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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### NAZIS DRIVE MORE THOUSANDS INTO LITHUANIAN BORDER AREA; VICTIMS STRIPPED, LEFT TO FREEZE

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Thousands more Jews were expelled today from Nazi Poland into the "no-man's-land" on the Lithuanian frontier according to information reaching Paris, substantiated by telegraphed advices from Wilno to Morris C. Troper, European director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Jews, including aged persons, infants and crippled, were reported stripped of almost all their clothing and left to freeze in the fields, while peasants living nearby were threatened with penalties if they assisted the refugees.

The Lithuanian Government was told it would be considered a border violation if any relief was delivered from the Lithuanian side. Even the Red Cross was not permitted to enter the zone with food. The situation was so serious that the Lithuanian Government decided to take diplomatic steps in Berlin, while the Lithuanian Red Cross appealed to the International Red Cross to intervene in Berlin for permission for relief organizations to enter the "no-man's-land" with food, clothing and medicaments in view of the growing number of deaths.

The Lithuanian Government, which has already admitted 1,500 of these refugees, announced that it would admit no more since this would stimulate the Nazis to intensify the expulsions.

### 50,000 Evicted in Warsaw; Plunder Unabated

WILNO, Lithuania, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Reliable advices reaching here from Nazi Poland said today that 50,000 Warsaw Jews have been evicted from their apartments and told of unabated plundering of Jewish homes and rape of Jewish women by Nazi troops.

The position of the Jews in Nazi Poland, particularly Warsaw, was stated to be growing worse daily. Jews, especially youths, who had previously resigned themselves to waiting are now making every effort to escape anywhere.

The Warsaw ghetto order, under which the city's entire Jewish population (estimated at 500,000, including 200,000 refugees from the provinces) is condemned to live in two small districts, was issued by the Gestapo without even the consent of the military authorities.

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The order climaxed the panic of the Jewish population, which is hastily moving out of the forbidden streets although the Gestapo has not yet issued an official announcement on the subject. Feeling sure that the Gestapo will carry out its decision, the Jews are anxious to avoid the fate of thousands of their co-religionists who have been compelled to leave their homes at half an hour's notice.

It was learned that the Gestapo had offered to revoke its ghetto decision on condition that the Jewish Community pay the sum of one billion zlotys (about \$190,000,000 at pre-war rates), but the offer was spurned since it was realized that, even if such a huge sum could be raised, its payment would not help.

It is estimated that at least 50,000 Jews have been driven out of their apartments in Warsaw by the Nazis. Robbery of Jewish property by the Germans is continuing unchecked. Even the poorest Jewish apartments are being thoroughly plundered, while from Christian homes the Germans are taking only the most luxurious fittings for the use of officers. Gestapo agents are treating Jewish Community officials with the greatest brutality. They wield whips and end every order with the warning: "If it is not fulfilled on time, you will be shot."

One of the latest developments is the disappearance of Jewish women, who are seized by German soldiers and taken to their camps for lewd purposes. The military authorities at Lodz ordered the Jewish Community to supply 100 Jewish women and when the Community failed to comply, 100 were seized at random in the streets.

While Polish schools are functioning, Jewish schools remain closed as a result of Mayor Starzynski's official announcement that "reopening of Jewish schools is not desired." Thus, the Jewish schools are limited to feeding children.

#### DESPERATE FLIGHT OF 500,000 REFUGEES IN SOVIET POLAND DESCRIBED BY RELIEF AGENT

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The desperate situation of the more than 500,000 Jewish refugees from Nazi Poland who escaped to the Soviet area was described today by a staff member of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee who has just completed a tour of the Soviet zone in a telegram from Wilno to Morris C. Troper, European director of the J.D.C. The telegram outlined the situation as follows:

- (1) The half million homeless Jews include 300,000 massed in Lwow, 120,000 in the Galician provinces, 60,000 in Bialystok, 60,000 in Rovno and 40,000 in Lutsk and Kowel. They comprise 80 per cent of all refugees from Nazi Poland.
- (2) Migration from the German area to the Soviet zone continues, but the Soviet authorities are beginning to introduce difficulties for the migrants, explaining that the problem is becoming too large to be handled.
- (3) The Soviet authorities are permitting organization of local relief committees and for the time being are not hindering their activities, including the raising of funds for the maintenance of kitchens, which is being done with the assistance of the J.D.C.
- (4) In Lwow, the authorities are cooperating in distributing food freely to refugees, but resources are limited. Food is also available for payment in Polish zlotys, but tens of thousands are penniless and need food and clothing. Thousands of deaths are

certain if Winter clothing is not delivered by foreign relief organizations since it is impossible to obtain clothing supplies in Russia.

(5) In Bialystok the authorities are feeding 20,000 Jewish refugees daily but this is inadequate.

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Polish Jews May Be Shifted to Russia In Red-Nazi Pact

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Observers in Moscow predicted today that a newly-concluded "population exchange" agreement between Soviet Russia and Germany would be used by the Reich as a means of sending thousands of Jews and Poles into Soviet Russia from Nazi parts of Poland, according to the Havas News Agency.

Soviet law permits a most liberal definition of "nationality." Each individual is permitted to designate his choice. There was every reason to believe that Reich authorities would force many Jews and Poles to opt for Russian nationality, in order to make room for Germans, the dispatch said.

The agreement will involve the transfer to Reich territory of 115,000 persons of German descent. The Soviet Union, in turn, will accept about 1,000,000 Ukrainians, Ruthenians, Bielo-Russians and Russians now living in the German areas of Poland.

BROAD RELIEF PROGRAM MAPPED BY J.D.C. FOR WILNO REFUGEES, LOCAL NEEDY

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A large-scale relief program for the feeding and clothing of Jewish refugees in Wilno and needy local Jews there, has been completed by Morris C. Troper, European director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and transmitted to the J.D.C. in New York, following receipt of detailed information by European headquarters of the organization from its representatives in Wilno, where the J.D.C. opened an office on Wednesday.

The program includes substantial expenditures for the emigration of several hundred Polish prospective chalutzim from Wilno to Palestine. These already have emigration certificates.

The information establishes that the normal Jewish population of 60,000 in Wilno is now diminished by 10,000, chiefly youths who emigrated to Russia, but is augmented by 25,000 arrivals, of whom half need relief. Among the refugees in Wilno are yeshiva students, chalutzim, journalists and communal workers.

The J.D.C. has enabled a local committee to establish ten kitchens and also a home for refugee intellectuals, but the feeding alone of the needy refugees requires, for the period ending in December, at least \$60,000, not to speak of clothing and the caring for at least 30,000 local Wilno Jews who are not refugees but are in dire need of food and clothing.

The economic situation of the Wilno Jews is aggravated by these factors:

(1) The Government's plans for economic reconstruction in Wilno are proceeding more slowly than was anticipated.

(2) Several hundred Jewish shops were damaged in recent anti-Semitic disorders.

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(3) The devaluation of the Polish zloty prevents the opening of stores and factories.

(4) Artisans have no raw materials.

(5) The white collar classes and unusually large numbers of professionals are suffering from unemployment.

The sum of \$100,000 has already been allocated by Troper to meet the Wilno situation. In addition, the J.D.C. is now reviving a large number of free loan kassas in Wilno and the Wilno district, thus enabling many to obtain loans for whatever small enterprises they can start.

Medical and child care work has also been started with J.D.C. funds by the TOZ and Centos in Wilno.

### 3 Zionist Leaders Seized in Lwow

GENEVA, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Arrest of three Zionist leaders by the Soviet authorities in Lwow, Russian Poland, was reported here today. They are Dr. Alfred Rotfeld, director of the Palestine Foundation Fund in Galicia; Dr. Salomon Leder, vice-president of the Galician Zionist Organization, and Ben Dori, delegate of the Histadruth, Palestine Jewish labor federation, who was stranded while visiting Poland.

### 82 VIENNESE JEWS COMMITTED SUICIDE IN FORTNIGHT, AMSTERDAM HEARS

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The Berlin correspondent of the Algemeen Handelsblad reported today that 82 Jews in Vienna, including 56 women, had committed suicide in the past fortnight. The correspondent also said the second transport of Vienna Jews bound for the "Jewish reservation" in the Lublin area of Poland was supposed to consist of 2,000 men, but that only 1,400 reported at the railway station, the rest fleeing from Vienna.

### ITALIAN POLICE RENEW DRIVE TO OUST JEWISH ALIENS

ROME, Nov. 6. (JTA -- By Airmail). -- After a long respite, Italian police authorities have resumed their drive against foreign Jews.

More than 200 German and Polish refugees have already received expulsion orders accompanied, in most instances, by railroad tickets to Tarviso, on the German border. In nearly all cases, the refugees involved resided in seaport cities such as Naples, Genoa, Trieste and San Remo. This fact is thought significant of the Italian Government's intentions of either discouraging or completely eliminating concentration of refugees near strategic naval points. In past months, refugees in Italy have tended to settle in seaport cities either to await their turn in the American quota or because of the instinctive feeling it instills of proximity to happier shores.

Many against whom expulsion action has been taken are converging towards Rome in the hopes of receiving stay extensions from the Interior Ministry. Others have used their free tickets to Tarviso.



Also being attracted to Rome are numerous other refugees expecting a similar fate but hoping to avoid it by change of residence to the capital. For the moment, the refugee situation here is somewhat more tranquil than in other Italian cities.

Especially sad is the plight of the more recently arrived contingent of German refugees in Trieste, Genoa and Naples. Many were able to enter Italy by producing ship tickets to the United States on Italian lines, which had been purchased in Germany. Since the outbreak of the war, however, these tickets have not been honored by the Italian shipping companies.

Some of the refugees had purchased tickets in Germany as it was the only means of leaving the war zone and entering Italy, although they had not yet been called into the United States' quota for immigration. More than 100 others in a similar plight, but already in possession of American visas, have had their invalidated tickets exchanged for valid ones through the intervention of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association.

Because of the war, German Jews in Italy are profiting at the expense of those in the Reich in the matter of American visas. Many quota numbers which normally would have been destined for Jews in Germany, but which the United States Consulate in Berlin is finding impossible to assign under existing conditions, are being transferred to the American Consulate in Naples. It is to be expected that Polish Jews residing abroad will profit in a similar manner although no information on that score is to be had as yet.

According to unverified information, Polish Jews as well as German Jews will be permitted to cross into Germany if expelled from Italy. From the Nazi border they will be transported to the Jewish "reservation" in the Lublin area of German-held Poland.

Creation of this "reservation" in Poland has added considerably to the fears of German and Polish refugees in Italy. Should political events take the "wrong turn" as far as Italy is concerned, they will undoubtedly be shipped there en masse. Beyond that is the fear of being sent to the "reservation" on the least provocation.

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#### Pope's Intervention Sought

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A Rome dispatch to the New York Times reported today that the Pope has received many appeals from Viennese Jews to intercede with Chancellor Hitler to prevent their deportation to the Lublin "reservation" in Nazi Poland. The dispatch voiced doubt as to the efficacy of such action since "the Holy See is having its own difficulties with Herr Hitler these days."

#### EGYPT, IRAQ AGREE TO ASK BRITAIN FOR AMNESTY IN PALESTINE

CAIRO, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Representatives of Egypt and Iraq, it was reliably learned here today, have agreed to ask the British Government for an amnesty for Arab prisoners in Palestine.

The agreement was reached in the course of conversations being held on the Palestine problem, but diplomatic steps toward attaining the request have been deferred until the decision has been communicated to the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, now an exile in Baghdad.

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It was reported that the conferees decided to defer action on the British White Paper until after the war.

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Palestine 'Equilibrium' Left to Arab States, Paris Hears

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The Havas News Agency reported here today that Great Britain is leaving it up to the Near Eastern states to find a formula for establishment of "a stable equilibrium between the Jews and Arabs" in Palestine.

PARIS GROUPS UNITE TO AID INTERNED REFUGEES

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A coordinating committee has been formed here to assist refugees interned by the French Government. The committee includes representatives of the Central Refugee Committee established by the French Government, the French Red Cross and of the Jewish, Catholic and Quaker relief organizations.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee will supply funds for the work. The interned refugees will be provided with blankets, shoes, warm clothing and medications. Formation of the committee followed a meeting attended by representatives of various organizations, including Baron Robert de Rothschild and Morris C. Troper, European director of the J.D.C.

158 YOUNG JEWS PLACED IN 22 PALESTINE SETTLEMENTS LAST MONTH BY YOUTH ALIYAH

LONDON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A total of 158 Jewish boys and girls from European war zones have been placed in 22 Palestine settlements during the past month, it was announced today by the Youth Aliyah Center, organization sponsoring youth immigration to the Holy Land.

A group of 132 sailed from Trieste on Oct. 7 and a second unit of 26 embarked at Marseilles on Nov. 7. Twenty-one of the children were originally from Berlin, 58 from Prague, 37 from Bratislava and six from Vienna. Groups totalling 260, meanwhile, are receiving training for emigration to Palestine in such countries of transit as England and are expected to leave sometime next month.

One unit of 50 boys and girls who succeeded in escaping from Poland are now in Lithuania where they are awaiting their Palestine certificates. All were originally from Germany, where they had been granted certificates which could not be allocated because of the outbreak of hostilities. They had been forced to flee with their families first to the Sudetenland, then to Czecho-Slovakia and then to Poland.

More than 6,000 youths have entered Palestine under Youth Aliyah auspices since the advent of the Nazi regime in Germany.

NO FINANCIAL AID FOR REFUGEES IN 1940, BELGIUM DECIDES

BRUSSELS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- There will be no Government allocations for aid to Jewish refugees in 1940, it is officially announced here. Last year, the Government allocated 6,000,000 francs for refugee aid.

1,000 REFUGEES FROM REICH CITIES REACH ROTTERDAM

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- One thousand Jewish refugees have arrived at Rotterdam from Berlin, Vienna and Prague and will sail for New York shortly on the S.S. Rotterdam, it was reported here today.

YUGOSLAV GERMANS HUNT JEWISH ANCESTORS TO AVOID REPATRIATION

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A frantic hunt for Jewish ancestry is the order of the day for many Germans, long residents of Yugoslavia, who fear forcible repatriation to the Reich in Chancellor Adolf Hitler's program of reshuffling minorities.

Approximately 500,000 Yugoslav Germans are faced with the prospect of involuntary transfer to their fatherland. Many of them, seeking to avoid the shift, are applying to Jewish community organizations for affidavits testifying that they have Jewish blood in their veins and are not full "Aryans." Others are hurriedly joining the Serbian Slavonic church and still others are seeking to establish that they are Alsatians and are therefore of French rather than German stock.

PHILIPPINE SETTLEMENT PLANS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- An announcement of definite plans for settlement of refugees in the Philippine Islands, under the aegis of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, will be made within the next ten days, it was learned today following a meeting in New York yesterday attended by Paul van Zeeland, president of the Coordinating Foundation; Dominican Minister Andres Pastoriza, State Department representatives and members of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees.

FRITZ KUHN TERMED 'THREAT TO CIVIL LIBERTIES' BY DEWEY

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, called to the witness stand today by defense counsel in the trial of German-American Bund leader Fritz Kuhn for embezzlement, testified that he regarded Kuhn as a "menace to the community and probably a threat to civil liberties."

Asked by Defense Counsel Peter Sabbatino if he had any personal animus against Kuhn, Dewey replied: "I should say that never having seen the man I have no personal feeling -- but I regarded him as a menace to the community and probably a threat to civil liberties."

Asked if he had a "strong hatred" against the defendant, the District Attorney replied: "It would be difficult to call it hatred. I would say it was contempt rather than hatred."

BACKING FOR CONGRESS RELIEF EFFORTS ASKED BY TARTAKOWER AT PARLEY HERE

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A plea to the Jews of America from Jewish communities in Eastern and Central Europe to unite behind the World Jewish Congress in its efforts to coordinate and strengthen relief for Jews in the war-stricken areas and to begin the work of preparing for the restoration of Jewish rights after peace, was made public last night by Dr. Arjeh Tartakower, economist and a leader of Polish Jewry, who recently arrived here.

Dr. Tartakower, a member of the administrative committee of the World Jewish Congress, was the guest of honor at a reception arranged by the American Jewish Congress at the Hotel Edison. The reception was attended by 500 representatives of Jewish organizations in New York who pledged their cooperation to the American and the World Jewish Congress.

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FILM LEADERS FOUND NEW B'NAI B'RITH LODGE HERE

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Prominent leaders in the film industry participated in dedication ceremonies of the newly-founded Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith at the Hotel Edison last night. Alfred W. Schwalberg, president of the lodge, presided. Speakers included the Rev. Dr. C. Jeffares McCombe, Jeremiah O'Carrel, editor of the Catholic magazine "Wisdom," and Rabbi William F. Rosenblum.

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B'nai B'rith Women Aid Boys Town in Honor of Monsky

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A check for \$300 in honor of Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith and for 20 years a member of the board of trustees of Boys Town, famous community for homeless youth outside of Omaha, Nebraska, has been presented to Father Edward J. Flanagan, founder and director of Boys Town, by the B'nai B'rith Women's Council of Philadelphia, whose second annual forum he addressed at Town Hall. Mr. Monsky and Father Flanagan have been close personal friends for many years. More than 1,500 persons, about half of them non-Jews, including representatives of many Philadelphia Catholic societies, heard Father Flanagan speak on "Youth of Today."

RISE IN ANTI-CATHOLICISM LINKED WITH ANTI-SEMITISM DRIVE IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- An article describing the growth of anti-Catholic propaganda as part of the anti-Semitic drive in the United States is featured in the November issue of The Voice, organ of the Committee of Catholics for Human Rights. The 16-page tabloid also contains articles entitled "Catholics Defend Bill of Rights" and "Labor Fights Anti-Semitism."

The Christian Front was denounced for its "destructive influences" in spreading "racial and religious hatreds" in a statement issued yesterday by the Brooklyn Church and Mission Federation, representing most Protestant congregations in Brooklyn. The Greater New York Federation of Churches is understood to be considering taking a similar stand.

LOUIS POBORSKI, PIONEER ZIONIST, DEAD AT 70

LONDON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- News was received today of the death in Vienna of Dr. Louis Poborski, well known oculist and pioneer Zionist leader. He was 70 years old.

Dr. Poborski was an early associate of Dr. Theodor Herzl, founder of political Zionism, and accompanied him on his missions to Turkey when Dr. Herzl sought to obtain Turkey's permission for establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. He was co-founder of Ivriah, Vienna's second oldest Zionist students' association. He introduced "Hatikvah," Zionist anthem, in Vienna, being the first to sing it publicly.

SOLOMON JACOBI DIES IN PARIS; WAS REVISIONIST LEADER

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Solomon Jacobi, a leader of the New Zionist Organization died here yesterday after a brain operation. He had recently returned from Rumania, where he studied the possibilities of refugee emigration to Palestine.