

NEWS

from all over the world

VIA

CABLE
WIRELESS
TELEGRAPH
TELEPHONE

by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N. Y. C.

VOL. VII NO. 47

Friday, May 31, 1940.

EPIDEMIC REPORTED IN AMSTERDAM; JOURNALISTS WHO HIT NAZISM SHOT

LONDON, May 30, (JTA)-- Reports of an epidemic in Amsterdam, wholesale arrests of Jewish merchants and execution of some Jewish journalists reached here today.

The epidemic was said to have broken out in the old ghetto quarter of the city and to have been caused by congestion and starvation resulting from confiscation by the Nazis of all good.

Contributing to the congestion was the influx of refugees from the provinces. Most of the refugees, because of the epidemic, have had to be removed from the quarter.

Jewish journalists who denounced Nazism before the invasion have been rounded up by Gestapo agents using lists sent to them by fifth columnists. Several of those arrested were shot.

Wholesale arrests were carried out of Jewish merchants and industrialists alleged to have participated in the Allied blockade of Germany.

The Jewish community organizations in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and the Hague have been closed by the Gestapo.

U.S., ALLIED DIPLOMATS AIR USE OF ALASKA AS HAVEN FOR WAR REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, May 30, (JTA)-- The State Department and allied diplomats are discussing use of the Alaskan colonization bill now before a Senate committee as a means of relieving the refugee situation in France, it was learned today.

Principal objections to accepting war refugees into this hemisphere have been immigration quotas and finances. These would be obviated by using the Alaskan bill, introduced by Senator King and Representative Havenner, as a vehicle for alleviating European distress, while at the same time placing a potential defense force in Alaska, it was said.

FIRST JERUSALEM BLACKOUT SET FOR JUNE 3

JERUSALEM, May 30.(JTA)-- Jerusalem will experience its first blackout the night of June 3, it was announced today. Blackout hours will be from nine p.m. to four a.m. Coastal cities, including Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jaffa, started blackouts earlier this month.

- - -

Egypt Takes New Defense Measures

CAIRO, May 30.(JTA)-- The Egyptian Government today announced a series of measures designed to tighten the nation's defence against invasion and subversive activities.

Under the new regulations suspected unemployed persons and individuals with police records will be sent from large cities to various oases and points on the Red Sea coast. Areas considered likely landing places for enemy planes or parachutists have been placed under guard.

A section of a British regiment of heavy tanks sped through Cairo's streets in practice maneuvers today. Similar units are stationed in strategic positions in Alexandria, Port Said and Suez, authorities revealed. If Italy enters the war at German's side, Egypt is expected to be one of the first targets of attack.

4 SEIZED IN NEW RAIDS ON BRITISH FASCISTS

LONDON, May 30.(JTA)-- Four men were seized today in a raid on the headquarters of the Fascist British Union at Northampton.

Newspapers here have unanimously applauded the British Government's measures against the Union, whose leaders, including Sir Oswald Mosley, have been arrested under the amended emergency defense regulations.

- - -

Canadian Nazis Seized: Arcand Hunted

MONTREAL, May 30.(JTA)-- The authorities today arrested five leaders of the National Unity Party, Canadian Nazi organization, and issued warrants for the arrest of three others, including Adrien Arcand, head of the party. The action was taken under sections of the Defense of Canada Act forbidding statements tending to create a disaffection or prejudice the prosecution of the war.

EXEMPTED ALIENS BANNED FROM 16 AREAS ON UPPER THAMES: CURFEW STARTS JUNE 3

LONDON, May 30 (JTA)-- All Germans and Austrians--most of them refugees-- who were exempted by tribunals from special restrictions were banned today from living in 16 districts in the Upper Thames around Windsor, unless authorized by the chief constable.

Home Secretary Sir John Anderson, replying to questions regarding aliens over 60 years of age, announced that internment action was not yet final.

07 217 201

Curfew goes into effect June 3 on all aliens and stateless persons. Sir John Anderson stated yesterday that no alien may absent himself from his ordinary residence between 10:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. In the London metropolitan police area, the curfew hours are midnight to 6 a.m. Exceptions may be made only through the obtaining of police permits. In addition, aliens are prohibited from possessing bicycles, motor vehicles, boats and aircraft.

LABORERS HIT FOR FIRST TIME BY HUNGARIAN RACIAL LAWS; JEWS FIRED, BY TRANSPORT FIRM

BUDAPEST, May 30. (JTA)--The Municipal Tramway and Autobus Company has given notice to all Jewish laborers, conductors, motormen and drivers in its employ that their services will no longer be required after June 1.

This is the first time since passage of Hungary's second anti-Jewish law that members of the working class have been singled out for dismissal on racial grounds. Heretofore the law has been applied only to Jewish business men, shopkeepers, traders and professionals.

The Hungarian Government has always insisted that the purpose of the Jewish law was not to molest poor Jews but merely to reduce the number of wealthy Jews in industry, commerce and professions to a number equivalent to the proportion of the Jews to the total population of Hungary.

From now on, however, it appears that the law will be enforced against all Jews, whatever their economic status, and that ultimately it will be made impossible for all but a small fraction of Hungary's Jewish population to earn a living, even as manual laborers or in the most humble of employment.

NAZIS SHIP POLISH JEWISH WAR PRISONERS TO LUBLIN AREA: 430 SLAIN ON WAY

PARIS, May 30. (JTA)--The Polish Government-in-exile reported today that the Nazi authorities in Poland had shipped large numbers of Jewish military prisoners to the Lublin "reservation," Lubartow and Chelm, 430 being shot dead on the way.

Escorted by a German military convoy, the first group of 2,000 Jewish members of the Polish Army reached Lublin in rags, without shoes and in pitiful condition, the report said. Another group of 800 was said to have been taken on foot from Lublin to Lubartow.

The prisoners were so exhausted that many collapsed on the road, it was stated. Those who dropped were shot by members of the German convoy. The bodies of 430 were left in the ditches. Thirty prisoners of a third group conveyed from Lublin to Chelm met a similar fate, the report asserted.

The Polish report estimated the number of Polish war prisoners as 700,000 and said that there had been an exchange of large numbers between the German and Soviet authorities, on the basis of the part of Poland from which they came. The Nazis were especially interested in obtaining physicians, it was said. Seventy of these prisoners who were transferred from Jaroslaw, Galicia, into Nazi-held Poland died on the way, it was reported.

ROME TRANSIT BAN SENDS TROPER-SCHWARTZ TO ITALY

PARIS, May 30. (JTA)--Two American Jewish officials have left for Italy to study the situation resulting from the Rome Government's refusal to permit transit for Jewish refugees bound for overseas countries.

The officials, Morris C. Troper and Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European chairman and vice-chairman of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, are especially concerned over the situation of about 150 Jews scheduled to sail from Genoa for the Dominican Republic who have been barred from crossing Italy.

They will also visit Trieste, where the J.D.C. this week opened temporary offices conducted by Emmanuel Rosen, head of the emigration department of the J.D.C. in Paris. Italy's postponement of sailing of Italian ships for the United States and Latin American countries has caused great anxiety among Jewish refugees in Trieste. Refugees possessing or expecting Palestine certificates feared that sailings for Palestine would also be suspended.

Refugees who reached Palestine sent back to Rumania

BUCHAREST, May 30.(JTA)--The first of some 2,000 Jewish refugees who sailed on the Turkish freighter Sakharya for Palestine last february, entering the country illegally, have returned here.

The refugees were supplied with tickets and transit visas to their countries of origin by the British authorities. They declared that only women and children had been taken to the Sarafand and Athlit concentration camps in Palestine. The others, detained under threat of deportation, organized hunger strikes, the refugees said.

Refugees from Poland who are able to prove that they have immediate emigration possibilities will not be interned, it was announced today in connection with registration of refugees scheduled to begin June 2.

FRATERNAL BODY MAPS ANTI-FIFTH COLUMN DRIVE AT DETROIT PARLEY

DETROIT, May 30.(JTA)--Steps to join in the movement to combat activities of Communists and fifth column Nazi propagandists were scheduled to be taken today as the Jewish National Workers' Alliance, fraternal organization, opened its thirtieth anniversary convention with 2,500 delegates and guests from all parts of the country in attendance.

In a keynote address, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, expressed the conviction that the totalitarian states will be defeated in the present European conflict. Other speakers urged the delegates not to despair and to have faith that justice would rule on earth and that the democratic system would survive.

Delegates were greeted by David Pinski, national president of the Alliance. Louis Segal, national secretary, gave his annual report. Other speakers included Eliezer Kaplan, treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner of Cleveland, and Baruch Zuckerman, labor Zionist leader.

LEON ROTH NAMED RECTOR OF HEBREW U.

JERUSALEM, May 30.(JTA)-- Prof. Leon Roth has been elected rector of the Hebrew University for the next two years. Dr. Roth, who is 44, has occupied the Achad Haam chair of philosophy since 1928. He is a native of London and a graduate of Oxford University. He served for several years as lecturer in philosophy at Manchester University.