakia, with immediate disaster looming for the approximately 100,000 in Bohemia-Moravia, whose capital, Prague, was entered by Chancellor Adolf Hitler on the heels of a German army of occupation.

A Government spokesman in Berlin declared: "The same principles that obtain with reference to the Jews in Greater Germany will, of course, be invoked in our protectorate also. We do not believe, however, that the problem is formidable. There has been a mass exodus of Jews ever since the Munich accord."

Foreign legations in Prague were packed with scores of persons who had sought shelter there from German vengeance and who refused to leave, demanding the right of asylum, as German troops took possession of the broken-hearted and openly hostile former Czech capital and placed Konrad Henlein, Sudeten Nazi leader, in charge.

Herr Henlein, already Reich Commissioner and Nazi Gauleiter for Sudetenland, was given the same functions in Bohemia with power in all administrative matters. The powers were granted him by General Johannes Blaskowitz, commander of the Third Reichswehr Corps, which occupied Prague today.

While Germany's new "protectorate" -- the first non-German territory to be occupied by the Nazis -- faced the introduction of the Nuremberg racial laws and other of the Reich's anti-Jewish legislation, Slovakia, whose anti-Semitic Premier Josef Tiso is under Hitler's influence, was expected also to introduce sweeping anti-Semitic legislation. Slovakia had about 90,000 Jews before recent developments. The situation in Carpatho-Ukraine, where there were about 65,000 Jews, remained unclear as an invading Hungarian military force reached the Polish border. It could be expected, however, that Hungary's anti-Semitic laws would be applied to any territory annexed by Budapest.

The refugee question in what was formerly Czecho-Slovakia was touched on in the British House of Commons today when Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain made a statement in which he deplored that the Reich "for the first time....are effecting military occupation of a territory with people with whom they have no racial connection," but adhered to his appeasement policy.

When William Wedgwood Benn, Laborite, interrupted Mr. Chamberlain's statement to ask, "What about the refugees?" the Prime Minister said, with reference to the £10,000,000 loan which had been arranged for Czecho-Slovakia, partly to aid refugees: "I have no reason

to suppose that these three and one-quarter millions already drawn have not been applied in accordance with the arrangements made by us. A substantial portion of the sum has been directly devoted to the assistance of refugees." He said regarding the loan that "it would seem impossible at present to say how the scheme can be carried through."

JEWS GET BRITISH PLAN IN BRIEF SESSION, BAR NEW TALKS; WEIZMANN, BEN GURION ABSENT

LONDON, March 15. (JTA) -- The British Government, after five weeks of fruitless effort to effect an Arab-Jewish understanding, today put before the two delegations its final proposals for settlement of the Palestine problem. Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald outlined the proposals for eventual establishment of an independent Palestine state at separate formal meetings with the Arab and Jewish delegations, but did not go into detail on the plan and did not discuss the form of the proposed state.

Jamal el Hussein, head of the Palestine Arab extremist delegation, tonight criticized many points in the plan, objected to the indefiniteness of the proposed transition period and demanded that Jewish immigration and land purchases be prohibited. A further Anglo-Arab session was fixed for Friday.

The Anglo-Jewish session lasted only 15 minutes, with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, head of the Jewish delegation, and David Ben Gurion not present. The Jews refused to discuss the proposals and declined to fix a date for a further meeting with the British.

The plan was understood to embrace the following features:

- 1-- The Jewish population would be fixed at one third of the total in Palestine. (As of last June, according to Palestine Government statistics, the population was estimated at 1,418,619. Of this number 828,806 are Moslems, 399,808 Jews and 111,796 Christians.)
- 2-- A total of 75,000 Jews would be permitted to enter the Holy Land in a period of five years.
- 3-- An independent state eventually would be established, dependent upon good collaboration and cooperation between the Arabs and the Jews.
- 4-- A period of transition, of indefinite duration, would precede establishment of the state.
- 5-- Sale of land to the Jews would be regulated according to a tri-zone system.

During the transition period, the plan envisages continued rule under the mandate with Jews and Arabs participating on a proportional basis. Representatives of both peoples would be named by the British High Commissioner for Palestine to advisory and executive councils. No figure has as yet been disclosed with regard to the advisory body, but the representation on the executive branch of the government will comprise two Jews and four Arabs. The High Commissioner will have veto power. Elections will possibly be held at the end of two years.

The plan was communicated to the representatives of the Arab states last night and extensively discussed at a subsequent three-hour inter-Arab session at which Jamal Hussein asked the states for a mandate to reject it completely. The states' representatives, it was understood, replied that Hussein was free to object to the plan but he would not have their support. The delegations from the Arab states revealed they were leaving over the week-end.

U.S. Jews Bar Plan Flouting Mandate

TEL AVIV, March 15. (JTA) -- American Jews living in Palestine were on record today as requesting a right to accept or to submit to any decisions reached by the London conferences, or imposed by the British Government that are contrary to the letter, spirit and object of the League of Nations mandate. A resolution to that effect was adopted by the council of the American Jewish Association in the name of thousands of American Jews who settled in Palestine relying on the mandate and the Anglo-American Treaty of 1924.

5 Jews Wounded as Violence Continues

JERUSALEM, March 15. (JTA) -- Three Jews, one of them a girl, were wounded today in continuing disorders. Two were shot by Arabs near the Jaffa Gate Here. A Jewish girl was wounded when snipers fired upon a bus in Haifa.

Dan Liber, Jewish youth who was wounded Monday in the land mine explosion at Sheikh Abreik, died today. His two companions were killed in the blast. Troops who traced the terrorists responsible for the explosion to the nearby German Christian colony of Waldheim last night searched the colony, in the presence of the German Consul General, without results or arrests. The colonists had originally objected to the search and the troops had cordoned off the colony, placing it under virtual curfew.

ROME CABINET MAPS NEW CURBS ON JEWS

ROME, March 15. (JTA) -- The Cabinet was reported today considering a new law barring Jewish doctors and lawyers from practice.

300,000 JEWS TO LOSE ROMANIAN CITIZENSHIP, SURVEY REVEALS; FIGURE DOUBLE CABINET ESTIMATE

BUCHAREST, March 15. (JTA) -- Despite a Cabinet statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency recently that only 150,000 Jews would be deprived of their citizenship during the revision process scheduled to end March 31, careful inquiry by Jewish organizations revealed today that the number to be denationalized will be nearer 300,000 to 400,000, or nearly 50 per cent of the total Jewish population in Rumania.

In certain cities, it was disclosed, 60 per cent of the Jewish population has already been removed from the citizenship lists. It was understood that 35 per cent of the Jews in Moldavia and Bessarabia failed to present to the courts documents proving their rights to citizenship simply because they could not afford the necessary fees.

With approach of the revision deadline, the problem of those denationalized becomes most serious since they are not allowed to continue in trades and professions and will be treated as aliens who must be supported by the rest of the Jewish community. The most optimistic estimates of an annual Jewish emigration totalling 10,000, therefore, can only scratch the surface of the problem.

Dr. Wilhelm Filderman, Rumanian Jewish leader, was again received by Minorities Commissioner Silviu Dragomir, with whom he discussed the question of restoration of licenses taken from Jewish liquor dealers. Dr. Dragomir declared the Government would shortly consider the question of Jewish political representation outside the National Renaissance Party.

Former Foreign Minister Istrate Micescu renewed his campaign for expulsion of Jews from the Bucharest Bar Association, of which he is president, inviting it to follow the example of the Baratz Bar Association, which excluded all Jewish members a year ago.

400 REFUGEES FROM ITALY SEEN VICTIMS OF SMUGGLING RING; NO EXPULSIONS BY ROME

PARIS, March 15. (JTA) -- The more than 400 Jews from Italy who are now in Nice and Menton and others in the "no-man's-land" near Vintimille are the victims of a smuggling ring duping foreign Jews in the Italian cities of Milan and Turin.

This was established today when responsible Italian Jewish leaders arrived in Paris and declared that the Italian Government definitely was not deporting anyone under the decree for emigration of post-war Jewish immigrants, but had ordered foreign Jews to apply to local police for prolongation of their stay past the March 12 deadline. The Jewish leaders said the police were accepting the applications and would permit all to remain pending their consideration, with the likelihood that a three-month stay would be granted.

Meanwhile, the Jewish leaders declared, about 5,000 foreign Jews are visiting Jewish relief offices in Rome, Milan and other centers, without molestation, for assistance and information. It is believed that several hundred, fearing expulsion on March 12, fell under the influence of racketeers to whom they promised remuneration for smuggling them to France.

An investigation by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Nice today established that almost all of the refugees left Italy voluntarily because of the fear of deportation. Some of them were helped by Italian soldiers to cross the frontier. Others were forced across the border at bayonet point when they changed their minds about being smuggled into France.

At the French border town of Vintimille today a local Frenchman argued with frontier guards for admission of 30 Jews detained at the border station and finally won. Small groups of three to five Jews were still arriving at the frontier and were being admitted liberally by French gendarmes, especially when the refugees were women and children.

Meanwhile, the Rome radio station announced that the majority of foreign Jews in Italy had complied with the emigration decree by March 12, while those who remained were being permitted to leave gradually.

At the same time, it was stated, Italian border authorities have been ordered not to discourage Jewish tourist traffic into Italy by asking questions regarding race and religion, while police in Ascona, Trieste and Turin were ordered to remove all insulting anti-Jewish signs from restaurants, cinemas and public places in order not to offend Jewish tourists. It was also stated that Jewish tourists would be permitted to remain in Italy for six months. The present limit is three months.

One puzzling fact is that while the Italian Government is not hindering emigration of Jews to most countries, Jews who declare they are going to the United States are given passports by the authorities only with great reluctance.

165 Reich Refugees Find Haven in Venezuela

CARACAS, March 14. (Havas) -- A party of 165 German Jewish refugees from Hamburg were refused permission to land at Georgetown, British Guiana, and were subsequently given haven in Venezuela under special conditions banning them from all but agricultural pursuits, it was officially announced here tonight. Recently 86 German Jews who could not get into the island of Trinidad were similarly accepted in this country. The Government announced, however, that no more such humanitarian concessions would be made, and only those who sought entry through regular channels would be received.

BILL TO EXPEL ALIENS URGING BASIC CHANGES HERE ADVANCES IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, March 15. (JTA) -- The House Immigration Committee today reported John J. Dempsey's (Dem., New Mexico) bill providing for exclusion and deportation of aliens advocating fundamental changes in the American form of government.

Representative George H. Bender (Rep., Ohio), in a speech, said that the destruction of Czechoslovakia was proof that "we in America must work harder than ever to prove only that justice and tolerance can be the saviors of mankind." Warning against "the danger of foreign propaganda," he said that "our job in the next few years is to show the world that a free people can solve economic problems without surrendering liberty."

14 NEW BILLS AIMED AT RACE BIAS WAIT ALBANY ACTION AS 4 OTHERS ARE KILLED

ALBANY, N.Y., March 15. (JTA) -- With four anti-racial discrimination bills killed by the Assembly Judiciary Committee, organizations interested in seeing a ban on discrimination enacted by the Legislature today pinned their hopes on a series of 14 bills now pending.

The Judiciary Committee yesterday killed the Breitbart Esquirol, Holley, Goldberg and Garcia Rivera bills after a public hearing. National Jewish organizations had supported the first three of these bills in principle, but had avoided backing the specific bills since it was felt that the same ends might better be served by the measures now pending.

These 14 measures were introduced under the sponsorship of Assemblyman William T. Andrews and Senators Jacob J. Schwarzwald, John J. Howard, George L. Thompson and Walter J. Mahoney, who were members of a temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Negro Population. Although the bills are aimed most directly against anti-Negro discrimination, they are broad enough to cover all racial and religious bias.

The bills would serve to prohibit discrimination because of race, creed, religion or color in operation of the State Labor Relations Act, in public utilities, in employment by contractors doing public work, in civil service, in the public schools, in labor unions having closed-shop contracts with utilities, in housing projects, in public educational institutions and private institutions enjoying tax exemption, in places of public accommodation and in facilities of non-sectarian corporations and associations holding real property (presumably hospital and cemetery corporations).

FRANKFURTER RETAINS ARMY RESERVE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, March 15. (JTA) -- Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter will retain his army reserve commission, which technically subjects him to call for service in the event of war. Justice Frankfurter is a major in the Judge Advocate General's section of the reserve corps. It was thought he would resign his commission when named to the bench, but today he informed Brig. Gen. Edwin M. Watson, presidential secretary, that he intends to retain the commission.

LATE NEWS OF PALESTINE PARLEY

LONDON, March 15. (JTA) -- It is authoritatively understood that the British proposals will be modified in details in the course of the discussions with the Jewish and Arab delegations but will not be altered in principle. If the plan is rejected by either the Jews or the Arabs, the British Government will issue a unilateral declaration containing a definitive plan for settlement of the Palestine problem which will be published as an official white paper next week. The present proposals will not necessarily be included in the final plan. The conference is expected to terminate in the next few days.