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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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### BRITAIN URGED TO OPEN PALESTINE GATES AS CAPITAL PARLEY ENDS; WHITE PAPER ASSAILED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- An impassioned attack against persecution of Jews and the branding of the British White Paper as a failure marked the closing today of the two-day annual National Conference for Palestine, held here under the auspices of the United Palestine Appeal and attended by more than 1,500 delegates and guests from all over the United States.

Featured speakers at today's sessions were Attorney General Frank Murphy, who has just been appointed to the Supreme Court; Alfred Duff Cooper, former First Lord of the Admiralty, and French Ambassador Count Rene de Saint Quentin. The conference closed with a banquet tonight at which Dr. Stephen S. Wise was the toastmaster and scheduled speakers included Col. Frank Knox, the publisher, and Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith.

Six resolutions were adopted by the conference. While emphasizing the difficult position of the British Government in its fight for democratic ideals at the present time, one resolution appealed to England "to implement its solemn and historic pledge given to the Jewish people in the Balfour Declaration, by opening the doors of Palestine to a free Jewish immigration consonant with its announced principle of the economic absorptive capacity of the country."

Another resolution affirmed the action of the Jewish Agency in its rejection of the White Paper as inconsistent with the obligations entered into by the Mandatory Power in the Balfour Declaration, and expressed to the Agency Executive the conference's "whole-hearted support for such measures as will insure the right of our people to continued and uninterrupted settlement in Palestine."

Other resolutions recorded appreciation of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver's leadership; expressed affection for Dr. Chaim Weizmann and pledged "to uphold and strengthen his hands by furnishing material resources"; praised the "notable services" of Dr. Solomon Goldman and other leaders; extended greetings to the Palestine Jewish community, and recorded satisfaction at the success of the Palestine Pavilion at the New York World's Fair.

Addressing this afternoon's session, Mr. Murphy hailed the efforts to create in Palestine a "haven of refuge and a center of culture where your kith and kin, free from oppression and persecution, can find life and peace in the land of their forefathers."

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Turning to the subject of his address, "The Challenge of Intolerance," Mr. Murphy declared the Jews were serving "not merely as a scapegoat but as a smoke-screen to conceal more aggressive designs of power-mad men." He warned that the "worship of force," to which Jews had been sacrificed, was not only anti-Jewish but "anti-Christian. . . a revolt against reason and God."

The warning was pointed not only at Europe, he said, but at this country as well, "for the virus of anti-Semitism has made itself felt here as well as abroad."

"The purveyors of hatred, the provokers of division and strife, the swaggering apostles of force and violence," he cautioned, "are methodically and with premeditation laboring to bring to the United States the same conditions of group hatred and civil war that have destroyed the peace of Europe. Treacherously, they camouflage their true nature by representing themselves to the unwary as defenders of God, America, and the Constitution. Unscrupulously, they stir up riots in the city streets, they intimidate peaceful citizens, they invade meetings, and they peddle as truth the malicious lies which people of their ilk have invented to blacken those whom they hate."

Addressing a luncheon session of the conference this afternoon, Duff Cooper branded the White Paper a failure and called upon the British Government to reverse its policy and allow the Jews to become the dominant race in Palestine.

Declaring the White Paper difficult to defend, Duff Cooper said: "We tempted and encouraged thousands of Jews to return to Palestine and now the White Paper dooms them to remain for all time a minority. The immigration features of the White Paper are among its weakest points."

"The basis of Great Britain's policy has been to show no favoritism either to Jew or Arab but to create a country where the two races can live in equality and harmony with one another. We know now that this policy has been a failure. It has been a failure not only because of the manner in which it was administered, but because the basis of the policy itself was unsound. One must be the dominant race. The only solution is to change the policy and either support the Arab resistance to the Zionist immigration or else to support the Zionists."

Duff Cooper said that no race had so little ground to complain as the Arabs who, as the result of the World War, were freed from Turkish domination and who gained the lands of Transjordan and Syria. "They cannot complain of lack of Lebensraum," he said. On the other hand, he asserted, "the unprecedented and ghastly persecution of the Jews is a disgrace and a branding shame--not only to the countries that are taking part in it, but to the whole of Europe and Christendom."

Ambassador de Saint Quentin, one of the staff officers who marched with Lord Allenby into Jerusalem, told the banquet session that Palestine "will remain the very symbol of voluntary immigration by energetic men guided by their faith."

Speaking of the international refugee problem, the Ambassador praised the work of the World ORT Federation and added: "Undoubtedly, among the war aims of the Allied Powers the suppression of the problem of political refugees is foremost and this is to be achieved through the defeat of the regime which created them. We

no longer willing that hundreds of thousands or millions of people should be branded as outlaws by the country in which they had lived often for several centuries and should be thrown without resources and indeed almost without the barest necessities on the highway of international charity. Nor do we approve those exchanges of populations which deal with men as if they were cattle. Peace and the new order that it will establish will make possible the voluntary repatriation of a certain number of refugees and the inevitable departure of those who have usurped their homes. It will not, however, eliminate the problem of immigration or the necessity of organizing it more satisfactorily."

Addressing the opening session last night, Chairman Silver of the U.P.A. described the year just ended as one of the darkest in the history of Jewry but said there was some cause for approaching 1940 with a feeling of optimism. As heartening developments, Dr. Silver cited the following:

The response to the United Palestine Appeal's campaign for funds to transport refugees to Palestine and rehabilitate them, by which \$5,000,000 was raised in the United States; immigration of 35,000 refugees to Palestine in 1939, bringing the Jewish population of Palestine to half million; cessation of the Arab Jewish riots.

Dr. Silver said that Palestine was one of the few bright spots in a world of blackouts. He said it was still the only nation in the world accepting Jewish refugees on a large scale.

Also addressing the opening session, Dr. Georg Landauer, director of the Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews in Palestine, declared the greatest challenge to the capacity of Palestine for large scale absorption of refugees in the immediate future lay in the destruction of the Jewish community in Poland. He announced that 70,000 Jews from Germany have been settled in Palestine since 1933 at a cost of \$5,000,000. One third of them were settled on the land and have established 20 agricultural projects although almost all were formerly engaged in business and professions, he pointed out. Since the outbreak of the war, he said, 9,400 Jewish refugees arrived on the shores of Palestine.

Other speakers last night included Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, who contrasted the fate of the 3,500,000 Finns--"a symbol of an aroused world sympathy and world conscience--" with that of an equal number of Jews in Poland--who are being ground into dust, driven into the forests to exposure and starvation or imprisoned and tortured to death in Nazi concentration camps." The Finns, he said, have a fighting chance, but the Jews are deprived not only of an opportunity of self-defense but even of heroic death."

Addressing the banquet tonight, President Monsky of B'nai B'rith declared that Palestine provided "perhaps the most outstanding and realistic single opportunity for the resettlement of large numbers of our unfortunate co-religionists.

President Goldman of the Z.O.A. who was scheduled to address the morning session, had not arrived from Chicago at a late hour. Dr. Wise, in a nationally broadcast address, predicted ultimate Arab-Jewish cooperation in Palestine and said that the Balfour Declaration would outlive the White Paper. Dr. W.C. Lowdermilk, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, told the conference that the Jewish colonists of Palestine had "carried out to date one of the most remarkable works of the restoration and reclamation of wasted lands that have been seen on three continents."

WEIZMANN SAILS FROM LISBON ON REX WHEN WEATHER HOLDS UP CLIPPER

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the World Zionist Organization, sailed yesterday on the Italian liner Rex from Lisbon for the United States. He was originally scheduled to leave on a Pan-American clipper but was unable to do so because of weather conditions.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the executive committee of the World Jewish Congress, who had also intended to leave for the United States by plane, will instead sail on the Italian liner Vulcania from Lisbon on Jan. 10 if no air passage is available before then.

The Rev. Maurice L. Perlzweig, chairman of the British section of the congress, left London yesterday for a four-month world-wide tour aimed primarily at developing a unified Jewish approach to any future peace conference. He intends to leave by Clipper for New York, touring the United States and Canada for the American Jewish Congress, then proceed to New Zealand and Australia on behalf of the Jewish National Fund, then visit the Netherlands, East Indies, India and Palestine on behalf of the World Jewish Congress.

Rabbi Moshe Blau, Palestine leader of the Agudath Israel, and Dr. Isaac Breuer a member of the organization's world executive committee, announced in London that they would visit the United States at the end of January to seek strengthening of the Agudath Israel in America and to confer with other Jewish organizations.

NAZI ARMY COURTS PUT 17,000 JEWS, POLES TO DEATH SINCE WAR, PARIS HEARS

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Polish official circles reported today that 17,000 Poles and Jews were executed by order of German military courts in Poland and more than 25,000 arrested by the Gestapo between the outbreak of the war and the first week of December. The figures do not include en masse public executions of Jews in various Polish towns carried out without any court action.

Meanwhile, news was received that Nazis had started expulsion of Jews from Lodz to the Lublin Jewish "reservation" and that Jews in the town of Szgiersz had been ordered to leave.

The Jewish situation in Lodz was described in Jewish reports as "more horrible than it ever was in Warsaw," with the local Jewish cemetery destroyed, Jewish high schools converted into Gestapo headquarters, Jewish houses pillaged, Jews arrested on the streets and taken away to be tortured and Germans living in Lodz aiding the Gestapo in persecution of Jews.

Polish sources said Nazi terrorism against Poles was also increasing. In Jaroslaw, Rzeszow and Przeworsk there were 700 additional arrests of Poles and Jews, including several Catholic priests, it was said. In Tarnow, Nazis ordered local courts to resume their activities with all proceedings in German and all Jewish lawyers barred.

In Cracow, where Jews must wear special armbands, the Nazi authorities ordered signs posted over numerous restaurants and cafes, including Grand Hotel, reading:

"Entry forbidden to Jews and Poles." In a number of cities of the Cracow district all unemployed Poles and Jews were ordered to register with the local Nazi authorities, and it was believed they would be transported to the interior of the Reich for hard labor.

Le Temps reported from Riga that Jews in Warsaw were no longer seen on the streets because the obligation to wear armbands exposed them to danger of maltreatment by S.S. men or arrest.

"It is only the typhus epidemic raging in the Jewish section of Warsaw that delayed mass transportation of Warsaw Jews to Lublin," the correspondent said, adding that yellow quarantine notices were posted on many Jewish houses containing typhus cases.

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200 Released From Sachsenhausen

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Geneva advices said today that 200 Polish Jews have been released from the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany under the Soviet-Nazi "affidavit agreement" under which they may proceed to Soviet Poland to join relatives who have filed affidavits guaranteeing their support.

The same advices reported that the Nazis have prepared a list of 300 more Polish Jews for immediate release from concentration camps provided each can produce sufficient money to cover transportation to any country desired. Half of this group are reported to have relatives in America.

The Nazi policy on release of Polish Jews from concentration camps and emigration from Nazi Poland is now becoming clarified and may be defined as follows:

1--Polish Jews interned in Sachsenhausen since the outbreak of the war as "enemy aliens" will be released if relatives abroad--whether in Russia or any neutral country--will guarantee their immediate emigration from the Reich by providing their passage;

2--Jews in those sections of Nazi-occupied Poland which are not considered by Berlin an integral part of the Reich will be permitted to emigrate provided they have valid Polish passports and entry visas for other countries;

3--Emigration of Jews from the annexed parts of Poland, including Silesia, Pommerania and other provinces, is altogether prohibited;

4--Emigration from the Lublin "reservation" is officially under ban but illegal crossing into Soviet territory is tolerated and even encouraged by the Nazis;

5--The hundred Jews still residing in Danzig will be permitted to emigrate, but their emigration will have to be hurried or they will be classed in the category of Jews in the annexed territories from which deportation to the Lublin "reservation" is soon to be resumed.

Meanwhile, reliable reports reaching here from the German frontier state that expulsion of all Jews from the city and province of Posen has been completed. All

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Catholic priests have also been deported from the region, the reports said, and mass deportation of Poles has been initiated with the aim of having the territory "depolonized" by March 1, by which date the entire area is scheduled to be occupied by Germans only. Raids reportedly are being staged nightly and young Poles are being dragged from their beds and shipped to unknown destinations just as were the Jews to the Lublin "reservation."

The Nazi newspaper Warschauer Zeitung reports that a synagogue in Czestochowa, Nazi Poland, was burned down Dec. 25, that Jews and Poles have been forbidden to buy alcoholic drinks and that Jews are prohibited from appearing on the streets after six and Poles after seven p.m. The paper asserts the synagogue was put to the torch by the Jews themselves.

The same newspaper reports that a ghetto has been established in the town of Minsk-Mazowieck and that Jewish Sienna Street, in Warsaw, has been closed to permit demolition of the buildings, most of which were ruined in the bombardment.

#### Palestinians To Be Interned

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Holders of Palestine passports in those areas of occupied Poland proclaimed integral parts of the Reich may be interned for the duration of the war as "enemy aliens," it was learned here today. A number of Palestinian citizens were caught in Poland at the outbreak of the war, but while some succeeded in leaving after the Nazi occupation others were stranded in Lodz, which was the largest center of Hechalutz (Palestine pioneer training) activities.

#### Jews Forbidden to Move

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The New York Times reported from Berlin today that the Nazi authorities in Poland have issued a decree forbidding Jews to change their residences or cross the border of communities in which they lived without written permission. The Associated Press reported from Berlin that a German court has ruled that landlords have the right to dispossess tenants who regularly receive Jewish friends in their homes.

#### French Jews Assail 'Reservation'

PARIS, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A manifesto against Nazi persecution has been published by the Consistoire Israelite of France and Algeria over the signatures of Baron Edouard de Rothschild, Chief Rabbi Issaye Schwartz and other Jewish leaders. It expresses the sympathy of French Jews for "all victims of the Nazis in Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland."

Meanwhile, Henri Kerillis, prominent French editor and parliamentarian, in a two-column editorial on the front page of L'Epoque, charges that Nazi propagandists have been concentrating their anti-Semitic propaganda in French territory on stirring up separatist movements in Alsace, Tunis, Morocco and Algeria and urges that anti-Semitism be fought in France, England and America as a tool used by Hitler, Goebbels and Ribbentrop to destroy unity within democratic nations.

BRITISH PRESS DEMANDS FULL EXPLANATION ON HORE-BELISHA; RACE PREJUDICE CHARGED

LONDON, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- The British press virtually unanimous in demanding a full explanation of Leslie Hore-Belisha's replacement as War Secretary, but the Liberal London News-Chronicle is the only paper to state that the campaign against Hore-Belisha was based on anti-Jewish prejudice.

A.J. Cummings declared in the News-Chronicle yesterday that soon after the outbreak of the war, Hore-Belisha was made the subject of a whispering campaign which expressed itself in the form of narrow prejudice against him because he was a Jew and in stubborn objection among officers of high rank to his insistence on making democratization of the Army a practical reality.

"It cannot be doubted," Cummings wrote, "that Chamberlain found himself face to face with these prejudices and, without apparently offering any ground for criticism of the war administration, sacrificed his youngest and most energetic minister to mean and spiteful intrigue."

The Star warned editorially that public resentment would be deep and lasting if it was shown that "Hore-Belisha was thrown overboard to satisfy a clique of generals who disliked him on social grounds."

LITHUANIA CONFERS WITH REDS, NAZIS ON REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES

KAUNAS, Lithuania, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Refugee Commissioner Alekna told the J.T.A. today that the Lithuanian Government is negotiating with Soviet Russia and Germany on the question of repatriating refugees.

Alekna said that refugees would be obliged to seek emigration possibilities but that in the meantime the Government would try to alleviate their grave situation. He said labor permits would be issued to refugees on an individual basis.

FRENCH ARMY BUYS TEXTILES IN PALESTINE; HAIFA REFINERIES SHIP OIL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- An order for £3,000 worth of textiles has been placed in Palestine by the French military authorities in Syria. It is understood that if the order is satisfactorily executed further large orders will be placed with Jewish textile firms.

The first transport of 8,000 tons of oil refined in the Haifa refineries has been sent to Europe. The refineries, which started production shortly before outbreak of the war, are operating only at half capacity. Capacity production is expected to be reached by the end of next summer, when all the refinery buildings have been completed. At present only half of the oil supplied by the Haifa oil pipe is refined here. In the future the entire supply, estimated at 2,000,000 tons yearly, will be refined in Haifa.

The town of Rosh Pinah has assigned 150 dunams (about 30 acres) of land for cultivation of tobacco during seven months of the year. Some 20,000 kilograms of tobacco is grown by Jewish farmers in Palestine annually, forming only five per cent of the consumption of the local cigarette industry. Other lands in the Upper Galilee are expected to be prepared for tobacco raising soon.

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U.S. TO PRESS PROBE OF ANTI-JEWISH GROUPS

NEW YORK, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- United States Attorney John T. Cahill stated at a press conference yesterday that he would contest the jurisdiction of a State court over a Federal officer in reply to a "show-cause" order granted by Justice Philip C. McCook to Joseph E. McWilliams, commander of the Christian Mobilizers, seeking to restrain Mr. Cahill and Attorney General Frank Murphy from continuing an investigation of anti-Semitic groups.

Mr. Cahill said he would make a "special appearance" in State Supreme Court next Wednesday. This is the technical term applied when the jurisdiction of a court is questioned.

McWilliams, in his affidavit, charged that the Government had threatened to use income tax, passport and foreign agent laws against him and members of his organization because of anti-Semitism and was thus depriving him of his rights and infringing on State police powers. He said that "if there be an offense known to the law as anti-Semitism and if the defendants have jurisdiction to prosecute for such an offense, then your deponent and his members should be subjected to such a charge."

Mr. Cahill would not admit that prosecution of McWilliams was planned. In Government circles here it was pointed out that McWilliams, by his action, was inviting prosecution. It was also said that the implication of McWilliams's affidavit was that anti-Semitism should be held ground for immunity from violation of income tax, passport and foreign agent laws.

While Mr. Cahill would not comment on the status of the investigation of anti-Semitic organizations, which was announced by Mr. Murphy at a press conference in Washington last week, it was understood that the inquiry in New York was not yet completed.

The Federal attorney also declined comment on a statement appearing in The Hour, anti-Nazi information service, that Federal agents were considering prosecution of McWilliams for evasion of income tax payments and illegal use of mails.

3,000 GAS MASKS PUT ON SALE IN PALESTINE

HAIFA, Palestine, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A consignment of 3,000 gas masks, including special masks for children, has arrived here from England and has been placed on the market. A second shipment is due shortly.

PASSENGER SHIP PUT IN YUGOSLAV-PALESTINE SERVICE

BELGRADE, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- Direct passenger service from Yugoslavia to Palestine, through the 1,600 ton Government steamship Lovcen, was announced today. The ship can carry 100 passengers.

ARGENTINE GROUP EARMARKS 100,000 PESOS FOR CONGRESS RELIEF ACTIVITIES

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 7. (JTA) -- A 100,000-peso relief grant to the World Jewish Congress was announced today by a Jewish committee formed under the presidency of Ezra Teubal and Nachman Gesang to seek 5,000,000 pesos for Jewish relief in Europe and aid to Palestine. The proposal for the grant was made by M. Regalsky and Helman, members of the committee.