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FRANCE IMPOSES MILITARY OBLIGATIONS ON ALIENS, CURBS FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS

PARIS, April 16. (JTA) -- The French Government today issued decrees imposing military obligations on refugees and "stateless" persons in France, and ordering foreign organizations to obtain Interior Ministry permits to continue their existence.

The measure for utilization of aliens in defense was received with joy by refugees and "stateless," Jewish and others, who had long since expressed readiness to serve France in wartime. The registration decree was greeted by Jewish circles, which expressed hope that it would be used to curb Nazi activities and suppress anti-Semitic propaganda.

The related problems of what to do about the 3,000,000 aliens in France in the event of war and how to check subversive activities by foreigners had been under consideration by the Government for some time and were the subjects of inter-ministerial discussion last week, when the new measures were decided upon.

The decree for wartime utilization of aliens, published in the Journal Official, imposes on the stateless and refugees, men as well as women the same military and other obligations covering French citizens. The measure provides:

(1) All foreigners between the ages of 18 and 40 will be admitted into French military formations.

(2) All stateless persons and those enjoying asylum in France are subject to the same military and other obligations which are imposed in wartime upon Frenchmen. They can be mobilized individually or collectively, according to nationality, profession and age.

(3) Stateless and refugee males between the ages of 20 and 48 are subject to the same conscription laws as Frenchmen and can be recruited in peacetime for the same periods as Frenchmen.

(4) Certain aliens may be prohibited from residing in certain areas and secluded into certain sections.

(5) Foreigners disobeying these laws may be punished like Frenchmen.

The decree regarding foreign organizations gives all alien groups, political, philanthropic, athletic, artistic or cultural, one month to secure Interior Ministry permits to continue their activities. The measure provides:

(1) No new foreign organization in these categories may be established without an Interior Ministry permit.

(2) Existing organizations must apply to the Interior Ministry for a permit within one month.

(3) Those to whom permits are refused must cease their activities immediately and liquidate within a month.

(4) Under the term "foreign organizations" are included those whose headquarters are abroad, those headed by foreign nationals in France and those whose membership includes 25 per cent aliens.

The War Ministry today conferred with officials of other ministries on application of the first decree.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Jewish Emigrants decided to participate in a campaign among foreigners for raising a fund to contribute several airplanes to the Government as an expression of readiness to fight for France. A committee called "Foreigners in France to the Aid of Their Second Fatherland" has been formed with the aim of rallying foreigners to cooperate in presenting the plane squadron. At a meeting of the committee, the president, M. Raffalovich, invited all foreigners living -- or having lived formerly -- in France, regardless of race, color or creed, to join in the endeavor. He said that a number of persons had signified to the committee their intention of enrolling in the French army.

6 JEWS, 1 ARAB DIE IN BURST OF TERRORISM IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, April 16. (JTA) -- The lives of six Jews and one Arab were added over the weekend to the toll in Palestine's disorders as individual violence burst forth despite the liquidation of large Arab bands by British troops.

Two members of the Irgun Hagalil organization were shot dead near the Arab village of Muhlul while returning from work in the Jewish National Fund forest in the vicinity of Nahalal. They were Arie Druk, and Nathan Hirshfeld, both 25 years old.

Several attacks centered in Haifa. Yesterday, two German Jewish immigrants, Nathan Flueger, 30, and Carl Mutchik, 40, were slain while walking near the Bahai Temple. Today, five Jews were injured in attacks in various parts of the city, one of them, Saul Goler, 25, an immigrant from Latvia, fatally.

The sixth Jewish fatality was Nissim Mizrahi, 32, who succumbed to wounds received in an attack near Jerusalem's Jaffa Gate last Thursday, leaving a wife and eight children. The Arab victim was Yussef el Alami, a municipal councillor in Gaza and a relative of former Attorney General Mussa Alami, who was shot yesterday by terrorists.

British police raided two houses in Tel Aviv, arresting eight Jews. Two were seized for allegedly preparing English articles for the Revisionist weekly Sentinel, which was prohibited by the censor. Four others who arrived during the search were detained. In the second raid, two Jews were arrested when one of them was found in possession of an automatic pistol.

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Arab Rulers Urge Modified State Plan

CAIRO, April 16. (JTA) -- The Arab princes have submitted a counter-suggestion to the British Government for modification of the final proposals for a Palestine solution which would make them acceptable to the Arabs, it was learned here today.

It was unofficially stated that the suggestion embraces: (1) A definite ten-year transition period at the end of which the Arabs would not merely be consulted but would decide on establishment of the proposed independent Palestine state; (2) Jewish immigration to Palestine in the next five years to total 60,000 instead of 75,000 as proposed by the British.

Egyptian Ambassador Hassan Nachat Pasha, who was scheduled to return to London yesterday to ascertain the British answer to these suggestions, postponed his departure to today. The British reply is not expected before the middle of this week.

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Mahmoud Reported Sounding Out Palestine Arabs

LONDON, April 16. (JTA) -- There is reason to believe that "preliminary exploration of the ground has been undertaken in Cairo and Baghdad" looking toward a British Government announcement of its Palestine policy, the diplomatic correspondent of The Times reported today. The British Charge d'Affaires in Baghdad has been holding conversations with Premier Nuri Pasha es-Said, while Premier Mohammed Mahmoud Pasha of Egypt has been ascertaining the views of the Palestine Arabs on "certain British suggestions," the correspondent said.

PALESTINE AMONG 31 COUNTRIES FOR WHICH ROOSEVELT ASKS NON-AGGRESSION PLEDGE

WASHINGTON, April 16. (JTA) -- That President Roosevelt does not exclude the possibility of Italo-German aggression against Palestine was shown yesterday by his inclusion of the Holy Land among the 31 which he appealed to Chancellor Hitler and Premier Mussolini to guarantee against invasion.

"Are you willing to give assurance that your armed forces will not attack or invade" these territories for "ten years at the least -- a quarter of a century if we dare look that far ahead?" the President asked in his dramatic peace plea to the heads of the German and Italian Governments.

HUNGARY'S PRIMATE ASKS EXEMPTION FOR CONVERTS, BUT BACKS MEASURES AGAINST JEWS

BUDAPEST, April 16. (Havas) -- Justinian Georg Cardinal Serebi, Primate of Hungary, restated before the Upper Chamber deliberating on the bill to restrict Jewish participation in Hungarian life his objection to the bill on the grounds of its including Jews converted to the Christian religion.

On the other hand, he declared, he considered as legitimate measures which would repress those Jews who had allegedly sought to destroy Christian morality and discredit in literature and art, and on the stage and screen "all that is held sacred and inviolate by Christians and the Fatherland's religious family."

"We wish to stress our viewpoint in principle," said the Cardinal, "but we do not wish to cause any difficulties to the Government or nation. Therefore we consent to a legitimate and justified repression of Jews for the protection of the nation."

Premier Paul Teleki said he favored a radical solution of the Jewish problem, because only such a solution could avoid possibilities of injustice. The debate on the bill will be resumed Monday.

J.N.F. PARLEY MAPS INTENSIFICATION OF FUND-RAISING TO MEET PALESTINE CRISIS

CHICAGO, April 16. (JTA) -- An extraordinary national conference of the Jewish National Fund of America, after hearing a message from Dr. Chaim Weizmann stressing the urgency of American Jewry's aid and speeches by American Zionist leaders asking the Jews to "tighten their belts," today adopted resolutions aimed at intensification of fund-raising.

The approximately 1,000 delegates from Zionist organizations and J.N.F. councils, gathered at the Hotel LaSalle, unanimously approved resolutions instructing the J.N.F.'s national administration to arrange a national conference biennially, extending the Palestine Flower Day into a Flower Week to be held in the middle of May and placing \$75,000 at the disposal of Menachem M. Ussishkin, world president of the J.N.F., as a 75th birthday "gift" to buy land in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Dr. Solomon Goldman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, urged the Jews of America to "tighten their belts" as would a nation at war. Louis Lipsky, vice-president of the Z.O.A., declared that "the most discouraging factor in connection with the J.N.F. has been the policy of England....It believes that order can be restored by making concessions to the demands of the lawless. It has made appeasement of violence an integral part of administrative policy."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the J.N.F., asserted that the strength and number of Jewish positions in the various sections of Palestine would play a large part in determining the issues of the present political struggle. "Zionism in the present world crisis has no time for wailing and weeping, but only time for building," he said. He added that "it may very well be that the present period of political uncertainty and threatened government restrictions may prove to have been a transition period during which the gains of 20 years shall have been consolidated and a way shall have been paved for the next advance."

Mendel Fischer, executive director of the J.N.F., reported that more than \$7,000,000 has been raised since the organization's formation. During 1938, he said, \$1,036,000 had been collected, and \$700,000 in the first four months of 1939. He declared that the J.N.F. now had support from 1,200 Jewish communities.

The two-day conference concluded tonight with a banquet at which the scheduled speakers included Rabbi Meir Berlin, honorary president of the World Mizrahi Organization, and Chaim Greenberg, of the Poale Zion-Zeire Zion.

Weizmann Stresses Land Purchasing

Dr. Weizmann's message, which was read at last night's session by Senator Weiss of Indianapolis and later broadcast by Dr. Goldstein over the Mutual Broadcasting Company's facilities, made a deep impression on the delegates. The general feeling was that the present war scare in Europe would result in a more intensified fund-raising campaign and in bolstering the efforts of the J.N.F. Dr. Weizmann was scheduled to speak by short-wave radio from his home in Rehoboth, Palestine, but difficulties in transmission made this impossible.

The world Zionist leader declared that Zionism was not defeated, no matter what difficulties lay in store for the movement, emphasized the need of strengthening the Jewish position in Palestine by continuing the upbuilding and purchasing more land, and asserted that the aid of American Jewry was needed "more than ever in our recent history."

Describing the continued upbuilding of the Jewish homeland despite terrorism, Dr. Weizmann said that "the terror has been broken and all over Palestine the peaceful Arab population is again breathing more freely. He warned, however, that "a united front has been formed of all forces working against our great effort of reconstruction" and "for over two months our political position and the rights we possess by virtue of international pledges and agreements have been subjected to an unprecedented assault."

"The moral strength of our cause" kept the Jews united, he said, continuing: "We do not know what new difficulties will be in store for us, but we do know that we have not been defeated. Our enemies, with all their threats and all their cunning, could not break the spiritual force which held us together."

He asserted: "The lesson which that London conference has taught us will not be lost on any one of those who took part in it. It is a clear and stirring lesson. We have to strengthen our position in Palestine with all our might and all the resources at our command, if we are to hold out against the forces that are opposing us. There can be no standstill which is retrogression, which spells defeat. We have to go on building the Jewish national home. We have to buy more land to establish more settlements, to set up more industries, to extend and intensify every branch of our material and spiritual effort in Palestine.....

"Without land there can be no settlement. Without settlement there can be no civilization. Without land we can offer no refuge for our suffering brethren in Central and Eastern Europe. It is for this reason that our friends all over the world are today being called upon to do what lies in their power to enable us to obtain new areas of land for Jewish settlement and productive development. A special loan is to be raised during the coming months in order to enable this great effort of reclamation to be expanded and speeded up.

"I know that American Jewry will do its duty in this new effort as it has done in the great efforts of the past. I need not tell you what part Providence has allocated to you in these critical days. More than ever in our recent history do we look to you. It is not merely material help that we are asking of you. The material help which you are rendering to our work of reconstruction is precious to us, preeminently because it reveals your sense of brotherhood and spiritual solidarity which is our strength and comfort in these hard eyes. If you, Jews of free America, will continue to be with us in spirit and action, then we can look to the future with confidence and serenity."

BRITAIN SLATED TO ACT AGAINST NAZI PROPAGANDA

LONDON, April 16. (JTA) -- Strong measures to end Nazi activities in Great Britain will be announced in Parliament on Tuesday by Home Secretary Sir Samuel Hoare, it was reported today by the Sunday Chronicle's political correspondent. The announcement will be made in reply to an interrogation by Will Throne, Laborite, who was quoted by the correspondent as declaring that every day there was increasing evidence of Nazi propaganda, and espionage and terrorism by Gestapo agents "with a dangerous, ulterior motive."

Germans are furious, it was said, over a leakage last week of documents circulated in the Liverpool and Manchester areas by a key leader of the German Labor Front, Ernst Larhmann, asking all Germans to join the Front, or, if they refused, to state reasons.