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1,200 SLAIN AS NAZIS DRIVE LUBLIN JEWS ACROSS SOVIET BORDER

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- It was reliably reported today that massacres of Jews occurred in the Chelm and Grubieszko districts of the Lublin province in Nazi Poland last month.

The Nazi authorities, after announcing registration of Jews who desired to emigrate to Soviet Poland, assembled several thousand men, women and children and drove them to the frontier, shooting all who stopped because of exhaustion.

At least 1,200 perished. Only those who succeeded in crossing the frozen River Bug survived.

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Soviet Clarifies Status in Occupied Area

PARIS, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The status of Poles and Jews in Soviet-occupied Poland was clarified by an announcement reaching Paris today that the population would be classified into the following three categories:

- (1) Those born in the area now occupied by Russia will automatically be considered Soviet citizens whether or not they wish to be;
- (2) Those born in Nazi-occupied Poland but now in the Soviet area will have the alternatives of applying for Soviet citizenship or seeking return to their native towns, if the Nazis will admit them;
- (3) Those in the second category not wishing to choose either alternative, will be permitted to remain under Soviet occupation as refugees with the right of residence but not of working.

Simultaneously, it was reliably reported that the Soviet authorities had concluded an arrangement with Berlin whereby holders of Polish passports interned in German concentration camps will be released if they have relatives in Soviet Poland who furnish affidavits guaranteeing maintenance for at least one month.

These affidavits, when approved by the Soviet consulates in the Reich, will be submitted to the Nazi authorities, who will bring the internees under German

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convoy to the Soviet consulate, where their passports will be stamped with Soviet immigration visas. The internees will then be released, under obligation to leave for the Soviet within the shortest possible time.

Release of the first 200 Polish Jews from the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin under this arrangement is expected to occur this week. If they have wives and children, their families must accompany them to Soviet Poland.

Jewish relief leaders here believe that if the plan operates as anticipated it will be possible to rescue several thousand of the approximately 35,000 Polish Jews held in German concentration camps, where they are said to be suffering from torture and insufficient food, with many deaths reported.

It appears that the Nazis are only too glad to get rid of the internees, relieving them of the problem of feeding the prisoners. With the food situation reported as growing more acute daily in the Reich, it is understood that the Nazis are even willing to release Jews other than Polish nationals who are held in concentration camps if they can prove that they have prospects for emigration.

Lithuania Seeks Return of 80 from Soviet

KAUNAS, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Lithuanian Legation in Moscow is negotiating with the Soviet authorities regarding repatriation of 80 persons arrested in Wilno during the Russian occupation, among them Anna Rosenthal, a leader of the Bund, Jewish Socialist party. Not included in the list are Zalman Reisin, famous Yiddish writer, and his son, and Joseph Czernichow, famous lawyer, and his son, because of lack of evidence that they are eligible for Lithuanian citizenship.

Registration of refugees was completed today in Kaunas. More than 1,000 Polish and Czech refugees were ordered to reside in the provinces and several hundred were allowed to remain in the capital.

A nation-wide congress of Lithuanian rabbis opened here, attended by 270 rabbis, including many from Wilno and Poland. They were greeted by Burgomeister Rusteika and a Government representative.

Plan Refugee Training in Wilno

WILNO, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Camille R. Honig, special emissary of the ORT-OSE organization in Paris, arrived here today and advised the J.T.A. that he intended to establish here training courses to fit refugees for emigration to countries needing skilled labor. The OSE, Jewish health organization, is organizing in Wilno a "Jewish Red Cross service." Honig expressed himself as deeply impressed by a "chalutz" camp where 700 Zionist youths sleep in double shifts, two to a bed. Honig intends to remain in Lithuania a month.

JEWISH POPULATION OF PROTECTORATE DROPS

BRUSSELS, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Essener National Zeitung reports the Jewish population of the Bohemia-Moravia decreasing. It says the total number of Jews is 90,147, of whom 51,178 are older than forty and 10,142 are younger than fifteen.

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MURPHY PROMISES "STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS" IN PROBE OF ANTI-SEMITIC GROUPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- "Startling developments" in the Justice Department's investigation of anti-Semitic organizations were promised within a few days by Attorney General Frank Murphy as he held his final press conference a few hours after his appointment to the Supreme Court today. He indicated the developments would come from Grand Jury action in New York and Boston.

In what amounted to a valedictory address, Murphy said that he considered of utmost importance the Department's activities "in preserving the civil liberties of every man and opposing groups which would flood this country with intolerance and indoctrinate in the people racial and religious hatred."

"These are the same sort of groups which set Europe aflame," he said, "and the American people don't want them here--we're not going to let them get a start."

The developments in the drive against Nazi-Fascist organizations will amaze the country, he said. He did not reveal whether indictments against individuals would be returned or whether the organizations would be prosecuted under the law requiring registration of agents of foreign governments.

Roosevelt Plans Anti-Spy Unit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- An emergency unit of 250 "G-men" will be mobilized in 1940 to combat foreign espionage agents and subversive activities, the President's budget message revealed today. Edward Tamm, longtime assistant to J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, will head the new unit.

LEHMAN URGES EXTENDING OF JOB DISCRIMINATION BAN

ALBANY, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Governor Herbert H. Lehman, in his annual message to the Legislature yesterday, proposed extension of the law forbidding discrimination in employment for reasons of race, color and creed to businesses affected with the public interest and to labor unions, terming discrimination a "vicious practice."

The Governor stated: "While not to the extent found elsewhere, discrimination does exist here in the State of New York. Such practice is particularly hateful when it results in denying any one the right to work, to acquire property or to make use of facilities available to the general public. Where people are denied even a single right to which they are lawfully entitled, I believe that it is our common duty to correct the situation. Unjust discrimination is another subject on which there can be no disagreement. Regardless of party, we all look with profound distaste upon distinctions based on race, color or creed."

"The Labor Law forbids utility companies to discriminate in employment. The same is true in the educational system. This sound principle I recommend be extended to all businesses affected with the public interest and also to membership in all labor unions and labor organizations. I urge that the State do everything in its power to eliminate the vicious practice of discrimination. We sorely need to be reminded that principles of democracy are vital, living guides to everyday human conduct."

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WAR POSTPONES PALESTINE MUNICIPAL VOTES; RUTENBERG ASKS START OF EMERGENCY TAX

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- High Commissioner Sir Harold A. MacMichael today postponed indefinitely the municipal elections scheduled to have been held in Jerusalem and other municipalities at the end of January. He cited events abroad as reason for the postponement.

"Peace and order can hardly be said to have been restored in Palestine," Sir Harold said yesterday to Jewish leaders at Government House. "You will agree that there is a superfluity of politics in the air and too much internal bickering. None of these things is healthy. They grievously impede the progress of the country and add to the preoccupations of His Majesty's Government at a time when it is championing the cause of freedom with all its vast might. It is fighting the battle of all of us and deserves every scrap of aid we can give."

Discussing the £750,000 allocation for relief of distress, the High Commissioner said that the prime essential was to provide more opportunity for the poor man to earn money by work. He said that with Britain agreeing to bear the abnormal expenditure for garrison and security, coupled with better revenue returns, it had become possible to devote the £750,000 of Palestine Government income for relief.

The allocations under the grant include, in addition to direct Jewish relief through Jewish bodies, a similar allotment for the Arabs, as well as grants for Jewish and Arab municipalities, councils and charitable institutions.

Loans totaling £180,000, repayable in five years, will be made to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Jaffa and other municipalities for essential municipal works which will provide relief. An additional loan of £50,000 to Tel Aviv for liquidation of existing indebtedness will be made, subject to certain conditions. A further grant of £75,000 to finance necessary works will be given to municipalities in the coming year, £30,000 for seed loans and £150,000 for new Government offices in Jerusalem.

Expressing regret at the impossibility of providing funds for the Huleh project and the Tel Aviv and Haifa drainage schemes, Sir Harold explained it was necessary to spread the available money over the widest possible area where relief was urgent.

65,000 Got Relief Since Outbreak of War

At a plenary meeting of the Jewish National Council, Dr. Abraham Katznelson reported that relief had been given to 65,000 persons since the outbreak of the war totaling £45,650, of which £10,000 was from the Government, £15,000 from the Jewish Agency and £2,050 from the Council.

Pinchas Rutenberg, president of the Council, urged the starting of collection of the emergency tax on Palestine Jews. He revealed that British officials of the Palestine Government had donated substantially, that a \$10,000 contribution to the emergency fund had been received from an anonymous donor in the United States and another anonymous contribution of £1,500 from Buenos Aires.

An acute housing shortage has arisen in Nathania as a result of the vacating of two streets by civilian residents for the needs of the military authorities. Oved Ben-Ami, president of the Nathania Council, conferred with Jewish National Council officials on the granting of a £5,000 subsidy to alleviate the situation.

Twenty pioneer families have established a new cooperative farm at Mishek Shitufi, south of Metzudoth Ussishkin.

440 Interned Illegals Released

Four hundred and forty Jewish illegal immigrants who landed at Tel Aviv on Nov. 14 and were interned in Sarafend concentration camp were released yesterday. Most of them are from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Nazi-occupied Poland. They had been transferred from a ship to small boats near Palestine waters and then landed on the beach.

Meanwhile, moving scenes occurred at the Nathan and Lena Straus Health Center in Tel Aviv when refugee children from Reich territories were welcomed by relatives with whom they will live. The children were brought here through funds raised by a campaign here.

A total of 128 children arrived at Haifa, of whom 52 were immediately taken by their relatives and the rest brought to Tel Aviv to be met by family members. The 128 are part of a group of children between the ages of 11 and 14 for whom the Government has granted special immigration certificates.

It was reported from Cairo that the High Commissioner MacMichael was preparing a decree annulling all Ottoman laws still in force in Palestine. Such a decree would be welcomed by the Palestine population, which suffers from the complicated system of laws based on old Turkish legislation with numerous additions and modifications introduced by the British authorities after the war.

Zionists Pin Hope on U.S. Jews

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The National Conference for Palestine to be held in Washington this weekend is likely to prove an assembly of unusual importance, the Zionist Review declared editorially today, asserting that the result of the United Palestine Appeal campaign in the United States was not only financially but politically important as indicating the attitude of American Jewry to the Jewish homeland.

"There is a profound understanding among the American Jews of the greatness of the task which Britain has undertaken in challenging Nazi aggression," the editorial said. "They are anxious to do everything in their power to help in the building of a new and better world, but cannot conceive of such a world without the hope of a better future for the Jewish people. Their action in insisting on full maintenance of the historic rights of the Jewish people in Palestine is a contribution in the profoundest sense to the realization of the ideal for which the Allied powers are fighting."

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Entry of 7,500 Planned

In an article, the Review described unceasing efforts of the Zionist Executive to continue an interrupted flow of Jewish immigration into Palestine. Since the outbreak of the war 3,000 authorized Jewish immigrants and 2,000 refugees have entered Palestine. Another 2,500 are expected to arrive in the near future in respect of the unexpired portion of the immigration schedule for April-October, 1939. A great improvement occurred in Jewish immigration during the Hebrew year 5699 as compared with total immigration of 10,000 and 11,000 in the two preceding years.

The outbreak of hostilities confronted the Executive with the difficult problem of Jews of Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia to whom certificates had been assigned but who were still in Europe, either in Nazi territory or in neutral countries. Of a total of 5,500 unutilized certificates, 3,000 were held at the beginning of the war by persons still in Nazi territories, 500 in Poland and the remainder in neutral countries.

It was found that no obstacles were placed by the German Government in the way of emigration of German Jews to Palestine, but no such permission was given to Polish Jews. Much effort was devoted by the Executive, both in London and Jerusalem, to obtaining consent of the British authorities that immigrants from Germany be allowed to enter Palestine. Such consent was given, after prolonged negotiation in respect of German Jews to whom certificates had been allotted before the outbreak of the war.

Representations to the Italian authorities resulted in permission for transit of these immigrants through Italy. Since French and Rumanian ships were withdrawn at the beginning of the war, the Jewish Agency chartered an Italian ship for five return voyages. Four voyages already completed brought into Palestine 2,000 immigrants from countries under Nazi domination. (Another 660 immigrants arrived at Haifa on the Italian ship on Tuesday.)

At the request of the Jewish Agency, the Palestine Government sent several immigration officers to Italy to settle visa questions there. It is expected that during January all the rest of German certificate holders will arrive in Palestine. The Agency has also succeeded in obtaining consent of the Palestine Government that unutilized Polish certificates be placed at the Agency's disposal for reallocation.

The Executive protested to the High Commissioner against the exclusion of Jewish immigrants from the present schedule and has now submitted application for an immigration schedule for the period October, 1939, to March, 1940, and also for further allocations on account of the 25,000 extra permits for refugees, of which only 5,000 have so far been allotted.

ISRAEL COHEN, BRITISH ZIONIST LEADER, RETIRES

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- After 30 years' service in the Zionist movement, during which he interested many leading Jews, including Lord Melchett, in Zionism, Israel Cohen is retiring from the central office of the World Zionist Organization. He has been general secretary of the organization since 1922 and is the author of a number of books on Zionism.