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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC OPENS DOORS TO 500 REFUGEE FAMILIES; ENTRY FEES WAIVED

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The Dominican Republic today became the first country in the Western Hemisphere to open its doors to the political refugees of Europe under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees.

General Rafael Trujillo, army chief and former president of the Republic, told reporters at his Legation here that 500 refugee families will immediately be admitted to his nation under a plan developed by the committee. General Trujillo made the announcement just prior to attending a luncheon of officers of the committee.

He said that the refugees will not be subject to the payment of \$500 per person as established by the Dominican immigration laws. He revealed also that he will personally make himself responsible for the upkeep and education, for a period of two years, of a number of unmarried persons among the refugees.

"These refugees," General Trujillo said, "will not be considered immigrants. They will be considered as refugees going to work under colonization plans whom my government will receive with humanitarian feeling. We will give them every opportunity to work. In accordance with the plans which are being worked out with the refugee committee, 500 families will be admitted. I will personally make myself responsible for the upkeep and education, for a period of two years, of a number of unmarried young men and girls who will come with these families."

General Trujillo praised President Roosevelt's declarations to the Intergovernmental Committee, adding that "we have taken positive measures to solve this problem of humanitarian importance."

Meanwhile, the White House announced that Paul van Zeeland, former premier of Belgium and president of the Coordinating Foundation, will confer with Mr. Roosevelt at noon tomorrow. The committee, which has been engaged in informal discussions since its meeting last week, will resume its formal conferences tomorrow at the State Department.

Under the plans of the committee, the 500 families who will find new homes in the Dominican Republic will be drawn from the German refugees in the neutral states of The Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and the Scandinavian countries. These governments have been particularly hard pressed to care for the approximately 60,000 refugees who successfully fled Germany.

General Trujillo, speaking with Minister Pastoriza as interpreter, quoted the categorical statements of Secretary of State Cordell Hull and the British Admiralty in denying that his nation harbored German submarines. Refuting allegations of pro-Nazi influences in the Republic, the General said that his Government was the "first to request the cooperation of the United States for the patrol of the surrounding seas and the American navy and aviation corps have cooperated in this task with the Dominican authorities."

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Britain Balks at Increased Entry to Dominions; Guiana Plan Only Delayed

LONDON, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Government spokesmen in the House of Commons today turned down a proposal to seek increased refugee immigration into the Dominions and neutral countries, and stated that the Guiana settlement plan was only temporarily halted.

Foreign Undersecretary Richard A. Butler rejected a proposal of Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Independent, that the Government approach the United States and other neutral countries, as well as the Dominions, asking them to increase temporarily their quotas for refugee immigration in view of the suffering and danger imposed on victims of Nazi persecution by the unwillingness of Britain and France to receive them.

Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald, replying to a demand that abandonment of the British Guiana scheme be only temporary because subsequent reemigration was a condition of entry to Britain, declared he was hopeful that the scheme would be carried out in the future, but refugee organizations were unable to proceed now because they were no longer in a financial position to do so.

HUNDREDS OF AGED JEWS EXECUTED BY NAZIS AS "SNIPERS," POLISH REFUGEES REVEAL

BUCHAREST, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Young refugees from Poland, who risked their lives in crossing the almost hermetically sealed Rumanian frontier, gave photographic evidence today that hundreds of aged Jews who obviously were incapable of handling guns had been executed by Nazi troops on charges of sniping.

Some of the pictures show groups of Jews lined up in the woods as they are about to be shot by Nazi firing squads. Executed for "firing on German soldiers," the Jews for the most part were aged, pious-looking, kaftan-clad men to whom the handling of a gun would be both an insoluble mystery and religiously offensive.

One photo shows more than 100 Jews, the majority of them bearded and clad in kaftans, packed in an open military truck. Surrounded by Nazi guards, they were being driven off to be executed "because shots were fired from their houses upon German troops."

Printed Nazi propaganda accompanying the pictures declares that "a large part of the Jewish population in Poland has been found guilty of acts of animosity against German troops and are therefore paying for it."

Other refugees, from Soviet-held areas of Poland, told this correspondent that life there was generally tolerable. While synagogues have not been molested, they said, Zionist leaders have been arrested and bread is scarce because the peasants are hiding their grain. Among the arrested Zionist leaders, they reported, was Deputy Emil Sommerstein. (Previous dispatches from Kaunas reported that Dr. Sommerstein was being held by the Soviet authorities in Lwow together with Chief Rabbi Senator Moses Schorr.)

The refugees are for the most part young men who are desperately anxious to reach Palestine. Under cover of dark, rainy autumn nights they smuggled themselves through woods and marshes into Rumania.

Meanwhile, information reaching here from Warsaw said that the Nazis were conducting mass arrests of Jews on charges of "Black Bourse" (illegal currency) dealings. Appeals for mercy are disregarded.

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Rabbi Tells of Harrowing Flight From Nazi Terror

BUCHAREST, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Vogelman of Kattowice and Professor Zweig of the University of Cracow are among the Polish refugees now in Bucharest.

Dr. Vogelman relates that he left Kattowice a few hours after the German invasion began, traveling for four days toward the Rumanian frontier in cattle wagons with other refugees.

Pursuing German planes, he says, bombed and machine-gunned refugees on all roads and railway lines leading to Rumania. One bomb even fell in Rumanian territory near Crisciatic, killing five persons.

Unbelievable cruelties being perpetrated by the Nazis, Dr. Vogelman states, were stopped only by the Russian advance.

At the same time, new facts were revealed here showing that at least a section of the Polish army and population had persevered in anti-Jewish hatred even in the nation's hour of greatest distress and despite the heroism displayed by Jewish soldiers and civilians.

Polish cart drivers refused to take on Jewish refugees as passengers, fearing reprisals. Polish officers held up cars with Jews leaving bombarded towns, requisitioning the cars for their own families and leaving Jewish women and children on the roads. Among Jews suffering such treatment was the well-known manufacturer Gruber who was trying to escape with his wife and mother. Gruber's car was stopped by a Polish major who requisitioned it for his own private purposes.

Horrible details about the slaughter of Jews in Warsaw are related by a diplomat reaching Bucharest via Germany. The envoy said he had helped bury hundreds of Jewish bodies scattered in the Nalewki quarter on Rosh Hashonah, the Jewish New Year. He said courtyards of apartment houses had been turned into burial grounds since the Jewish cemeteries had been filled during the first days of the war.

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Jews Left Without Food as Nazis Feed Poles, U.S. Agents Report

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The famine-stricken Jewish quarters of Warsaw are compelled to live on their own resources while the Nazi welfare organization is distributing 250,000 hot meals and 300,000 loaves of bread daily to Germans and Poles, two American relief agents were quoted as reporting today upon their return to Berlin from a five-day tour of the ruined Polish capital.

According to a United Press dispatch from Berlin, William MacDonald and Homer Morris, representatives of the Commission for Polish Relief, Inc., said that the worst famine had occurred in the "crowded tenements of the old city and in the Jewish quarter."

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The Americans said that thousands of bodies were still buried beneath the debris in the Jewish quarter, that some of the buildings are "merely heaps of bricks two stories high" and that the survivors have "neither homes nor money nor work." They reported that gangs of workmen, mostly Polish prisoners and Jews, were cleaning the streets.

The relief agents estimated that 50,000 persons had been killed, hundreds of thousands wounded and 35 per cent of the buildings destroyed, with an additional 20 per cent badly damaged. They said that electricity service had been resumed in the city and that the water supply was normal.

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600 Czech Jews Shipped to Poland

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The Associated Press reported from Prague today that a transport of about 600 Jews has been sent to Nazi-held areas of Poland for compulsory labor. The dispatch said that most of the Jews had been unemployed but some had been taken from jobs in factories.

An A.P. dispatch from Lodz quoted the Deutsche Lodzer Zeitung as declaring that Jews in Poland have been forbidden by the German Occupation Administration to trade or deal in textiles, leather or leather goods. The newspaper said that Jewish-owned textile factories were permitted to sell only to non-Jewish customers.

EPIDEMICS THREATEN REFUGEES IN HUNGARY, RUMANIA, RED CROSS REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Epidemics are threatening concentrated groups of Polish refugees who have found temporary shelter in Hungary and Rumania, as well as interned soldiers, the American Red Cross said today following receipt of cables from its delegates who are surveying conditions in those countries.

At the same time, the Red Cross announced that shipments of drugs, blankets and warm underwear are being forwarded to the refugees, of whom there are an estimated 80,000, this week. One unit of basic drugs sufficient to stock a hospital for six months is being sent to Hungary and Rumania by way of the Mediterranean together with 20,000 suits of underwear and 5,000 blankets.

In addition, the Red Cross today allocated \$25,000 to purchase drugs in Switzerland and Holland to be handled by the German Red Cross for the relief of sick and wounded in camps and hospitals in that part of Poland under German control.

Earnest J. Swift and Wayne Chatfield Taylor, of the American delegation, visited Hungary and Rumania and reported on the desperate conditions of refugees in the two countries.

The Red Cross also announced receipt of a cable from the International Red Cross reporting the presence of approximately 100,000 Polish refugees near Wilno. The Yugoslav Red Cross reported that 1,000 Polish refugees were in need in that country.

REFUGEES IN KENYA SEEK TO SERVE BRITAIN

NAIROBI, Kenya, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Refugees from Germany and Austria have appealed to the Governor of Kenya Colony for the privilege of serving Britain either in military or other capacities, it was disclosed here today.

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"You, the pioneers who have established a new homeland for the Jews of the world, entered the field at a time that might be said to be limited to the people in whom you are interested. Persecution at that time was going on, but under the control of amateurs, as we have learned today. These persecutions were the whim of individuals. No student of history at the time believed or contemplated that persecution would at any time become the national policy of any government. But we have seen this transformation in the short period of a few years. We have seen it apply not only to one minority, but to several minorities in Europe.

"Whoever first thought of the expression 'rights of minorities' had real vision. The protection of minorities is a problem which confronts every country in the world. We have learned that although at the time a country may be free, the necessity of constant vigilance is emphasized and that all countries should so chart their national policies as to nip in the bud any attempt to stimulate any racial feeling within its borders."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund Council of America, declared the Turkish-British-French pact had assured peace in the Mediterranean for the time being and would permit immigration of refugees into Palestine "during the war, and not afterward, when it will do the least good."

As proof of Britain's willingness to cooperate with the Palestine Jews Dr. Goldstein cited the acquisition of 50,000 dunams (12,000 acres) of land within the past 12 months -- the largest area purchased in one year since 1922. He reported that Hadassah had raised a total of \$145,000, part of the national collections of \$1,700,000 for land purchase and afforestation during the past year.

At last night's opening session at the Manhattan Center a message telegraphed by Senator Robert F. Wagner was read. It declared that everything which had occurred in the past year served to make the realization of the Palestine homeland "more essential, to the limit of Palestine's economic absorptive capacity."

LITHUANIA DENOUNCES MEMEL PACT ON CITIZENSHIP; MANY JEWS FAVORABLY AFFECTED

KAUNAS, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The recently concluded German-Lithuanian agreement over the status of former residents of Memelland, territory taken by Germany last spring, has been denounced by this Government, it was revealed here today.

Under the agreement, which was initialed last month, all persons who were residents of Memel before 1923 were to be regarded as German citizens. Denunciation of the pact has saved thousands of Jews from the danger of losing their Lithuanian citizenship.

HIAS-ICA ACTS TO HELP 58 REICH EXILES TAKEN OFF ITALIAN LINER BY FRENCH

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The HIAS-ICA Emigration Association in Paris is intervening in behalf of 58 Jewish refugees from Germany who were taken off the Italian liner Conte di Savoia at Algiers by French military authorities, while their wives and children were permitted to proceed to New York, where many of them are now lodged with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

When the liner docked here on Sunday, it was disclosed today, HIAS cabled to the HIAS-ICA in Paris advising it of the circumstances. The HIAS-ICA replied: "We are doing what is necessary and will cable final results." All the refugees have valid visas for the United States.

3 POLISH JEWISH LEADERS ORDERED EXCLUDED; CASE GOES TO WASHINGTON

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- Three Polish Jewish leaders who arrived here Sunday on the United States liner Manhattan with tourist visas were ordered excluded yesterday by officials at Ellis Island and the case has been appealed to the Labor Department in Washington. The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, which is acting in behalf of the three, was advised by its Washington office today that action was expected within a few days. The Jewish leaders are Dr. Arjeh Tartakower, Dr. Jakob Apenszlak and Dr. Leib Wulman.

MUFTI ENTERED IRAQ WITHOUT PERMISSION, COMMONS IS TOLD

LONDON, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The Iraq Government did not consult Britain before admitting the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin el Hussein, who escaped from Lebanon, Foreign Under-secretary Richard A. Butler said in the House of Commons today in reply to a question by Tom Williams, Laborite. Butler pointed out that there was no opportunity for consultation since Hussein entered Iraq without permission and crossed the frontier undetected.

NEW NAZI TAX ON JEWS REVEALS TURMOIL IN REICH ECONOMY, POST HOLDS

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The New York Post said editorially today that the new five percent tax levied by the Nazis on all Jewish property "indicates the turmoil within the German economy."

"For eleven months," the editorial declares, "the sadistic pogrom against the Jews has been conducted with reduced energy. Not long ago the Government even appealed to German Jewish doctors, who had escaped, to return to their country and relieve the shortage of medical staff. We might expect a nation at war, faced with the problem of financing wartime expenditures, to pass some sort of capital levy, as Great Britain has done. But a well-ordered nation in which the determination to fight is universal obtains financial help from all the people. It does not heap the burden, as Germany has done, upon those of one religion, making them at once the excuse and the chief sufferers for the military conflict."

RECREATION HUT NAMED FOR MONASH, WORLD WAR HERO, TO BE PUT UP IN ENGLAND

LONDON, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- A recreation hut named for General Sir John Nonash, Jewish hero of the World War, will shortly be established by the Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, it was announced today.

The association issued a statement urging members to collect facts and figures of Jewry's war services to help keep its war register up to date. The statement reminds Jewish veterans that "the war has not solved the Jewish problem," and points out that the association now has an "even more important part to play in Jewish affairs than in peace times."

CHRISTIAN GROUP ASKS OPENING OF PALESTINE TO 100,000 ANNUALLY

NEW YORK, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The American Christian Emergency Council for Palestine today sent a memorandum to President Roosevelt asking him to intercede with the British Government and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees for admission of 100,000 Jewish refugees annually into Palestine. The memorandum was signed by 15 members of the council, including Bishop Francis J. McConnell, the Rev. Charles S. MacFarland, Dr. Guy Emery Shipler, the Rev. Stanley High and Dr. Henry A. Atkinson.

BUND UNIT IN SEATTLE DISBANDS

SEATTLE, Oct. 25. (JTA) -- The German-American Bund unit in Seattle has disbanded, its leader, Paul Stoll announced today, because "we are told that the Bund is opposed to the Constitution." Stoll, who had resigned a few hours earlier rather than register as a foreign agent, said that the membership was in agreement to dissolve, feeling its purpose had been misinterpreted.