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GESTAPO ORDERS JEWS TO EVACUATE CZECH PROVINCES, MOVE TO PRAGUE

PRAGUE, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- In a drastic move to put the entire Czech Jewish population under the strictest control and to speed its emigration, the Gestapo today ordered all Jews to evacuate provincial cities and move to Prague within the next twelve months.

The order was served upon Dr. Emil Kafka, president of the Prague Jewish Community, and other Jewish leaders by Storm Troop Leader Eichmann, head of the Gestapo Emigration Office for Jews. It affects all Jews without exception, including children, aged and the ailing.

Informed quarters believe the evacuation order was prompted by the following considerations:

1) The Nazis want to concentrate the Jews in a single city to make possible the strictest control and to carry out anti-Semitic measures more energetically; 2) the Nazis consider the Jews to be an element supporting Czech aspirations and are therefore anxious to move them out of Czech towns especially and to replace them with German settlers; 3) the evacuation will serve to check future manifestations of sympathy for the Jews by the Czechs, such as recently took place in Iglau.

The Gestapo action provoked despair among Czech Jewry. The Prague Jewish Community immediately set about the huge task of arranging to shelter the throngs of provincial Jews expected to arrive here shortly. Jewish leaders were informed that all prospective Jewish emigrants must submit their applications exclusively to the Prague Jewish Emigration Office. The branch office at Bruenn, it was stated, will be suspended.

Eichmann, rapporteur on Jewish affairs in Austria who was largely responsible for anti-Jewish brutalities there, was recently appointed rapporteur regarding Jewish emigration from the "protectorate" and henceforth will spend three days weekly in Vienna and four in Prague. He considers that at least 70,000 Jews must leave the "protectorate" within a year and has stated that "Austrian methods" will be adopted if the quota is not reached. To satisfy Eichmann, at least 200 Jews must leave the provinces daily for Prague. Simultaneously, at least 200 Jews must leave Prague daily for abroad.

The Prague Jewish Community will be made responsible for the maintenance of those arriving from the provinces, the provision of hostels, food kitchens, etc. The order means

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the complete ruin of an estimated 60,000 Jews, many of whose families lived in Czechia for centuries. The Jews of Budweis have already received an order from the Gestapo to move to Prague within a few days. Similar orders are expected to be issued in other provincial cities shortly.

Meanwhile, the Gestapo has compelled the Prague Stock Exchange and Corn Exchange to dismiss all Jewish employees. Der Neue Tag, organ of Reich Protector Konstantin von Neurath, demands that Jewish brokers and visitors be excluded from the Prague Bourse.

Dr. Rottenberg, director of the Zionist Organization's Palestine Office in Vienna, has arrived in Prague to consult with Jewish leaders about the Jewish position in the "protectorate." A Jewish delegation composed of Dr. Kafka and Dr. Franz Weidmann, head of the Bruenn emigration office, is scheduled to leave Aug. 27 for Paris and other cities to organize relief work for Czech Jewry.

Publication of a new Jewish periodical will start at the end of this month with the consent of the Gestapo. The publication will be devoted chiefly to emigration problems.

The well-known Jewish industrialist, David Weinstein, and his wife have committed suicide in Prague. Weinstein was owner of the firm, Breda and Weinstein, one of the country's largest department stores. He was also president of the Priessnitz Sanatorium in Grafenberg.

In the Prossnitz District, Jews have been prohibited from visiting bathing establishments and parks.

Reports from Bratislava said that the Slovakian authorities had decided to destroy 22,000 volumes of a total of 25,000 in the Bratislava library as being "tainted with Jewish ideas hostile to Slovakian nationalist conceptions."

Under the heading "Jewish Gangsters in Pressburg" (Bratislava), Der Neue Tag reports from Bratislava that one Adolf Frankel and 26 other Jews have been arrested after a "brawl" between Jews on the one hand and Germans and Slovaks on the other. The newspaper said the clash was precipitated by an attack by 50 Jews upon a group of Germans.

Report "Ghetto" Laws Planned in Bohemia

LONDON, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Regulations providing for separation of Jews from non-Jews in the social life of the "protectorate" are under consideration by the Bohemian provincial government office, it was reported today by the Prager Abend, organ of Reich Protector Konstantin von Neurath.

The projected measures provide separation of Jews and non-Jews in restaurants, cafes, bars, reading rooms and similar public places. Wherever possible, such places will be obliged to install special rooms for the exclusive use of Jews.

Existence of the "ghetto" rooms, according to the Abend, will have to be announced in a conspicuous manner both outside and inside the establishments providing them. Special rooms and special hours for Jews will also be introduced in all public baths, the newspaper said.

Jewish-owned commercial and industrial enterprises, under the projected regulations, will have to be marked by special signs. The regulations also provide for special arrangements to be made by hospitals, infirmaries, alms houses and nursing homes to prevent Jews and non-Jews using the same room and equipment at the same time. The newspaper adds that most district governors have already introduced such measures locally.

* CONTINUED PERSECUTION IN "PROTECTORATE" MAY HAMPER REICH EXODUS, EMERSON TELLS LEAGUE

GENEVA, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- A warning that Jewish emigration from the Reich may be hampered if persecution of Jews continues in Bohemia-Moravia and Slovakia is made by Sir Herbert Emerson, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in his official report on the international refugee situation to the 20th session of the League Assembly.

Expressing doubt whether his office can be available to finance Jewish emigration from former Czecho-Slovakia on a large scale, Sir Herbert declares: "If persecution of Jews in Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia were to create still another category of refugees the inevitable result would be to postpone a solution of the problem of Jewish emigration from German territory."

The report dwells at length on the situation of refugees from Czecho-Slovakia who crossed into Poland. The Polish Government, it discloses, made clear to Sir Herbert that, "having regard to their own Jewish problem," the Polish authorities will not permit Jewish refugees from Czech territory to remain in Poland. They must be evacuated as soon as possible, it is stated, and measures for their evacuation are now under consideration.

The High Commissioner praises the efforts of world Jewry in assistance to the persecuted, especially acknowledging the cooperation and practical assistance received from the Joint Distribution Committee. He estimates that \$75,000,000 has been spent on refugee work since Hitler's advent in 1933, most of which came from Jewish organizations. While more money is needed, less can now be expected from private organizations, he points out.

It is estimated that at least 60,000 Reich Jews found new homes in 1938, the majority of them being taken by the United States, Palestine, Australia and South American countries. Reporting on possibilities for refugee settlement in British Guiana, the Dominican Republic and other territories investigated by official bodies, Sir Herbert states that in the Dominican Republic there is available for colonization an area aggregating 2,700,000 acres, with climatic conditions favorable and health conditions reasonably good.

REFUGEES BANNED FROM JAP-RULED INTERNATIONAL ZONE IN SHANGHAI AFTER AUG. 21

SHANGHAI, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- The Japanese naval authorities, declaring they were acting upon the request of the Jewish Refugee Committee here, announced today that new Jewish refugees will not be permitted to reside or work in the Japanese defense sector of the Shanghai International Zone. The ban will go into effect Aug. 21.

A spokesman explained that the Japanese zone already shelters 15,000 refugees, the maximum the territory can accommodate in the present "exceptional circumstances." All foreign consuls have been advised of the step which is expected to create legal difficulties because the concession statute does not provide for limitation of immigration.

Mutiny Flares When Refugee Ship Is Ordered to Quit Smyrna

LONDON, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Dispatches from Smyrna said today that mutiny broke out on the Greek ship Parita, flying the Panama flag, when the Turkish authorities ordered the vessel to put out to sea with its cargo of more than 500 Jewish refugees. The ship has been lying in Smyrna harbor since Tuesday, its passengers banned from landing.

A fight broke out on the Parita between mutineers and the remainder of the crew when the order to quit the harbor was served. The mutineers were aided by refugees. Turkish police were called by the ship's captain to put down the outbreak. The captain had been threatened with death if he carried out the Turkish orders to leave the harbor.

Refugee Doctors Barred by Australia

LONDON, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- The Evening News tonight reported that the Australian Government had proclaimed a temporary ban against Jewish refugee physicians entering Australia. The motive advanced by the Government was scarcity of patients, the newspaper said.

OVER \$83,000,000 INVESTED IN PALESTINE IN 2 YEARS, AGENCY REPORTS AT GENEVA

GENEVA, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- More than \$83,000,000 in Jewish capital has been brought to Palestine for investment in land development and new industries in the last two years, while more than \$47,000,000 came in 1938. The report also reveals that in the past four years Jews from all over the world have spent about \$15,000,000 in steamship tickets for Palestine. Of this sum, American Jewry provided an insignificant proportion.

The report discloses that the flow of capital into the Holy Land has not been checked by the prolonged terrorism. Approximately \$36,000,000 was brought to Palestine in 1937, while more than \$47,000,000 came in 1938. The report also reveals that in the past four years Jews from all over the world have spent about \$15,000,000 in steamship tickets for Palestine. Of this sum, American Jewry provided an insignificant proportion.

Tribute is paid in the document to the great interest Jews and non-Jews in America are taking in defending Jewish rights in Palestine. Membership in Zionist organizations and affiliated groups in the United States, the report reveals, has increased from 110,000 to 150,000 in the course of the last two years.

The report deals at length with the general situation in Palestine during the last two years and with all phases of Jewish life there. It tells the story of the herculean labor, under constant danger, that went into the upbuilding work; of the heroic sacrifices made by Jewish workers and defenders in laying the foundations for a new refuge for tens of thousands of Jews hounded out of Europe.

The document reveals how the Jewish National Fund has staked out claims, in the hilly, desolate region of Galilee, to 1,000,000 dunams (about 200,000 acres) which are to serve as a basis for settlement of 25,000 agricultural families, composed mainly of refugees. It discloses how hundreds of Jewish workers have risked their lives to construct six miles of barbed wire entanglements along the northern frontier of Palestine in order to improve the country's security and to prevent Arab terrorists from smuggling arms from Syria.

The report emphasizes that, although the Jews were depressed by the recent British decree for a six-month suspension of Jewish immigration to Palestine and the Government's attempt to revoke the Balfour Declaration, they are continuing to build up the country, to acquire and develop the primitive soil.

As an illustration of the effectiveness of the Jewish efforts in the face of terrorism, the report points out that production in the last year has increased more than 150 per cent over the previous year.

Palestine Delegates Arrive at Geneva in Defiant Mood

GENEVA, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- Determination to defy Britain's plan for establishment of an independent Palestine state with a one-third Jewish minority was expressed today by Palestine Jewish leaders, arriving to attend the World Zionist Congress, which opens in the Municipal Theater Wednesday night.

While the more than 150 Palestinians, constituting the largest delegation at the forthcoming Congress, were converging on Geneva, a pre-Congress world conference of the Miz-rachi Organization was meeting in closed session to discuss the question of legal and ill-egal immigration of Jewish refugees into the Holy Land. The Mapai (Palestine Jewish labor party) delegation to the Congress today opened a four-day conference, which will be held entirely in camera.

Leading members of the Palestine delegation, which represents all sections of the Jewish homeland except the Revisionists, declared it was considered in Palestine that the British policy must fail of achievement in view of the opposition to it being organized by Holy Land Jewry. Confidence was expressed that immigration and land-buying would continue despite British attempts to check these forms of growth of the Jewish homeland.

The Government, it was explained by the delegates, will find it very hard to hamper Jews in acquiring land since this would affect the interests of citizens of the United States and other countries, who, under treaty guarantees, could not be prevented from buying land simply because they are Jews. Furthermore, it was pointed out, if the Government pursues its policy of prohibiting individual Jews from purchasing land, it would be difficult to interfere with a shareholding corporation which might take a special interest in acquiring Palestine property.

Regarding immigration, leading delegates made it clear that there would be no hesitation on the part of the majority of the Jewish population to encourage illegal entry should the British Government persist in its policy of prohibiting or restricting Jewish immigration. The Palestine immigration authorities cannot effectively combat illegal immigration without Jewish help, it was stated, since the Holy Land has a long Mediterranean coastline which could not be completely patrolled unless a large fleet were stationed all along the coast.

Most of the Palestine Jewish leaders believe that strong, organized opposition to the British policy -- perhaps going as far as Gandhi's methods of passive resistance and non-cooperation -- will result in the defeat of the British policy, and perhaps even lead to the resignation of Colonial Secretary MacDonald.

MENDELSSOHN & CO., FAMED AMSTERDAM BANK, SUSPENDS PAYMENTS; ACTION FOLLOWS DEATH OF MANNHEIMER

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 11. (JTA) -- The Amsterdam banking firm of Mendelssohn & Co. has suspended payments, it was announced today by the Netherlands General Press Bureau. The development followed the death of Fritz Mannheimer, founder and director of the Amsterdam branch of the famous banking house on Wednesday night in his villa near Paris. The death of Mr. Mannheimer, who was 49, was attributed to heart disease. Members of his family said he had been in poor health for years and that his physician was present when he died.

Mr. Mannheimer, who built up a fortune through fiscal operations, was known for his philanthropies, many of which were anonymous. During the period in which he was a partner, the Mendelssohn bank was a leader in continental underwriting. Born in Germany, Mr. Mannheimer began his banking career in Paris and later became a Netherlands citizen. The bank he headed was founded by a son of the 18th century German-Jewish philosopher, Moses Mendelssohn.