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SEEK INTERNATIONAL PROTEST ON TEL AVIV BOMBING; 112 DEAD, 124 INJURED

JERUSALEM, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- A movement got under way today for an international protest against the Italian air raid on Tel Aviv, open city of 180,000 population, in which 112 persons were killed and 124 wounded.

Mayor Israel Rokach of Tel Aviv cabled to President Roosevelt a message appealing to the American people for intervention, while the Jerusalem Jewish Community cabled to Dr. Stephen S. Wise in New York, president of the American Jewish Congress, urging that a protest to diplomatic representatives of foreign powers be initiated.

Rokach's message to Washington said: "As the mayor of an open town which does not serve any military objective, I appeal to the conscience of the freedom-loving American nation to protest the cruel raid by Italy and Germany in which more than a hundred innocent citizens, including children, women and aged, were killed and 124 were wounded. This raid shows again the inhuman cruelty of the enemy, slaughtering pacific citizens of a peaceful city."

The mayor also appealed to residents of Tel Aviv, largest city in Palestine, to maintain calm.

The message to Dr. Wise, sent after an urgently-called meeting of the Jerusalem Jewish Community, said: "The Jewish community of the holiest city asks a protest to the diplomatic representatives of foreign powers and asks the press to protest against Italy's breaking of international laws."

Among the identified dead was an American citizen, Theodore Pehr, 41 years old, a journalist and resident of Palestine since 1955. His closest relative is Mrs. Bella Tenenbaum, 154 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Pathetic scenes occurred in Tel Aviv as the funerals of the victims were held. The military commander and air commodors for the Southern District attended the services, as did the Arab mayor of Jaffa. Meyor Rokach received messages of sympathy from Arab leaders all over Palestine.

Raiders Dropped Arabic Leaflets

LONDON, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- A British Broadcasting Corporation broadcast today said the Italian air raid on Tel Aviv was apparently a mistake and that the aviators had intended to bomb the neighboring port city of Jaffa.

"To point to the apparent mistake in their target," the broadcast said, "the Italian airmen also showered leaflets in Arabic on Tel Aviv before they flew over Jaffa and headed out to the sea."

(A message of the official Italian wireless, picked up by the Columbia Broadcasting System in New York, said the raid "was the most important carried out by Italian aircraft in this war." The broadcast said: "The Italian attack was not carried out against the city of Jaffa but against the port and the oil depots. The Italian bombers carried out repeated attacks on these objectives, dropping super-high-explosive bombs of the heaviest type, which caused great fires and terrific explosions.")

CAIRO, Sept. 11. (JTA) A British communique stated that Tel Aviv and the adjoining area were bombed on Monday afternoon. The bombs were dropped indiscriminately, far from military objectives, the communique said. In Tel Aviv, a number of houses were destroyed and some fires started, which were quickly brought under control, it was stated.

Zionists Protest to State Department

NEW YORK, Sept. 11. (JTA) The Palestine Emergency Committee today announced it had protested to the State Department against the "wanton" bombing of the open city of Tel Aviv. The committee's statement follows:

"The bombing of the undefended city of Tel Aviv, resulting in the murder of scores of peaceful inhabitants, by the Italian air force constitutes an act of savagery which will be condemned by all civilized peoples.

"The city of Tel Aviv, whose population is 160,000, includes a large number of Jews who sought refuge there from relentless persecution. With the aid of Jews from all parts of the world, especially from America, the settlers have built a thriving community and a center of civilization on what was a strip of desert.

"It contains no objectives of a military nature which can be used as an excuse for military operations. It is an open city, which, by all rules of warfare, should have been spared the savagery of war.

"The Palestine Emergency Committee, consisting of representatives of the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Misrachi and Poale Zion, protest against this wanton destruction of life and property in direct violation of all international covenants and the elementary principles of humanity.

"The Committee has communicated this protest to State Department."

ITALY SEEKS SPANISH SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE ASPIRATIONS

LONDON, Aug. 30. (JTA-Airmail) -- The Mussolini Government is seeking Spanish support for Italian claims to Palestine now being advanced by the Italian propaganda organization, reports from Madrid disclose.

Official Italian wireless transmissions in the Spanish language stress the importance to the Catholic Church of Italian possession of the Holy Land and Church control of the Holy places, which, according to the Italian broadcasts, would follow.

In a recent broadcast to Spain, the Italian announcer argued the common interdependence of both Italy and the Catholic Church upon supremacy in the Mediterranean. Fascist supremacy in the Mediterranean, the announcer declared, requires possession of Jerusalem as does the Catholic Church "in order to fulfill its spiritual mission."

The move to enlist Spanish support for Italian claims in the Eastern Mediterranean follows a widespread campaign in Italy aimed to prove Italian right to rule the Holy Land. The Italian press has published details plans for the future of Palestine after a successful conclusion of the war, involving the setting up of a local Arab government under Italian control, deportation of the Jews and administration of the Holy Places by the Vatican.

Nothing has been said of this in the Italian broadcasts to the Near East in Arabic. In these, British-Jewish "repression" of the Arabs is stressed and the Arabs are told that they ought to be independent and that Palestine should be a free Arab state.

GOVERNMENT PONDERS CASE OF 83 REFUGEES BARRED FROM MEXICO

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- The State and Justice Departments are taking "under consideration" the case of the Portuguese steamship Quanza, arriving in Norfolk, Va., harbor today with 85 Jewish refugees who were turned away on their arrival at Veracruz, Mexico, the State Department said. It is reported that some of the passengers on the ship are ill.

The refugees had received Mexican visas in Europe, but were denied permission to land at Veracruz. After the ship had been in port six days it was ordered to leave last Thursday by President Lazaro Cardenas. It was said in Mexico City the action was taken as a precaution against possible fifth columnists.

DEMAND BAN ON UNSPOKEN SPEECHES IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11. (JTA) --- A move materialized today to prevent use of the Congressional Record as a propaganda medium--directed particularly against Jacob Thorkelson, "leme duck" anti-Semitic Montana Congressman--by means of a House Frinting Committee rule that only words actually spoken on the floor of the House can be printed in the Record. This move was urged by Chairman John J. Cochran of the House Accounts Committee.

2 ANTI-SEMITES SNOWED UNDER IN MICHIGAN PRIMARIES

DETROIT, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Frank Fitzgerald, liberal Catholic, piled up a five-to-one lead against Louis B. Ward, former editorial director of Social Justice and biographer of Father Charles E. Coughlin, in the democratic senatorial primaries yesterday. In the 15th Congressional District, Dr. George Hermann Derry, former president of the Marygrove College, who has been delivering anti-Jewish speeches, was also being snowed under in the Republican primaries.

HILLEL FOUNDATIONS OPEN 12 NEW UNITS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- A major expansion in the scope of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation movement, providing for the opening of a new foundation at Brooklyn College and 11 other units at the beginning of the 1940-41 college year, will extend Hillel's program to 10,000 additional Jewish students, President Henry Monsky of B'nai B'rith announced today.

Opening of the 12 new units, Monsky said, will bring to 43 the number of Hillel Foundations and Hillel counselorships maintained by B'nai B'rith. With 11 others scheduled to be established by the time the school year is under way, there will be 54 Hillel units serving 30,000 Jewish students, Monsky said.

"ZJO" FOR JEWS PROVIDED IN BERLIN RAID SHELTERS

LONDON, Sept. 11. (JTA) — A special "zoo for Jews" has been provided in Berlin's air raid shelters, the Daily Telegraph reported today via Madrid.

DUTCH ANTI-JEWISH WEEKLY BANNED

LONDON, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- The German-controlled Dutch wireless reported today that police at Amsterdam, Holland, had suppressed the current issue of the anti-Semitic weekly Denoodklok. The broadcast gave no reason for the action.

"MATINEE IDOL," RABBIS HIT AT ORTHODOX PARLEY

NEW YORK, Sept. 11. (JTA) -- Rabbi Alexander Levine, recording secretary of the Assembly of Hebrew Orthodox Rabbis of America, addressing more than 100 rabbis at this morning's session of the Convention at the Hotel Sharon, declared that inexperience and sophomoric sophistication threatened Jewish tradition.

"Too often we see young inexperienced graduates of seminaries displacing older and wiser men in the pulpits of our synagogues," he said. "This absurd insistence upon rabbis who should look like matinee idols is frivolous and a serious threat to orthodox Judaism." The convention closed today.