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EXPULSION OF POLISH JEWS FROM RUMANIA LAUNCHED BY NAZIS

ZURICH, March 11. (JTA) -- With the formal permission of the Rumanian Government, Nazi military authorities in Rumania started transporting Polish Jews from Rumania to Nazi-held Poland, it is reliably reported here today.

The report states that the deportation of Polish Jews from Rumania to Poland will affect some 3,000 Jews who found refuge in Rumania after the occupation of Poland by Germany and Soviet Russia.

The report reveals that more than 200 prominent Rumanian Jews have been forced into the special Jewish labor battalions which are now being organized to build airfields for the German air force in Rumania.

Authentic figures now made public in Switzerland about the number of the Jewish victims in the last pogrom in Rumania show that there were 1,500 Jews killed, some 2,000 severely wounded and about 5,000 slightly injured. The figures were brought to Switzerland by a prominent Rumanian Jewish leader who is an active member of the World Jewish Congress.

Polish Jews Deported from Belgium

ZURICH, March 11. (JTA) -- The Nazi authorities in Belgium have started deportation of Polish Jews from Belgium into Nazi-held Poland, according to an eyewitness report reaching here from Antwerp.

The witness said he saw some 2,000 Polish Jews being packed into a cattle train in Antwerp for deportation to Poland after they had been rounded up in Antwerp and interned in camps. They were given only a few hours notice and were not permitted to take along more than 25 kilograms of luggage. Many of those deported had resided in Belgian as Polish citizens for about thirty years.

PERU TO ADMIT REFUGEES

LIMA, Peru, March 11. (JTA) -- A new presidential decree permits henceforth the immigration of refugees into Peru on condition that 2,000 sol (approximately \$800) is deposited with the Government for each immigrant. The decree provides that the deposit is to be repaid to the immigrant after two years of uninterrupted residence, providing he can prove that he is financially well established and is able to take care of himself and his family.

(Continued on reverse side)

PROGRESS REPORTED ON PRISONER EXCHANGE BETWEEN REICH, PALESTINE

LONDON, March 11. (JTA) -- The British Government has sent the German Government, through the United States Embassy, a list of German women and children in Palestine who wish to return to the Reich, Foreign Undersecretary Richard A. Butler announced in Commons today.

The statement was made in reply to a question from Capt. W.F. Strickland, Conservative, regarding the present status of negotiations for an exchange of interned Palestinian German women, children and old men.

The British Government has stated that it would be ready to permit Germans in Palestine to leave if a number of Palestinians, mostly women and children but also including old men, would be allowed to leave the Reich.

SEEK RELEASE OF 1,500 REFUGEES HELD AT DAKAR

LISBON, March 11. (JTA) -- Negotiations which may enable some 1,500 European refugees, including 150 Jews, now stranded at the French African port of Dakar, to proceed to their destinations to Brazil and the United States are now in progress between the French and British governments, it was reliably learned here today.

The refugees sailed on Jan. 15 from Marseille aboard the 12,000-ton French steamer Alsina, headed for South America. While the steamer was on the high seas, it received orders on Jan. 25 to put in at Dakar, the French authorities apparently fearing that the Alsina might be intercepted and seized by the British navy, as was the case with her sister ship, the Mendoza.

Reports reaching Lisbon from Dakar said many of the passengers on the Alsina had taken sick because of the prevalence of tropical fever and their undernourishment. The office of the Joint Distribution Committee in Lisbon is in touch with the situation. All the refugees have valid visas for North and South American countries.

SPECIAL RAILWAY CARS FOR JEWS IN HUNGARY DEMANDED

BELGRADE, March 11. (JTA) -- Government Party Deputy Tibor Ferenczy has demanded in the Hungarian Parliament that special railway coaches for Jews be instituted, it was reported from Budapest today. He also asked that Jews be required to pay a supplementary fare for upkeep of the special coaches.

ANTI-NAZI GERMAN DAILY TO BE PUBLISHED IN LONDON

NEW YORK, March 11. (JTA) -- An anti-Nazi German-language daily newspaper will appear in London on Wednesday, the British wireless announced in a broadcast recorded at Columbia's short-wave listening station. It will be called Die Zeitung and will be the "only independent German daily newspaper published in Europe," the announcement said.

EX-VIENNESE SCHOLAR NAMED TO HEBREW U. INSTITUTE

JERUSALEM, March 11. (JTA) -- The Hebrew University has elected Prof. Avigdor Aptowitz, formerly of Vienna, an honorary member of its Institute of Jewish Studies. Prof. Aptowitz is celebrating his 70th birthday.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT OFFERS OWN ALASKA BILL TO REPLACE DICKSTEIN'S

WASHINGTON, March 11. (JTA) -- Interior Department officials are seeking to have legislative authorization for refugee colonization of Alaska shifted from the jurisdiction of the House Immigration Committee to the Committee on Territories, enabling them to substitute for the Dickstein bill a measure prepared by the department.

The eight-man Immigration Committee subcommittee to amend the Dickstein bill refused to grant the Department's request that the transfer of jurisdiction be granted, but did vote to refer the matter back to the full committee for action.

No action will be taken until Chairman Samuel Dickstein of the Immigration Committee and Chairman Lex Green of the Territories Committee have an opportunity to confer on the matter. Green declared he could say nothing until Dickstein returned to Washington late this week.

Felix Cohen, Interior Department attorney, revealed that Secretary Ickes had already sent a prepared bill to the chairmen of both the House and Senate Territories committees and asked that the Immigration Committee abandon its consideration of the measure at an executive session today.

That a fight will be waged to retain Immigration Committee control of the measure was made certain by the statements of Representatives Schulte (Dem., Ind.) and Kramer (Dem., Calif.), members of the subcommittee, that they would oppose any transfer of authority, both in the committee and on the floor of the House, should a colonization measure be reported out by the Territories Committee. "This bill is primarily an immigration measure and the development angle is definitely subordinate," Schulte declared.

The Interior Department measure is similar to the original King-Havener bill offered in the last Congress. It would authorize creation of Alaska development corporations with the approval of the Secretary of Interior which would allow private capital to organize colonization projects in Alaska.

Refugee colonizers would be restricted to quota immigrants and the special classes of non-quota immigrants permitted by law which include skilled workers, scientists, teachers and students. The Interior Department measure also provides that 75 per cent of the colonization openings be made available to American citizens. It was pointed out, however, that in view of the difficulty in obtaining American colonists for the territory under previous Government-sponsored efforts, it was very unlikely that more than a small part of the 75 per cent would be utilized.

35,483 JEWISH ALIENS ARRIVED HERE IN 1940; HIAS AIDED 17,790

NEW YORK, March 11. (JTA) -- A total of 35,483 Jewish aliens arrived in the United States during 1940, of whom 17,790 were discharged into the custody of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society, HIAS reported today in a survey of its activities for the year.

The aliens arrived on 783 steamships. They included 29,580 immigrants and 5,903 non-immigrants. Of those aided by HIAS, 6,239 were brought to the HIAS building for food, shelter and personal service, while 2,085 were entrained to cities of ultimate destination.

The HIAS Ellis Island Bureau received 15,031 inquiries on detained immigrants, warrants and other immigration cases. The Government served 85,794 kosher meals to detained immigrants under the dietary supervision of HIAS.

The Washington bureau of HIAS argued before the Justice Department 1,382 appeals in behalf of immigrants excluded at various ports, took up 5,798 miscellaneous matters with various departments, answered 21,575 mail inquiries and gave information to 5,503 persons who called at the office.

WURMBRAND, FORMER JTA BERLIN CHIEF, FINISHES NEW BOOK

NEW YORK, March 11. (JTA) -- Completion of a philosophic work, "Into New Life," by Michael Wurmbrand, former head of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency office in Berlin, was announced here today. Wurmbrand was editor of the JTA service in Berlin since 1922. When the Nazis came to power in Germany, he was compelled to move to Prague, where he continued the JTA service for central and south-eastern Europe. He recently arrived in the United States, where he completed his book and worked out a number of cinema scripts. Wurmbrand is the author of a book, "Die Leuchte," which was highly praised by numerous European publications.

SOUTH AFRICAN NAZI GROUP STIRS ALARM

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 12. (JTA-Ry Mail) -- An anti-British and anti-Jewish organization that is beginning to assume dangerous proportions in this country is the Ossewa Brandwag (literally translated, the Oxwagon Firetorch). Its supporters claim to uphold the ideals of the Voortrekkers (pioneers) who in the old days travelled by ox-wagon and established settlements in all parts of the country.

A sensation has recently been caused by the fact that Dr. J.F.J. van Rensburg resigned from his position as administrator of the Orange Free State to become the "Commandant-General" of the Ossewa Brandwag, which proclaims that its aim is to fight for the establishment of a Republic free of English "domination."

The Government has taken no action to restrain the activities of the Ossewa Brandwag on the ground that it is "an unimportant body." This tends, however, to be a little disquieting to liberal opinion here, the protagonists of which cannot fail to recall that the National Socialists in Germany were also at one time regarded as unimportant.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC IN PALESTINE INCREASES

LONDON, Feb. 13. (JTA-By Mail) -- One effect of wartime traffic in Palestine, says Great Britain and the East, has been to produce a great increase in the operations of the Railways Administration.

For the first eight months of the year gross revenue leaped to £541,377 from £363,784 during January-August, 1939, while working expenses fell to £415,154 from £419,267. There were twice as many passengers--816,759 compared with 440,739--and the revenue from fares jumped by £59,000 to £19,000. Goods revenue increased from £255,852 to £352,408.