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by the

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY N.Y.C.

VOL. VII. NO. 199.

Thursday, December 5, 1940.

BRITAIN TO LET PATRIA SURVIVORS STAY IN PALESTINE; 1,500 WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM QUOTA

LONDON, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Some 1,500 Jewish refugee survivors of last week's Patria disaster in Haifa harbor will be permitted to remain in Palestine as an "exceptional act of mercy" on the part of the British Government, it was announced in the House of Commons today.

Declaring the Government's decision was taken in consideration of the survivors' "harrassing experience," Colonial Undersecretary George H. Hall said the total of those permitted to remain would be deducted from the next Palestine immigration quota. Hall warned, however, that the Government had not changed its position with regard to other past or future illegal immigrants who, he said, would be sent overseas as soon as shipping arrangements could be made.

The steamer Patria, loaded with 1,771 Jewish refugees from central European countries who had been wandering on the seas for many weeks and who had been forbidden to land in Palestine, sank early on the morning of Nov. 25 after a mysterious explosion. Of the total passengers, 32 have so far been found dead, 226 are still missing and 1,513 have been interned at Athlit.

Replying to a question from Col. Josiah Wedgwood regarding the immigrants who arrived at Haifa and why they were not admitted like other refugees from Rumania, Hall said the persons in question, who all came from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, were intercepted in an attempt to enter Palestine against the law of the country.

"His Majesty's Government, while not lacking sympathy for refugees from territories under German control, can only regard the revival of attempts at illegal immigration at the present juncture as likely to affect the local situation most adversely and prove a serious menace to British interests in the Middle East," Hall continued. "Accordingly it was decided that these persons and any further parties who may succeed in reaching Palestine with a view to illegal entry should be sent to a British colony for the duration of the war."

Referring to the Patria sinking, he declared: "The causes of the disaster are still under investigation but it has been decided by His Majesty's Government, as an exceptional act of mercy and after taking all circumstances under consideration, particularly the harrassing experience undergone by the survivors, not to proceed with the

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proposal to send these particular persons overseas. They will accordingly be allowed to stay in Palestine subject to existing regulations. Their number will be deducted from the next immigration quota.

"The position remains unchanged regarding all other illegal immigrants who arrived recently off the coast of Palestine and who may arrive hereafter. They will be sent overseas as soon as necessary shipping arrangements can be made. The case of these illegal immigrants is entirely different from that of other refugees admitted to Palestine on a purely temporary basis after a careful investigation of their home ties."

After asking why news of the occurrence was not sent to England sooner and how it came about that a valuable ship was sacrificed in that manner, Col. Wedgwood told the House that he would raise the matter again.

ROMANIA ORDERS SEIZURE OF JEWISH-OWNED BOATS

BUDAPEST, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Seizure of all boats owned by companies with Jewish stockholders was decreed today by Premier Ion Antonescu of Rumania. It was reported from Bucharest. The decree affected seagoing ships and Danube barges, tugs and tankers.

Other reports said Rumanian police in the town of Brasov returned to their Jewish owners 50 shops which had been seized by Iron Guardists.

HUNGARY PLANS LAW TO HALT INTERMARRIAGE

BUDAPEST, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Legislation to halt intermarriage between Jews and Gentiles was forecast in Parliament yesterday by Premier Paul Teleki, who asserted that the Hungarian ruling class had become too much "tainted" by Jews.

"The solution is a painful one in Hungary since it creates many individual grievances," he said, "but it is not permissible to pay too much attention to such considerations. The interests of the nation are the chief things. A considerable portion of Hungarian middle and upper classes are tainted with Jewry. This question should have been solved thirty years ago instead of leaving it up to us.

"However, it would not be right to take every possibility of life and existence away from 600,000 or 1,000,000 persons if one includes those who have intermarried. This would also be against the interest of Europe."

THIRD GROUP OF EXPELLED LUXEMBURG JEWS REACHES PORTUGAL

LISBON, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- A third trainload of Jewish refugees from Luxembourg arrived at the Portuguese frontier today under escort of Gestapo agents.

The refugees will be allowed to stay at a small thermal spa 200 miles from this city. The previous arrivals, who came in two groups of 290 and 150, reached Portugal earlier this month, also under Gestapo escort. The Nazis are expelling all Jews from the occupied Duchy, where about 1,200 Jews resided originally.

The newly-arrived refugees reported that the Germans had dismissed Dr. Albert Sussheim, head of the Jewish community in Luxembourg, and replaced him with a Dr. Baum.

FRENCH ANTI-JEWISH LAW EXTENDED TO TUNISIA

VICHY, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The anti-Jewish law of Oct. 18 was put into effect in Tunisia today by a decree of the Bey. According to an official communique issued in Tunis, the internal organization of the Jewish community remains unaffected by the statute and the community retains all its rights as an autonomous body.

JEWISH-OWNED STORE IN LONDON REPLACES BOMBED CHURCH

LONDON, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- The two Jewish owners of a large furniture display room in Kensington have given permission for its use for daily and Sunday services of the Roman Catholic congregation, Our Lady of Victories, after the congregation's church had been demolished by a bomb, it was disclosed today.

An altar and temporary pews were set up on the Jewish-owned premises. The owners are accepting a nominal rental of one shilling annually, while the furniture dealers pay \$24,000 a year.

BRITAIN SEEN READY TO FREE ANY ALIEN READY TO AID ALLIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- As Britain relaxes its attitude toward aliens, preparations are far along to turn a large number of them out of detention camps soon, Ben Robertson, CBS correspondent, reported in a broadcast from London this morning. Most of the aliens were rounded up last Summer when invasion was feared daily and Britain was concentrating on making itself an island fortress.

"At present," Robertson said, "27,000 aliens are in the camps here. Eight thousand already have been let loose. Of the rest, 4,000 are known dangerous. There are doubts about the remaining 15,000, but the Government has now adopted the principle of allowing freedom to any alien who is willing to fight for the Allied cause."

Refugee Engineers Give England Advantage in Metals

NEW YORK, Dec. 4. (JTA) -- Czech Jewish refugee engineers have given Great Britain a mechanical advantage over Germany in the field of metal manufacturing, Albert B. Cudebec, British engineer of the Loewy Engineering Company, reported at the 61st annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers yesterday.

Cudebec said this advantage was especially true in the advanced process of metal extrusion developed by Czecho-Slovakian engineers in their country and perfected in England. Metal extrusion, as a process of squeezing or squirting metal through a die into a required shape, has hastened the British defense program and has made easier the handling of aluminum and magnesium alloys necessary to modern aircraft production, he said.

"Soon after the British defense program got well under way the metal-extrusion process quickly became so vital to national defense purposes that forty or fifty of these large plants are now in production in Great Britain," Cudebec said. Before the war there were only five plants in England, he said.