

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. VI. NO. 40.

Wednesday, September 20, 1939.

### REICH REPORTED PLANNING TO SET UP AUTONOMOUS JEWISH STATE IN GALICIA

BELGRADE, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- A report that Germany intends to set up an autonomous Jewish State in Galicia was published here today by the semi-official Yugoslav newspaper Vreme.

A Bucharest dispatch to the newspaper said the state would be established in agreement with the new Polish Government planned by Germany. The correspondent said the Jews would have full control of the autonomous region, to which all the Jews of Germany, Bohemia, Moravia, Austria and the occupied portions of Poland would be sent.

### Relaxation of Anti-Semitism Reported Part of Red-Nazi Pact

RIGA, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- A Swedish newspaper reported today that the Russo-German bargain provides for extensive relaxation of anti-Jewish measures in Germany.

The newspaper, Nya Dagligt Allehanda of Stockholm, published an interview with a German traveling salesman who said that large numbers of Jews had been released from concentration camps to work at tasks of military necessity. The German also was quoted as stating that cafes and restaurants were removing signs banning Jews and that the German Government was ordering a cessation of agitation against wealthy Jews abroad, even in England.

### Jews in Polish Ukraine Held Relieved at Escape From Nazis

PARIS, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- The Jews in the Polish Ukraine "feel relieved that they have been spared, even if only temporarily, from the fear of Nazi pogroms," as result of the Soviet occupation, the Havas News Agency reported today in a dispatch from Cernauti, Rumania.

"Conversations with people there seemed to indicate that the people of the Polish Ukraine have not been especially displeased by the advance of the Russians," Havas said. "The Soviet propaganda that reaches them says the Soviet advance is preventing the area from passing under German domination. Moreover, this whole region has been subjected to German aerial attack and the arrival of the Soviet forces is regarded as a means of escaping the horror from the skies."

(The New York Times, in a delayed Bucharest dispatch dated Sunday, said the mixed Rumanian, Russian and Jewish population in Bessarabian frontier towns evidenced "no special nervousness" over the Red Army's invasion of Poland.)

Hitler Taunts World For Sympathy to Reich Jews

PARIS, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- Passing reference to the treatment of Jews in Germany was made by Chancellor Hitler in his Danzig speech today. Declaring Poland was "never a democracy" and charging that she "barbarously treated" her German minority, Hitler said: "The world which was so moved by the fate of a few thousand Jews looked on passively at the martyrdom of millions of Germans in Holland. Germany, a great power, had to look on at these persecutions by an upstart people."

GOEBBELS SILENCE SPURS REICH RUMORS ON HIS FATE; SEEN DISCARDED AS GESTURE TO REDS

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- Travelers returning from the Reich told today of rumors that Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, who has disappeared from German press and radio activity, has been put into the discard by Chancellor Hitler as a gesture to cement Soviet-Nazi relations. One of the rumors said to be circulating in Germany is that Goebbels is dead.

Germans were reported to be astonished that Goebbels, formerly the Government's most active anti-Soviet and anti-Jewish spokesman, has not made a single speech since the war started. Newspapers, it was stated, have even stopped printing his name.

No measures, according to the returned travelers, have thus far been taken by the Government to contradict the rumors. The Berlin correspondent of the Algemeen Handelsblad reported that a Goebbels broadcast, scheduled for Sept. 9 and then postponed to the 14th, has been cancelled without explanation.

LONDON PAPER RIDICULES NAZI BID TO JEWISH REFUGEES

LONDON, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- The Star today characterized as a "new cynical version of 'return home, all will be forgiven,'" the current appeals by Nazi consulates to emigrated Jewish doctors and engineers to return to Germany.

In an article captioned, "Germany Needs the Jews," the Star said: "(The Nazis) little know the people on whom they have been heaping persecution and insult if they think they will respond to a new cynical version of 'return home, all will be forgiven.' The Jews are not people of short memories.

"The fact that the Nazis are in dire need of experts to help them<sup>??</sup> prosecute the war is no inducement, but is very opportune. I can only see in this ridiculous announcement new evidence that black error is as stupid as it is blind. Nothing could save a Government so besotted with hatred that it does not realize what its hatred must look like to all normal men."

It was reported that 200 world-famous refugee scientists in England would refuse Hitler's invitation.

THOUSANDS OF DEAD, WOUNDED LIE IN STREETS OF RAZED POLISH TOWNS, SURVEY REVEALS

PARIS, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- Thousands of Jewish dead and dying lie in the streets of Polish towns razed by the German invasion with none to attend to them, according to Polish official information collected for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent and delivered today through the Polish Embassy in Paris. Following is a digest of the Polish survey of the Jewish aspect of the situation:

Thousands of Jewish dead bodies are rotting in cities wiped out by Nazi bombings. Similarly, many aged Jews, women and children who were wounded by air raiders who followed refugees are lying along the roads in a dying state with the invading German forces paying no attention to them.

In Warsaw, Jews and non-Jews killed by Nazi bombs are buried in collective graves, hurriedly thrown into the pits so that the presence of the corpses should not result in infectious disease.

Hunger prevails in Warsaw since no food supplies can be delivered in view of the constant German bombardment. The situation is reaching such a point of despair that when mothers and children have starved for several days they risk their lives to search in streets under bombardment for anything edible. Jews and non-Jews share what food is obtainable, which consists mostly of leftovers from military field kitchens.

With Wilno occupied by the Soviet army, thousands of Jewish refugees in that city who intended to cross into Lithuania were prevented from doing so by the closing of the frontiers. The same is true of the Latvian border. According to the American Minister in Riga, about 400 refugees from Poland are now on Latvian soil.

Vladimir-Volynsk, which is close to the Soviet-Polish frontier, was entirely destroyed yesterday by German aerial bombardment. The city was converted into ashes and hundreds of Jews are lying dead in the streets. This is the second raid on Vladimir-Volynsk, the previous one having been made on Rosh Hashonah last Thursday when bombs razed a large synagogue while Jews were inside praying. It is believed that several hundred bodies are still under the synagogue's ruins.

Tens of thousands of Jews were today wandering over roads and in the woods along Volhynia, Polesia, and Wilno suburbs, tramping in muddy fields under heavy rains and under Nazi aerial bombardment. Like frightened sheep they run, many of them in the wrong directions, falling under Nazi machine-guns and bombs.

Not much chance for escape is left for them, since all countries neighboring Poland closed their frontiers to refugees last night.

#### Refugee Camp Set Up in Latvia

RIGA, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- A new concentration camp for Polish refugees has been set up Daugavpila (Dvinsk), a few miles north of the Polish frontier, it was learned here today. Occupants of the camp are mostly Jewish.

#### SO. AMERICA EXTOLLED AS HAVEN FOR REFUGEES AT WORLD PARLEY OF POLISH JEWS HERE

NEW YORK, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- "Tremendous possibilities" for settlement of Jews from Poland and elsewhere in Argentina and other Latin American countries were reported to the second session of the third biennial world conference of Federations of Polish Jews Abroad today by Wolf Orzech, secretary of the South American Federation of Polish Jews.

While governments are disinclined to permit indiscriminate immigration, they are amenable to discussing plans for selective immigration of persons meeting the countries' economic requirements, Orzech told some 70 delegates from 14 countries meeting at the Hotel Astor.

He urged that definite plans be formulated for coming to an understanding on this problem with the South American governments and expressed the belief that if such plans were consummated large numbers of Jews from Poland could be transplanted to South America within the next few years.

In an interview, Orzech said that Argentina could support three times its present population, that the last census revealed a falling population and that the Argentine Government would be amenable to considering concrete plans for Jewish colonization if they were presented by responsible organizations backed by adequate funds.

"A movement is now afoot in Argentina for opening the doors wide to immigrants," he said. "It is certain that when responsible organizations with good material prospects will offer concrete plans, there will be possibilities for immigration of many hundreds of Jewish families."

The necessity of arranging settlement of European Jews in South America and Africa was stressed in an address by Melech Ravitch, of Melbourne, Yiddish writer and traveler, who said the responsibility rested on the 6,000,000 Jews in English-speaking countries to organize effective relief action and arrange for emigration of as many Jews as possible.

Zelig Tygel, executive director of the World Federation of Polish Jews Abroad, said it was necessary to prepare for the time when Poland would be rid of its invaders and Jewish life there would have to be rehabilitated. At the same time, he said, it is necessary to persuade Britain to open the doors of Palestine, which represents "the chief hope of Jewry."

#### Fertig Urges Relief on Broad Basis

In a speech late last night at the opening session, Transit Commissioner M. Maldwin Fertig urged the raising of funds for overseas relief. "Let us bear in mind, too, that in the relief that we give we should not confine ourselves entirely to those of our faith or race, that we should extend a generous and magnanimous hand to our fellow humans over their regardless of race or creed," he said.

The conference, opening with would-be European delegates unable to attend because of the war, adopted a declaration calling on world Jewry to aid in the rehabilitation of the Polish Jews after Poland would be victorious against the "brutal invaders" from Germany.

The declaration made no mention of Soviet Russia. It expressed conviction that "our just cause shall prevail," spoke of the heroism of Polish Jews in the Republic's defense and stressed the importance of preparing "to build again the foundations of a normal life" after the present war. It concluded with the call: "Jews of the world: let us close ranks and prepare ourselves for the great moment of peace -- which, we are confident, is not so far away as may seem in this tragic hour."

Benjamin Winter, president of the World Federation, spoke to Polish Ambassador Count Potocki by telephone, in the presence of the conference, after the Ambassador's address from the Polish Embassy in Washington, and assured him that the Polish Jews of the world would work for the rehabilitation of Poland.

"We are struggling and fighting for the same principles that the people in Poland are fighting for," Winter told the Ambassador. "Of course, we will remain within the laws of the United States. We believe, as you do, that Poland will rise again. Poland may be down but she is far from being out."



The conference opening was attended by about 200 guests in addition to the delegates. Other speakers were Abraham Goldberg, David Wertheim, Louis Segal, Dr. Jacob Shatzky, Mrs. A.P. Kaplan, Rabbi Jacob Bosniak, Joseph Opatashu, Gershom Bader and Joseph Batoshanski of Uruguay.

Messages of greeting were read from President Roosevelt, Governor Lehman, Postmaster-General James A. Farley and Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes.

#### BRITAIN STILL NEGOTIATING WITH AGENCY ON JEWISH LEGION

LONDON, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- The British Government has not yet reached a decision with regard to formation of a Jewish Legion in Palestine, it was authoritatively learned today. A proposal to create a legion such as helped Marshal Allenby conquer the Holy Land for England in the World War is still being discussed by representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Government.

Pointing out that the Arabs and Jews in Palestine were rallying to Britain's support, the periodical Spectator declared today that "Hitler will have done at least one good service if he has enabled the Arabs and the Jews to forget their enmities."

#### 120 Palestinians Return from Poland

HAIFA, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- A hundred and twenty Palestinian Jews arrived here from Poland today and reported that Warsaw was a total ruin. They were visiting in Poland when the war broke out, escaped from Warsaw on Sept. 10 and made their way to Palestine via Rumania.

Meanwhile, the Coast Guard captured a Panama-flagged steamship, the Nuzli Julia, carrying 1,200 Jewish illegal immigrants. The captain of the ship is Russian.

#### 150 Leave Geneva for Palestine

GENEVA, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- A hundred and fifty Palestinian Jewish leaders, stranded here since the World Zionist Congress closed on Aug. 25, left yesterday on a special train for Trieste, where they are to obtain steamer passage to Palestine.

#### Soldier Killed in Clash with Arabs

JERUSALEM, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- One British soldier was killed and three were wounded today when a military patrol engaged an Arab band at Alquebeiba near Jerusalem -- the first encounter between British forces and Arab terrorists since the outbreak of war in Europe.

#### MIZRACHI WOMEN TO PROCEED WITH BUILDING OF PALESTINE FARM SCHOOL

NEW YORK, Sept. 19. (JTA) -- Pledging a policy of expansion of its projects "in this time of travail" in Palestine, the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America, at a reception in the Hotel Pennsylvania for its delegates to the recent World Zionist Congress, decided today to proceed immediately with the building of a Central Training Farm School for Religious Youth near Petach Tikvah.

Speakers included Mrs. Samuel Goldstein and Mrs. Louis Wald of Brooklyn, national vice-presidents; Mrs. Bezalel Cohen, Paterson, N.J., and Mrs. Nathan B. Fischer, Rockaway Park, L.I., who presided.