

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### EFFORTS TO SAVE ST. LOUIS REFUGEES PRESSED AS SHIP STILL POINTS FOR HAMBURG

HAVANA, June 7. (JTA) -- With the German liner St. Louis bearing 917 Jewish refugees back to Hamburg, representatives of American and Cuban Jewish organizations continued today last-minute efforts to effect an arrangement with the Cuban Government that would afford the refugees temporary haven. (New York offices of the Hamburg-American line said the St. Louis was "somewhere between Miami and Bermuda" and was still proceeding to Hamburg under full steam.)

Although depressed by the abrupt refusal of the Cuban officials to accept financial guarantees offered by Lawrence Berenson, on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Coordinating Committee, the representatives at a late hour this afternoon were hopeful of a favorable turn in the situation.

(The Havas News Agency said Jewish refugee circles in Havana reported that 200 German-Jewish exiles aboard the St. Louis had signed a suicide pact that will be carried out if the ship is obliged to return to Germany.)

Meanwhile, Cuban Jewry was in a state of high excitement over the plight of the St. Louis refugees. A crowd of 1,000 German Jews stormed the Jewish Center and demanded that every effort be made to rescue the refugees from the fate that awaited them on their return to the Reich. Miss Cecilia Razovsky, director of the Coordinating Committee, spoke in an effort to calm them.

German Jews joined with Cuban Jews in issuing an appeal to world Jewry not to abandon the 1,500 refugees on the St. Louis, the Flanders and the Orduña, declaring the fate of the refugees was directly bound up with that of the Jews in Cuba. If this "moral blow" by the Cuban Government goes unheeded, the appeal warned, anti-Semitic elements will next demand deportation of all 6,000 German Jews now in Cuba and later even of the 10,000 Cuban Jews.

At a press conference last night, Miss Razovsky and Mr. Berenson vigorously denied that a question of money was involved in the sudden reversal of the Cuban Government's earlier decision to admit the St. Louis refugees to temporary stay on the Isle of Pines. Declaring they had been stunned by the new decision, they indicated the possibility that it had been the result of mysterious influences.

### 78 Get 20-Day Landing Permits at Buenos Aires

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- Twenty-day landing permits have been granted by the Argentine Government to 78 Jewish refugees on the German liner Monte Olivia, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed today by the HIAS, immigrant aid society, on the basis of cabled inform-

ation received from the Paris office of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association. The refugees, who had originally been refused permission to land when the Paraguayan Government indicated they would refuse to admit them, are now expected to be admitted to Paraguay.

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Post Caustic on Failure of Western World to Take Refugees

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- Caustic editorial comment on the failure of the Western World to find room for the 917 St. Louis refugees was voiced today by the New York Post. "Millions of persons in the Western World would risk their lives to rescue any one sufferer found struggling in the ocean waters," the editorial said. "But officially our hands are tied. That Fascism is forcing us into such callousness, accustoming us to live with such horrors, is one of Fascism's most subtle, most insidious victories. The 917 Jews came here with faith and hope that a place would be found for them. Only charity was lacking."

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200 Seized on Illegal Entry to Palestine

JERUSALEM, June 7. (JTA) -- The authorities today seized 200 Jewish illegal immigrants who had been landed at Naharia by a Greek schooner. The schooner was apprehended, its crew arrested and, together with the immigrants, taken to Haifa.

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French Press Hits Cuba's Action

PARIS, June 7. (JTA) -- French newspapers today condemned Cuba for its action in barring the St. Louis refugees and urged the American, British and French governments to join in a serious movement to solve the refugee problem. Declaring Cuba's "merciless act is disgraceful," Le Matin suggested that Jewish organizations negotiate for a refugee settlement project for French Guiana similar to that under way for British Guiana.

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CHAMBERLAIN BALKS AT COMMITTING GOVERNMENT ON GENEVA BODY'S POLICY DECISION

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain today declined to commit the Government in advance to accept the Permanent Mandates Commission's findings on the new British policy on Palestine. In a statement in the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain also refused to promise to give Commons a chance to discuss the Commission's observations, if unfavorable to the Government, before its report was taken up by the League Council. The Mandates Commission sessions open in Geneva tomorrow.

At the same time, Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald refused to agree to defer land restriction legislation pending the Mandates Commission's consideration of the White Paper. He reiterated that the Council's approval was only required for an amendment to the Mandate, which the White Paper, according to the Government's contention, does not involve.

The Times reported from Geneva that the British delegation to the Mandates Commission hearings will consist of Colonial Secretary MacDonald, Sir Henry Grattan Bushe, legal adviser to the Dominions and Colonial offices; Sydney Moody, Deputy Chief Secretary of the Palestine Government; A.S. Kirkbride, British Resident in Transjordan, and H.F. Downie of the Colonial Office.

Laborite Philip Noel Baker last night characterized the White Paper as "the greatest act of injustice in the modern history of Great Britain." He spoke at a Jewish National Fund dinner at which Lady Reading presided. Expressing the belief that the policy would not succeed and would instead greatly harm the British cause, Mr. Noel Baker urged Jewry to demand its withdrawal "imperiously, insistently."

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Violence Unabated in Palestine

JERUSALEM, June 7. (JTA) -- Violence continued unabated in various parts of Palestine today, marked by five manhole explosions in Tel Aviv, the slaying of an Arab in a Jewish quarter of Jerusalem and stoning of 6 Jews near the Jaffa Gate. A number of telephone conduits were affected by the Tel Aviv explosions, but full extent of the damage was not immediately ascertained.

The fatal shooting of an Arab in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem this morning precipitated a spurt of military and police activity. Troops and constables threw a cordon around the section while other soldiers and police engaged in a house-to-house search for arms and suspects. Men and women in the Mea Shearim and neighboring Jewish quarters were rounded up and subjected to search.

Apparently in retaliation for the Mea Shearim shooting, Arab crowds stoned 6 Jews at the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, troops pressed operations against Arab rebels, killing 14 in an engagement with a large band in the vicinity of Kalkillia. Royal Air Force planes assisted in the battle, the biggest in months. At the same time, Arab villagers south of Nablus, who had been terrorized for the past year by rebel marauders, captured, disarmed and turned over to the police a gang of 12 terrorists headed by Mahfouz Ali and Abdul Mejid.

The military authorities today lifted the ban on Jewish buses in Jerusalem, imposed in punishment for alleged Jewish violence last week. The ban on night operation of Jewish cafes was also lifted. No mention was made, however, of reopening Jewish cinemas.

The Jewish National Council issued a statement protesting to the Palestine authorities against the "revenge system" of collective punishments and mass arrests of Jews, pointing out the distinction between an Arab leadership actively conducting terrorism and a Jewish leadership consistently opposing violence. The Council charged that if the Government, which was fully aware of the difference between the two leaderships, nevertheless employed severe punishments against the Jewish populace, "it is aimed solely to break Palestine Jewry's united opposition to the White Paper policy, but it is bound to fail."

The Council announced formation of a Supreme Economic Committee representing Palestine Jewry, with its first meeting scheduled for today. The Jewish Farmers' Association, to which three of the committee's 22 seats have been allotted, stated in a letter that it would not participate until establishment of the Emergency Committee.

NEUMANN, VIENNA EAR SPECIALIST, SAILS FOR PRINCETON LECTURES; GOES BACK IN 6 MONTHS

PARIS, June 7. (JTA) -- Invited by Princeton University to deliver a series of lectures, Prof. Heinrich Neumann, world-famous Viennese ear specialist who has treated the Duke of Windsor and other royal personages, sailed for the United States today on the liner Aquitania. Prof. Neumann received permission to leave Vienna on condition that he return within six months. He has been treated with respect by the Nazis.

Besides lecturing at Princeton, Prof. Neumann will confer with American relief leaders on methods of furthering emigration of Jews from Austria. A total of 88,000 have emigrated since Anschluss but another 84,000 are still being cared for by the Jewish community. These last represent the entire Viennese Jewry, only a few of whom are able to exist without recourse to charity.

"I cannot leave Austrian Jewry alone and helpless," Prof. Neumann told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency before he sailed, "therefore I intend definitely to return to Vienna."

OTTO M. SCHIFF, A. RAISMAN ON KING'S HONOR LIST

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- Otto M. Schiff, prominent communal worker and chairman of the German Jewish Aid Committee, was today appointed a commander in the civil division of the Order of the British Empire. Abraham Jeremy Raisman, of the Indian Civil Service, was knighted. The honors were among those announced for the King's Birthday Honors List.

40 HOMES, 2 SYNAGOGUES RAZED BY FIRE IN LITHUANIAN TOWN; ARSON SUSPECTED

KAUNAS, June 7. (JTA) -- Police were today investigating suspected incendiarism in the destruction by fire of 40 Jewish-owned houses and two synagogues in the township of Uzventis last night, which left 50 families without homes.

ANTI-SEMITIC SIGNS PAINTED ON NEWARK MAYOR'S HOME

NEWARK, June 7. (JTA) -- A painted sign in foot-high letters, reading "Get Out, Jew," was discovered today on the home of Mayor Meyer C. Ellenstein. Another message, "Jew, get out or else," was painted on the sidewalk in front of the house. Mayor Ellenstein said he had received several anonymous letters in similar vein.

LATE NEWS ON CUBAJ.D.C. Cables \$500 Guarantee for Each Refugee on 3 Ships

NEW YORK June 7. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee announced at a press conference late today that it has cabled to President Bru of Cuba the information that it has posted with the Chase National Bank in Havana a sum large enough to provide for \$500 guarantees for every one of the Jewish refugees on board the St. Louis, the Flanders and the Ordunia. The total sum was put at "upwards of \$500,000." Following is the text of the cable to Mr. Bru:

"Yesterday afternoon when we were under the impression that the negotiations as to details of the possible admission into Cuba of the refugees on the steamer St. Louis were proceeding in Havana with your Government we received information that your Government considered those negotiations lapsed. We respectfully hasten to assure you that appreciating your desire to reach promptly a just and humane solution of this difficult problem we have spared no effort here to provide the necessary funds to comply with the Government's conditions. This has today been completed and we have authorized Chase National Bank, Havana, make following proposal to you on our behalf. Will provide five hundred dollars deposit each refugee on board St. Louis to permit entry into Cuba under appropriate Cuban regulations also like amount in respect each refugee S.S. Flanders and S.S. Orduna should they also be permitted entry Cuba. Chase bank has received funds from us available for such purpose. In addition this committee guarantees that none of these refugees will become public charge to Cuban Government. Confident that while St. Louis said to be on way back to Germany it is not too late to radio to her to return to Havana. This we beg you to do. We respectfully request Your Excellency to give the foregoing your immediate and favorable consideration."

The J.D.C. issued the following prepared statement in connection with the cable: "Up to the last moment we believed that the discussions which our representatives in Havana were conducting with those of the Cuban Government were proceeding satisfactorily. We were prepared to provide the \$500 per refugee required by the Cuban Government, and we were hourly expecting a report that the details had been satisfactorily arranged. In order to give the Cuban Government every possible assurance on this subject, we have deposited the required amount with the Chase National Bank. We are still hopeful that the Cuban Government may find it possible to admit these refugees, but whatever the outcome we will not be unmindful of the asylum which the Republic of Cuba has humanely afforded and is still giving to refugees."