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BRITAIN REPORTED AGREEING TO JEWISH ARMY PROPOSAL; RECRUITING TO OPEN SOON

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Negotiations between the British Government and the Jewish Agency for Palestine for formation of a Jewish army to serve in Palestine and elsewhere are expected to be successfully concluded soon, it was reliably learned today.

According to unconfirmed rumors, recruiting of 16,000 Jews in Palestine and 4,000 in Britain will be started as soon as the negotiations are consummated.

Zionist leaders have been seeking establishment of a Jewish legion since the outbreak of the war. The force would be recruited principally among Palestine Jews and those in Allied countries, as well as in neutral countries, so far as compatible with local legislation.

Approximately 8,000 Palestine Jews are now serving in the British forces, including 1,500 in the Royal Air Force, 900 in infantry companies, 1,600 in engineer, technical and transport corps, and more than 2,500 in the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps. Some are stationed in Egypt and Greece.

At the outbreak of the war, the Jewish Agency held registration of Palestine Jews between the ages of 18 and 50 willing to offer their services for the Allied cause. More than 136,000 men and women volunteered.

Sir Norman Angell, the author, recently predicted that the British Government would accept the Jewish Agency's offer to establish an army 100,000 strong.

In the early days of the war the Government took an unfavorable attitude towards the proposal for a separate Jewish force. On May 24, 1940, Capt. Anthony Eden, then War Secretary, said: "In the opinion of His Majesty's Government the raising of separate Jewish formations would present difficulties and it would be of more advantage if Jews who are anxious to serve would enlist in His Majesty's forces in the ordinary way."

One reason for former official opposition to the Jewish army plan, it was learned, was that the Government did not desire to make any commitments to Zionist leaders in return for such assistance. Presumably this difficulty has been cleared away during the current negotiations.

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Precedent for a Jewish army was set during the last war when a Jewish Legion, composed of Jews from Palestine and other countries, served under Marshal Allenby's command in the British Near Eastern forces.

Seek to Strengthen Palestine Air Raid Precautions

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Air Raids Precautions Week was opened here today by Mayor Israel Rokach. He told a press conference that the city so far has spent £25,000 for A.R.P. and that 6,000 persons were presently in service, but added that 30,000 more were urgently needed, especially for fire brigade purposes, since experience had shown that the enemy was using more incendiary bombs.

HOMES BURNED, BUCHAREST JEWS BEG FOR SHELTER

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Jewish survivors of the Iron Guard revolt in Bucharest in which hundreds were slain crept out of hiding places today in a desperate attempt to secure food, while others formed weeping queues asking for shelter because their homes had been destroyed by fire, according to reports from the Rumanian capital.

Many Jews tried to reach the mortuary in the hope of identifying relatives, said a Daily Mirror dispatch from Belgrade. The full truth of the anti-Jewish orgies will probably never be known, the correspondent said. Naked and mutilated bodies were still lying in the Moldavian forest.

The Jewish quarter of Bucharest was described as "a smoldering wilderness of misery." It was still barred by the military this morning.

Other Bucharest reports said 25 synagogues and temples had been destroyed in the Rumanian capital during the revolt.

BULGARIAN JEWS ORDERED TO REGISTER BY FEB. 23

ZURICH, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Bulgarian Jews have been ordered to register by Feb. 23, when the anti-Jewish law passed by Parliament goes into effect, it was reported from Sofia today.

Jews were also ordered to drop Bulgarianized names, discharge Bulgarian household servants and give up membership in all clubs and associations related to military matters.

WILLKIE HIDS PRESENT TIME 'INOPPORTUNE' TO DISCUSS JEWISH STATE

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Wendell L. Willkie, asked at a general press conference today whether he favored creation of an independent Jewish state in Palestine after the war, said: "The present time is inopportune to discuss such a question, but my attitude is well known in the United States."

(In an interview in New York during the Presidential campaign, Willkie said he favored the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.)

POLISH BOOK RENEWS TALK OF JEWISH EMIGRATION

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Polish quarters are still talking of Jewish emigration from Poland, it appears from the newly-published book, "All About Poland," by Whittinger, private secretary of Premier Wladislas Sikorski of the exiled Polish Government.

Devoting a special chapter to the Jewish problem, the author concludes that "the only solution of this burning question is that offered by emigration." Polish Jewish circles said this policy was incompatible with the Government's promise of Jewish equality in a restored Poland.

POLISH JEWISH RELIEF GROUP AIDS NON-JEWS

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The Council of Polish Jewry has received 22 bales of clothing from the Federation of Polish Jews in Canada for distribution among refugees. On the suggestion of Ignacy Schwartzbart, part of the consignment will be turned over to the Polish Government's relief committee for distribution among Polish refugees, regardless of race or creed, a second part to the fund for poor Polish Jewish refugees and the rest to the United Synagogue for distribution among air raid victims of all denominations.

REVISIONIST-AGENCY RAPPROCHMENT DENIED

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A press agency report that the New Zionist Organization had reached an agreement with the Jewish Agency was termed "entirely baseless" today by Dr. M. Altman, NZO leader.

SPRINZAK NAMED TO HOS SEAT IN TEL AVIV COUNCIL

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Joseph Sprinzak has been named to the Tel Aviv Municipal Council to succeed the late Vice-Mayor Dov Hos. A successor as vice-mayor has not yet been designated. The Council decided to name a street for Hos, establish an annual physical training prize in his memory and hang a picture of him in the meeting hall.

FIRST NEAR EAST FASHION SHOW PLANNED IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The first fashion show in the Far East's history will be held from Feb. 1 to 8 in Tel Aviv. Many merchants and guests are coming from Egypt for the event.

ZIONISTS MEET IN FRANCE

VICHY, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- An informal gathering of Zionist leaders was held in Marseille last week with the participation of representatives of Zionist funds, it was reported here today. Emigration problems and prospects for Zionist work in France were discussed.

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HERZOG HERE, SEEKS \$1,000,000 TO AID REFUGEE STUDENTS, PALESTINE YESHIVAS

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine, arriving here today on the United States liner President Adams for a three-month visit, said he would seek \$1,000,000 from American Jews to bring 1,500 yeshiva students and 200 rabbis to Palestine from Europe and to assist 180 Palestine religious institutions.

In an interview with the JTA at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, Rabbi Herzog said he would visit principal cities of the United States in the campaign for American assistance. The Soviet Government has already promised transit for the immigrants and application has been made to the Palestine Government for immigration certificates, he said.

"I expect that American Jewry will rise to the height of this historic emergency and will respond perhaps more than its wonted magnanimity," the Chief Rabbi said. Dr. Herzog left Palestine by air six weeks ago and embarked on the President Adams at Cape Town. He is accompanied by his wife. It is his first visit to the United States.

Discussing conditions in Palestine, he denounced the deportation of illegal immigrants to a British colony. This, he said, fills "the cup of our sorrow to overflowing." He asserted that "Palestine Jewry is not dismayed by the thick-gathering clouds which threaten the Holy Land. Our faith inspires us with ever renewed hope and that hope in turn reinvigorates our faith." The Jewish community's economic position is "increasingly difficult," he said.

PROF. YAHUDA, AT RECEPTION, DEFENDS BIBLE'S AUTHENTICITY

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The authenticity of the biblical version of history was defended tonight by Prof. Abraham S.E. Yahuda, of London, who declared at a reception for him at the Temple Emanu-El Community House that "every new excavation has only confirmed the Bible and confused the critics."

Prof. Albert Einstein, in a message to the meeting, expressed the hope that "Yahuda's convincing arguments and lucid presentation will contribute to strengthen and to revive the influence of the moral contents of the Bible, the greatest creation of the people of Israel." Speakers at the reception included Rabbi Moses Hysman, Prof. Fernando de los Rios, Rabbi William Rosenau, Prof. Chaim Tcherowitz and Arthur Meyerowitz.

Prof. Yahuda declared: "The close relationship which I discovered between Hebrew and Egyptian made it clear to me that the development and growth of Hebrew from a primitive Canaanite dialect to a perfect literary language could only have taken place in a time and an environment when and where the Hebrews lived in the most intimate contact with the Egyptians. This I illustrated by quoting a number of Egyptian loanwords and typically Egyptian phrases from the Pentateuch. Proofs were so cumulative, that there could be no doubt that the Pentateuch could not have been written at any other time than the time of the Exodus. This implies that the Hebrew language was a genuine creation of the Hebrews during their stay in Egypt, developed by them under the influence of the Egyptian language from the Canaanite dialect which they spoke when they immigrated into Egypt, and that it was Moses who brought Hebrew to that high degree of perfection in which the Pentateuch is written.

"I wish to point out that the establishment of this fact is of far-reaching importance. By applying the combined method of comparative philology and archaeology, based on the monuments excavated not only in Egypt but also in Palestine, Syria and Mesopotamia, the antiquity of the Pentateuch, as well as the accuracy of the Biblical records can be proved."