

# NEWS

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## JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

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Monday, July 8, 1940.

### OVER 60 JEWS KILLED, 200 WOUNDED IN RUMANIAN RIOTING

BUDAPEST, July 7. (JTA) -- More than 60 Jews were killed and 200 injured in anti-Semitic rioting throughout Rumania during the week following the Russian occupation of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina, this correspondent established today from trustworthy observers arriving from Bucharest.

The figures do not include casualties during rioting between local Rumanian and Communist elements during evacuation of the occupied areas. Deaths resulting from these "rear guard" skirmishes are estimated to exceed 1,000. Many of the casualties in this category were Jewish but the riots were basically political and military, and only incidentally anti-Semitic.

The worst purely anti-Semitic riot occurred at Dorohoi, northern Moldavia, on the night of July 3. Forty Jews were killed and more than 100 injured before the police succeeded in restoring order.

Details of this pogrom are few and vague, but it is clear that it was instigated by Iron Guardists seeking to direct the populace's indignation against the Jews rather than against Russia or the Rumanian Government for failure to organize resistance.

Rioting at Arad, near the Hungarian border, on July 2 threatened to become a massacre but the police quelled it in time to prevent wholesale slaughter. Six Jews were killed and 20 wounded, however, before the rioting ceased.

Most other cases seem to have been sporadic outbursts by individuals instead of an organized campaign. In every case exact details could not be furnished because observers in Bucharest were not allowed to leave the capital and had to depend on second hand reports. Nevertheless it was possible to establish beyond doubt details of two incidents which appear typical of most of the murders of Jews which occurred.

David Abromovitz, a young Bessarabian Jew, was shot and killed on the evening of July 2 while travelling in an overcrowded third-class coach of a refugee train between Dorohoi and Jassy, just outside the occupied areas.

One refugee who had been drinking accused Abromowitz, as a Jew, of being responsible for the Bessarabian debacle. Abromowitz protested and the heated argument that ensued ended when the man took out a pistol and shot him through the head.

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Another murder definitely established was that of Adolph Groper, proprietor of the Park Hotel at Sinaia. Groper, originally from Bessarabia, was shot and killed the night of July 2 by a detective, also a Bessarabian, who accused him and other Jews of plotting Russian seizure of the province and of delighting in it. Groper's body was shipped to Bucharest and cremated on Wednesday.

Although other cases of anti-Semitic violence continue to be reported, it seems that the Government has gained control and order has been restored. In the capital itself there were few anti-Semitic incidents despite the hysterical state of some sections of the populace.

On July 3 a riot broke out at the Polytechnic Institute when Gentile students assembled to forbid entry of Jewish graduate engineers who had been assigned to the school from factories throughout the country. The violence here was confined to scuffling and none was injured sufficiently to require hospitalization.

A similar incident occurred the same day at a military school in Bucharest, where Gentile reserve officers ejected Jewish reservists who had been ordered to report for duty. Superior officers intervened and ended the brawl before it reached serious proportions.

In all fairness to the Government, observers reported that despite the anti-Semitic policies it has made every effort to maintain order. Whether anti-Jewish rioting will be renewed in the future depends on the policies to be adopted by the Gigurtu Government.

Rumanian Jews are inclined to be pessimistic, however, because of the presence in the Government of so many Iron Guardists, who are violent anti-Semites.

One of these, Horia Sima, Minister for Cults, yesterday proclaimed the Government's devotion to the "victorious nationalism" imposed by Germany and pointedly emphasized that religious liberty in Rumania henceforth would be limited to Rumanians. That is, Jews will be excluded from the right to worship.

#### Gigurtu Threatens Action Against 'Disloyal' Minorities

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- A Bucharest dispatch to the New York Times reported today that Premier Ion Gigurtu had warned in a radio address that the Rumanian Government intended to take definite action against minorities who had proved themselves "disloyal."

Although Jews were not mentioned in the speech, the Times dispatch said "it needs small perspicacity to realize that here M. Gigurtu referred to Rumania's 450,000 Jews remaining since amputation of the eastern districts." Gigurtu said that the "offenses and insults" of these minorities would not be forgotten, the Times dispatch added.

#### FRANCE ORDERS REFUGEES TO RETURN TO OCCUPIED AREAS

LISBON, July 7. (JTA) -- It was reliably learned from Toulouse today that the Vichy Government, acting in compliance with article 16 of the Franco-German armistice, is ordering all refugees from occupied France to return to their homes there. Execution of the order will mean deliverance to Nazi rule of thousands of Jews who fled to escape the German invaders.

It was also learned that the Mayor of Vichy, acting in a friendly spirit, has advised Jews to leave the city.

Meanwhile, Jewish relief bodies here have received appeals to secure the maximum number of foreign visas for Jews in France who will be affected by the order and for whom the revision of the French Constitution, under direction of Pierre Laval, bodes ill.

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#### Seek South American Aid For Refugees

LISBON, July 1. (JTA Airmail) -- The problem of Jewish refugees from France is becoming increasingly serious. The principal difficulty is the finding of outlets for emigration, but there are also difficulties in arranging transit through Spain and temporary residence in Portugal, and in finding overseas transportation.

Emphasizing that thousands of Jews in occupied France could enter Portugal if entry visas for Latin American countries were secured, the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association has sent an appeal to its branches in South and Central America to advise whether these countries would relax immigration restrictions for refugees in view of the new situation.

"It is not necessary to tell you with what anxiety we await your immediate--and, let us hope, positive--reply," said the appeal, which pointed out that the HIAS-ICA itself requires refuge overseas. The Portuguese Government has refused the organization permission to establish its central headquarters here, despite the intervention of the American Minister, and consequently its work will have to be conducted by the local Jewish relief committee.

The appeal asks especially whether immigration visas can be obtained for 30 members of the HIAS-ICA staff who were trapped in France. Also remaining in France are members of the staff of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee who do not hold American or British passports. They are now in a town near the Spanish frontier. Morris C. Troper, European director of the J.D.C., has cabled the Dominican Government asking permission for them to enter that country, since they need visas in order to obtain transit through Spain and Portugal.

The flood of refugees from France is now subsiding and the HIAS-ICA in Lisbon has started registration of Jewish refugees in Oporto, Coimbra, Leiria and other provincial towns to which the refugees were sent in order to prevent overcrowding of the capital. Several hundred Jewish refugees of various nationalities have been admitted to Portugal for a maximum stay of a month pending reemigration.

A HIAS-ICA representative sent to the Portuguese frontier reported by telephone from the Villar Formoso border station that he had found there 60 Jewish refugees of various nationalities, for whom railway fare in Portuguese currency was provided to enable them to proceed. The organization was also planning to send representatives to the Franco-Spanish frontier and to Biarritz to see if they could assist Jewish refugees.

The Spanish Government is determined to admit no more refugees, except holders of American or diplomatic passports, and special military patrols have been established on the roads. The Spanish press estimates that 6,000,000 refugees are crowding the

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roads of southern France. It is reported that small boats carrying refugees which reached the Spanish coast, especially San Sebastian, were not permitted to land.

The number of Jewish refugees in southern France has been swelled by the release last week of German refugees from French concentration centers. Many of them had applied for United States and Latin American visas in Paris before the Nazi occupation of the French capital, and it is believed that a substantial number are entitled to American quota visas.

The HIAS-ICA is also seeking to cope with the problem of scarcity of overseas transportation. It has started negotiations with Portuguese and Greek steamship companies for transportation of holders of visas to the United States and Latin American countries on freighters converted into passenger ships. Among the Jewish refugees in Portugal are 20 holders of United States visas.

The Madrid newspaper ABC reports that 4,000 Polish and Czech Jews are among the refugees at the Franco-Spanish frontier seeking admission into Spain in the hope of finding means of emigration. The paper's correspondent at Irun reports the refugees suffering from thunderstorms, which are breaking at this time of the year, as they sleep on the roads or in their automobiles.

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"Entering unoccupied France by foreigners hereafter is subjected to the harshest control and for the time being hardly any admission will be granted."

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LONDON, July 7. (JTA) -- A pledge that British Jewry would fight to the end to ensure Britain's success in the war was voiced by President Selig Brodetsky today at a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

"We shall fight, every one of us, individually and collectively, with every ounce of energy we possess to ensure the success of Britain," Prof. Brodetsky declared. The Board has established a bureau to advise Jews on how best to further the war effort, he announced.

An agreement to participate in the Joint Foreign Committee was renewed by the Board for a period of three years. The Executive Committee, it was announced, will take over the work of the Aliens Committee. All officers of the Board were reelected.

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Meanwhile, the decision to create a category of useful Germans and Austrians is approved editorially by the News-Chronicle, which expresses the hope that large numbers eventually will be incorporated in a new international brigade and others will be mobilized for work in the fields, factories and propaganda departments.

Condemning the policy of wholesale internment, the paper urges that internees be given the option of working against Hitler or finding security in the Dominions. In the meantime, the editorial asserts, they should be allowed to communicate with people outside the internment camps and see newspapers, and anti-Nazis should be segregated from Nazis.

A demand for a Parliamentary investigation of treatment of refugees and of the War Office's conduct of internment camps is contained in a Manchester Guardian editorial, which charges that a revolution in the Government's policy is going on without any explanation in Parliament or public official statement.

The Guardian describes Britain's past policy of liberalism and practical sense in admitting and absorbing elements of technical and intellectual ability that strengthened Britain. It declares that this policy has presently been scrapped.

"There are strong reasons for thinking that the new policy has not been inspired by the Home Office but is a creation of the War Office," the editorial asserts. "What part the War Cabinet has had in making it, one does not know."

After describing the qualities of the refugees and the contribution they have been able to make to the national effort, the editorial criticizes the harshness of the Government's measures and demands that Parliament investigate the War Office conduct of the camps, "which have penal rules suitable only for convicted criminals."

It points out that much of what is happening is due to bad management and adds that aside from humanitarian considerations it seems wasteful and unintelligent to deprive the country of the aid of these thousands.

#### No 'C' Internees on Arandora Star

LONDON, July 7. (JTA) -- It was learned today that internees in category C, aliens interned although previously classified as friendly, were not among the prisoners aboard the ill-fated Arandora Star, British ship which was torpedoed off the Irish coast Tuesday with heavy loss of life while transporting German and Italian internees to Canada.

#### GROWTH OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN U.S. WOULD BE 'CALAMITY,' WILLKIE HOLDS

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- Terming anti-Semitism in America "a possible criminal movement," Wendell L. Willkie, Republican presidential nominee, has warned that the spread of anti-Jewish feeling would be a "calamity" and has called on Americans to "stand shoulder to shoulder for tolerance and religious liberty."

Willkie's statement was made in an interview published in The Day, New York Yiddish daily newspaper. The Republican nominee said: "I consider anti-Semitism in America as a possible criminal movement and every anti-Semite as a possible traitor."

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to America--that America which is so beloved and so dear to me, that America which has always symbolized liberty, equality and brotherly love among its inhabitants," The Day quoted Mr. Willkie as declaring.

"If anti-Semitism should spread its roots in the United States as it has done in most of the countries of Europe, then it would definitely be a calamity for the United States. It would mean that the main foundations on which our country has been built are beginning to shake. There might even be fear that the principles for which our forefathers fought and bled are in actual danger.

"What man with a conscience, what man who knows the suffering of Israel and what Israel has tried to accomplish and has accomplished in the march of humanity cannot be tolerant toward Israel?"

"I have spoken on the radio and clearly asserted my position against race hatred, bigotry and Hitlerism. I did this long before I even thought of being a Presidential candidate. I did it solely because I wanted to express my protest against Hitlerism and against all fascistic persecution methods.

"We in America must all stand shoulder to shoulder for tolerance and religious liberty. We must all of us work for the interest of our country. We must think only of what is important for the welfare of the United States.

"Those who are trying to bring to our shores from Hitler Germany or from similar countries their race hatred, their hate of liberty and democracy--such people are not interested in the welfare of the United States but are serving the dictates of other countries."

#### ROOSEVELT LISTS FREEDOM OF RELIGION AS AMONG 5 PREREQUISITES FOR WORLD CALM

HYDE PARK, N.Y., July 7. (JTA) -- Warning that there could be no compromise between the democratic and totalitarian concepts of government, President Roosevelt, at a press conference on Friday, listed freedom of religion as one of the five freedoms required for international tranquillity. Religious freedom has been fairly well maintained under democratic government, but under the dictatorships it is practically nonexistent, the President said.

#### ABRAHAM CAHAN, AT 80, FINDS CAUSE FOR HOPE; URGES ALL HELP FOR BRITAIN

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- From the vantage point of an 80th birthday Abraham Cahan, veteran editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, novelist, Socialist and trade union leader, today surveyed a world in flames and found cause for hope.

After 58 years of fighting for Social Democracy in the United States, Ab Cahan, as he is better known to the thousands of readers of the Forward, is still in the thick of the struggle, his ideals now being crystallized in a campaign for aid to Britain, which he regards as the great bulwark of democracy, and for the reelection of President Roosevelt, whom he sees as the white hope of Socialism.

Socialism he sees as out of reach for the present, and the emphasis of his political philosophy has shifted to a fight to preserve democracy, without which, he feels, real Socialism will never be possible. If Britain loses, then he fears that

the anti-Semitic "fakers" and "Coughlins" will intensify their activities in this country, that Palestine will be lost, that the world will be in for a terrible future.

But he believes England is far from lost. "They are a brave and a tough people--tough in the better sense of the word, and I still hope that England can stand up to and smash Hitlerism."

These views Cahan expounded in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in his apartment on lower Fifth Avenue, amid the countless books, periodicals and newspapers that betoken his still unflagging interest in the world around him.

Cahan scoffs at a question about possible retirement. He still keeps 9:30 to 6 office hours--sometimes arriving as early as 7 a.m.--at the Forward editor's office, which he has occupied for the 44 years of its existence, with the exception of one year when he left because he couldn't have his way. His evenings are given over to meetings, theater, movies, reading. And, with a novel and a book of memoirs behind him, he still hopes to write a novel about a theme he thinks too complex to summarize. His health, he says, was never better.

About anti-Semitism in the United States, the veteran editor is not inclined to be alarmist. "Anti-Semitic agitation here," he said, "is largely a reverberation of Hitlerism abroad. If this country holds its own, then it can retain its social and political life. It all depends on England. If England falls, this will have its effects here. There will be lots of fakers, Coughlins, et cetera, whose influence will increase."

BIDDLE URGES ALIENS TO COOPERATE IN REGISTRATION; HOLDS IT WILL PROTECT LOYAL

PHILADELPHIA, July 7. (JTA) -- Solicitor General Francis Biddle, in an address prepared for delivery over a CBS network tonight, called on the foreign-born population for cooperation in the registration of aliens to begin Sept. 1 and said the registration would serve to protect loyal aliens from persecution.

"There are some foreigners who are disloyal to America, who do not wish to accept our ways and who use our freedom of speech and of the press to foment disunity and sedition," Biddle said. "These persons we will apprehend, but we will also see to it that loyal American aliens are not unjustly condemned for the actions of a few."

The Solicitor General told Americans that "the fifth column problem makes it all the more important that all of us exercise the greatest degree of restraint in our attitude toward aliens." He asserted that "to hold them at arm's length, under suspicion and harassment, is hardly calculated to make them enthusiastic about our institutions."

Urging a campaign to educate aliens about the American system, Biddle said that "perhaps in sharing our ideals with them we can give these ideals new content and depth."

BUNDIST HELD IN FAIR BOMBING; HAD 2 REVOLVERS, HITLER PICTURES IN HOME

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The intensive search resulting from the World's Fair bomb explosion on Independence Day has brought the arrest of Casesar Kroeger, 38-year-old house painter and former member of the German-American Bund, for illegal possession of two German-made automatic pistols. In his apartment were found a picture of Hitler, a

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copy of Hitler's "Mein Kampf" and a marked wall map. Police said he was not an American citizen and had reentered this country illegally after going to Germany following his first legal entry.

Among others taken into custody in the search were John Cassidy, leader of the Christian Front, and two of his co-defendants in the recent sedition trial.

Meanwhile, immigration inspectors started deportation proceedings against William Gerald Bishop, who is being held in the Federal House of Detention, one of the defendants on whom a jury disagreed and who is awaiting retrial. Bishop at various times has given Massachusetts, California, Switzerland, England and Germany as his country of origin.

#### McWILLIAMS FINED \$50 FOR ANTI-SEMITIC SPEECHES

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- Joseph E. McWilliams, organizer of the Christian Mobilizers and candidate for Congress in Yorkville on the "American Destiny Party" ticket, was sentenced yesterday to \$50 fine or 30 days in jail by Magistrate Vincent J. Sweeny in Brooklyn Felony Court for making anti-Semitic speeches during a street meeting on June 21.

McWilliams, who was given until July 10 to pay the fine, said he would refuse to pay and would ask for a certificate of reasonable doubt in order to be able to appeal to a higher court. James Stewart, a follower of McWilliams, was sentenced to a \$50 fine in absentia, but sentence was suspended.

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to America--that America which is so beloved and so dear to me, that America which has always symbolized liberty, equality and brotherly love among its inhabitants," The Day quoted Mr. Willkie as declaring.

"If anti-Semitism should spread its roots in the United States as it has done in most of the countries of Europe, then it would definitely be a calamity for the United States. It would mean that the main foundations on which our country has been built are beginning to shake. There might even be fear that the principles for which our forefathers fought and bled are in actual danger.

"What man with a conscience, what man who knows the suffering of Israel and what Israel has tried to accomplish and has accomplished in the march of humanity cannot be tolerant toward Israel?"

"I have spoken on the radio and clearly asserted my position against race hatred, bigotry and Hitlerism. I did this long before I even thought of being a Presidential candidate. I did it solely because I wanted to express my protest against Hitlerism and against all fascistic persecution methods.

"We in America must all stand shoulder to shoulder for tolerance and religious liberty. We must all of us work for the interest of our country. We must think only of what is important for the welfare of the United States.

"Those who are trying to bring to our shores from Hitler Germany or from similar countries their race hatred, their hate of liberty and democracy--such people are not interested in the welfare of the United States but are serving the dictates of other countries."

#### ROOSEVELT LISTS FREEDOM OF RELIGION AS AMONG 5 PREREQUISITES FOR WORLD CALM

HYDE PARK, N.Y., July 7. (JTA) -- Warning that there could be no compromise between the democratic and totalitarian concepts of government, President Roosevelt, at a press conference on Friday, listed freedom of religion as one of the five freedoms required for international tranquillity. Religious freedom has been fairly well maintained under democratic government, but under the dictatorships it is practically nonexistent, the President said.

#### ABRAHAM CAHAN, AT 80, FINDS CAUSE FOR HOPE; URGES ALL HELP FOR BRITAIN

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- From the vantage point of an 80th birthday Abraham Cahan, veteran editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, novelist, Socialist and trade union leader, today surveyed a world in flames and found cause for hope.

After 58 years of fighting for Social Democracy in the United States, Ab Cahan, as he is better known to the thousands of readers of the Forward, is still in the thick of the struggle, his ideals now being crystallized in a campaign for aid to Britain, which he regards as the great bulwark of democracy, and for the reelection of President Roosevelt, whom he sees as the white hope of Socialism.

Socialism he sees as out of reach for the present, and the emphasis of his political philosophy has shifted to a fight to preserve democracy, without which, he feels, real Socialism will never be possible. If Britain loses, then he fears that

the anti-Semitic "fakers" and "Coughlins" will intensify their activities in this country, that Palestine will be lost, that the world will be in for a terrible future.

But he believes England is far from lost. "They are a brave and a tough people--tough in the better sense of the word, and I still hope that England can stand up to and smash Hitlerism."

These views Cahan expounded in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in his apartment on lower Fifth Avenue, amid the countless books, periodicals and newspapers that betoken his still unflagging interest in the world around him.

Cahan scoffs at a question about possible retirement. He still keeps 9:30 to 6 office hours--sometimes arriving as early as 7 a.m.--at the Forward editor's office, which he has occupied for the 44 years of its existence, with the exception of one year when he left because he couldn't have his way. His evenings are given over to meetings, theater, movies, reading. And, with a novel and a book of memoirs behind him, he still hopes to write a novel about a theme he thinks too complex to summarize. His health, he says, was never better.

About anti-Semitism in the United States, the veteran editor is not inclined to be alarmist. "Anti-Semitic agitation here," he said, "is largely a reverberation of Hitlerism abroad. If this country holds its own, then it can retain its social and political life. It all depends on England. If England falls, this will have its effects here. There will be lots of fakers, Coughlins, et cetera, whose influence will increase."

BIDDLE URGES ALIENS TO COOPERATE IN REGISTRATION; HOLDS IT WILL PROTECT LOYAL

PHILADELPHIA, July 7. (JTA) -- Solicitor General Francis Biddle, in an address prepared for delivery over a CBS network tonight, called on the foreign-born population for cooperation in the registration of aliens to begin Sept. 1 and said the registration would serve to protect loyal aliens from persecution.

"There are some foreigners who are disloyal to America, who do not wish to accept our ways and who use our freedom of speech and of the press to foment disunity and sedition," Biddle said. "These persons we will apprehend, but we will also see to it that loyal American aliens are not unjustly condemned for the actions of a few."

The Solicitor General told Americans that "the fifth column problem makes it all the more important that all of us exercise the greatest degree of restraint in our attitude toward aliens." He asserted that "to hold them at arm's length, under suspicion and harassment, is hardly calculated to make them enthusiastic about our institutions."

Urging a campaign to educate aliens about the American system, Biddle said that "perhaps in sharing our ideals with them we can give these ideals new content and depth."

BUNDIST HELD IN FAIR BOMBING; HAD 2 REVOLVERS, HITLER PICTURES IN HOME

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- The intensive search resulting from the World's Fair bomb explosion on Independence Day has brought the arrest of Casesar Kroeger, 38-year-old house painter and former member of the German-American Bund, for illegal possession of two German-made automatic pistols. In his apartment were found a picture of Hitler, a

(Continued on reverse side)

copy of Hitler's "Mein Kampf" and a marked wall map. Police said he was not an American citizen and had reentered this country illegally after going to Germany following his first legal entry.

Among others taken into custody in the search were John Cassidy, leader of the Christian Front, and two of his co-defendants in the recent sedition trial.

Meanwhile, immigration inspectors started deportation proceedings against William Gerald Bishop, who is being held in the Federal House of Detention, one of the defendants on whom a jury disagreed and who is awaiting retrial. Bishop at various times has given Massachusetts, California, Switzerland, England and Germany as his country of origin.

#### McWILLIAMS FINED \$50 FOR ANTI-SEMITIC SPEECHES

NEW YORK, July 7. (JTA) -- Joseph E. McWilliams, organizer of the Christian Mobilizers and candidate for Congress in Yorkville on the "American Destiny Party" ticket, was sentenced yesterday to \$50 fine or 30 days in jail by Magistrate Vincent J. Sweeny in Brooklyn Felony Court for making anti-Semitic speeches during a street meeting on June 21.

McWilliams, who was given until July 10 to pay the fine, said he would refuse to pay and would ask for a certificate of reasonable doubt in order to be able to appeal to a higher court. James Stewart, a follower of McWilliams, was sentenced to a \$50 fine in absentia, but sentence was suspended.