

# NEWS

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### AGENCY OFFERS TO AID BRITAIN OUTSIDE PALESTINE; SUGGESTS "ARMISTICE" ON WHITE PAPER

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine indicated today that Jews would be willing to serve in British forces outside the Holy Land as well as in this country.

Moshe Shertok, head of the Agency's political department, declared at a press conference that the Agency's offer to aid in the defence of Palestine was not necessarily confined to action within the country's boundaries.

(Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, has written to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain placing at Britain's disposal "Jewish manpower, technical ability and resources." Chamberlain replied that "your public spirited assurances are welcome and will be kept in mind.")

Shertok said the Jewish Agency was willing to maintain an "armistice" with Britain regarding "unenforced phases of the White Paper," which outlined Britain's policy for establishment of an Arab-dominated state in Palestine.

David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Agency's Palestine Executive, declared: "Our political weight is now increased. It is impossible that England will not recognize and utilize the strength of the Jews." He added, however, that "we have no right to weaken our powers of resistance against the White Paper" and stressed that American Jewry had the greatest responsibility ever in this regard.

### British Currency Laws Extended to Palestine

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The provisions of Great Britain's Currency Defence Act were extended to Palestine today under a series of special measures promulgated by Holy Land authorities. Barclays Bank hereafter will alone be authorized to conduct foreign exchange and gold transactions involving the dominions, colonies or foreign states.

The Czech Consulate General said today that "hundreds of Czecho-Slovak citizens living in Palestine have expressed a desire to fight for the liberation of Czecho-Slovakia." A statement expressed the belief that a Czech legion already was being formed here, as in England and France.

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Arab Body Offers Limited Support to Britain

BEIRUT, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Arab Higher Committee, organization which had been outlawed by the Palestine Government for fomenting the Arab rebellion, announced today that it would support Great Britain in the European conflict within Arab regions only.

Reich Asks Aid of "Jewish Compatriots"

GENEVA, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- According to reports of reliable persons arrived from Germany, the Nazis have addressed an appeal to "Jewish compatriots" asking Jews to register with the authorities for service to the country in some capacity.

Daily Prayer For Allies Set by Rabbinate

LONDON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Chief Rabbinate today published a special prayer to be said daily for victory of the Allied arms.

Americans Barred From Joining War Units Here

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- American volunteers anxious to fight against Hitlerism may not be recruited in a belligerent army in this country, nor may they enlist in a belligerent army while in this country, the State Department said today. There is no ban on them enlisting outside the United States however.

HAAVARA WINDS UP REICH-PALESTINE TRANSFER OPERATIONS; HANDLED \$35,000,000 IN 6 YEARS

LONDON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Haavara, agency set up to execute the Germany-Palestine transfer agreement which aided Jewish refugees in taking a portion of their capital out of the Reich, announced today that it is winding up its operations since the basis of its existence has been removed. The agency was organized in Nov., 1933, and in the period ending June 30, 1939, handled transfers totalling 105,000,000 marks (about \$35,000,000).

U.S. CONSIDERS ACTION ON EXTENDING TOURISTS' VISAS FOR DURATION OF WAR

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The State Department said today it may consider action to permit refugees and other Europeans on temporary visas to remain in the United States for the duration of the war.

However, the Department termed as "speculation" published reports that holders of visitors' permits would be permitted to remain in this country. (These reports, published in New York, said cases of foreign visitors would be dealt with on an individual basis, but a liberal policy would be followed.)

Immigration to the United States has come to a standstill and it is not likely that visas will be issued during September, the State Department said today. The American ambassadors in Paris and London asked that visas for immigrants be held up until all American citizens abroad are evacuated from the European danger zones.

As the State Department went ahead with plans for the White House refugee conference next month, Douglas Jenkins, new Minister to Bolivia, conferred with President Roosevelt today before sailing for his new post. Jenkins, former American Consul General in London, is an expert on refugee problems. Bolivia, a country with great natural resources and comparatively sparsely settled, has been considered among possible new homelands for European refugees.

FRENCH SPEED REFUGEE GROUP ON WAY TO U.S.; HIAS-ICA AID EFFECTIVE

PARIS, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A group of 81 Austrian Jewish refugees who arrived here last week from Vienna with American visas left today for England, their departure made possible by the efforts of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association and the humanitarian attitude of the French authorities. The refugees, including 38 women and four children, will tranship for the United States from an English port.

Despite the war, the British authorities are affording transit facilities for refugees who thus escape the danger of being interned for the duration of the conflict. This fact is almost without precedent in wartime or any emergency situation. It testifies to the enlightened attitude in this respect of the French and British authorities, who realize the peculiar situation of the Jewish refugees and are willing to spare them the hardships resulting from war measures. It also demonstrates the efficiency with which the HIAS-ICA is rendering service to the refugees.

HIAS Expands Pier Service

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society has been obliged to expand its "pier service" because of the great number of ships bringing refugees to New York from Europe, it was stated today by Abraham Herman, president of HIAS. The service meets all incoming steamships carrying Jewish passengers and aids them in entering the country.

47 Child Exiles Arrive in Copenhagen From Reich

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Forty-seven Jewish children arrived here today from Germany under the auspices of the Youth Aliyah (Palestine immigration) movement. Another 200 are expected to arrive at an early date. Their departure from the Reich has been made possible by the intervention of the Danish Women's League for Peace and Freedom.

77 En Route to Palestine

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Seventy-seven Jewish children holding certificates for Palestine were permitted to leave Germany under the auspices of the Youth Aliyah movement, according to a cable from London received here today by Hadassah. The children are between the ages of 15 and 17 and were placed aboard an unnamed Italian steamer at Trieste, Italy on September 4. They are expected to arrive momentarily at either the Tel Aviv or Haifa harbors in Palestine. The cable stated further that there were "good hopes for the evacuation of 300 more German Jewish children very shortly."

Australia, Egypt Exempt Refugees From Internment

CANBERRA, Australia, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- It was announced officially today that the Government is not interning Jewish refugees from Germany unless it is proved that they are engaged in subversive activities.

CAIRO, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees have not been affected by measures taken against Germans here, it was learned today.

Athenia Victims Aided by Refugee Body

GLASGOW, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Financial assistance will be extended to refugees from Germany among the Athenia survivors, it was announced today by the Scottish National Council for Refugees. The refugees will be cared for by the Glasgow branch of the German-Jewish Aid Committee until they can continue their journey to Canada and the United States, which had been interrupted by a torpedo from a German submarine.

DIES HOLDS TESTIMONY AT HEARINGS CLEARS JEWS OF LINK TO COMMUNISM

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The testimony produced at hearings of the Dies Committee has proved that there is no truth in the often repeated charges of anti-Semites that American Jewry is linked to Communism, Chairman Martin Dies said today.

He made the statement while questioning Benjamin Gitlow, Jew who was formerly general secretary of the Communist Party of the U.S., but who left the party ten years ago "when it began to smack of dictatorship."

Jews do not lead the Communist Party either here or in the Soviet Union, Gitlow said, and pointed out that there are few Jews now in important posts in Russia.

The very presence of Gitlow, a Jew who deserted the Communists, was proof that Communism and Judaism are not synonymous, Dies said.

Gitlow estimated that "not more than 15 to 18 per cent of the Communists in America are Jews," or were until the Hitler-Stalin pact was signed.

Many Jews have quit the Communist party here since the signing of the Hitler-Stalin pact, Gitlow told the J.T.A. correspondent here during an intermission in the Dies hearing on un-American activities. "Most of those who have resigned are the intellectuals and leaders. Unfortunately, there are still some who follow the party line."

Gitlow branded Stalin as a "Red Fuehrer" in his testimony before the committee. He said he broke with the Comintern -- where he held membership in the presidium -- when it became apparent that communism as practiced in Russia was more a dictatorship than a democracy. In his interview with the J.T.A. representative, Gitlow charged that the Communist party was withholding figures on the number of Jews who had forsaken communism since the pact was signed.

BERLIN ORT GROUP TO REORGANIZE SCHOOL IN ENGLAND

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- The first contingent of 115 students and teachers from the ORT engineering school in Berlin arrived in England last week and will reorganize the school in Leeds, it was announced yesterday by Philip E.H. Samuel, son of Lord Samuel, addressing a luncheon in his honor given by the American ORT Federation at the Lawyers' Club. Mr. Samuel arrived here on the Queen Mary on Monday en route to Hong Kong.

George Backer, president of the American ORT, replying to Chancellor Hitler's condemnation of "the Jewish plutocratic and democratic upper crust," asserted that "if to be a democratic advocate of freedom is a crime, then we all must plead guilty before the bar of history. I for one am willing to face the charge, for the Jew has his own special cross to bear -- the swastika."

Other speakers were Paul Felix Warburg, treasurer of the ORT Reconstruction Fund; John Goulston, a leader of the Australian ORT, and Louis B. Boudin, who presided.

WORLD PARLEY OF POLISH JEJISH GROUPS TO BE HELD AS SCHEDULED DESPITE WAR

NEW YORK, Sept. 9. (JTA) -- The Federation of Polish Jews in America announced today that the third biennial world conference of the Federations of Polish Jews, scheduled for the week of Sept. 18 - 25, will take place despite the inability of delegates from European countries to come here owing to the war situation.



Benjamin Grosskopf and J.L. Wohlman of the Federation of Polish Jews in Palestine, who came here as delegates and arrived a week ago, will remain for the conference, it was stated. Mr. Grosskopf is president of the Federation and director of the Bank Haolin, Ltd., in Tel Aviv. Noah Naimark, representing the Federation of Polish Jews in Brazil and Leon Shuwaks of the Federation in Chile, arrived in New York Monday on the S.S. Argentine. England, France, Belgium and Holland will not be represented at the conference. There will be delegations from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Mexico, Cuba, Canada, Palestine and the United States.

#### NAHUM ZEMACH, FOUNDER OF HABIMAH, DIES HERE AT 52

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Nahum Zemach, actor and founder of the Habimah, Hebrew theatrical troupe which successfully toured Europe and the United States, died here today at the age of 52. He had been ill several years.

Zemach was born in a village near Bialystok, Poland. He founded Habimah in Moscow in 1917. After touring Europe and America, the troupe split, part remaining here and the remainder establishing itself as a permanent theatre in Palestine.

#### F.B.I. AGENTS HOLD PHILADELPHIA CENTER OF PRO-NAZISM; ARMY MEN LINKED TO BUND

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation told newspaper men today that Philadelphia was a center of pro-Nazi and anti-Semitic propaganda. The agents disclosed that "at least seven" Army and National Guard officers, including a Brigadier-General who is a public high school teacher, regularly attended meetings of the German-American Bund.

They also revealed, in what was stated to be the most important findings of a four-month investigation of spy and un-American activities conducted by the F.B.I., that the owner of the Deutschhorst Country Club at Sellersville, near Philadelphia, was a known German agent and that his club was the "play spot" of the Bund.

#### ROOSEVELT BACKS "LOYALTY DAYS," UPHOLDS ROLE OF RELIGION

NEW YORK, Sept. 8. (JTA) -- A message from President Roosevelt backing the church "Loyalty Days" on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 and declaring that our civilization can only rest on "the brotherhood of man and the sanctions of religion" was made public today by the National Committee for Religion and Welfare Recovery. The President's letter, addressed to Dr. E. Graham Wilson, chairman of the Executive Committee for Religion and Welfare Recovery, follows:

"There never has been a time in our history when there was deeper need for calling our people to faith in religion than the present moment. In the contemporary conflict between nations and races and their philosophies of human society, we must keep undimmed our perspective on spiritual values.

"Within our own nation we are pressed by problems, both national and international, which call for divine guidance and power. As we seek continued recovery, we need more and more to realize that our search will be in vain unless we meet, with spiritual forces, the materialism which has such disastrous effect on our national and international life.

"I am gratified to learn that the Call is again going forth for the nation-wide observance of Loyalty Day by our churches and synagogues, September thirtieth and October first, to bring the minds and hearts of men back to consciousness of the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man and the sanctions of religion, in services of worship and rededication to these ideals. Upon them alone can the structure of our civilization rest in security and confidence."