

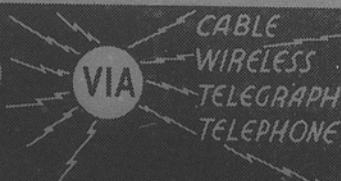
NEWS

from all over the world

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DRAFT OF PALESTINE JEWS SET FOR SUNDAY; RECRUITING PARADE IN TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM, May 2. (JTA) -- Palestine's Jewish authorities today proclaimed a draft of all unmarried Jews between the ages of 20 and 30, as the latest measure to meet the threat of an Axis drive towards Suez through Syria and the Holy Land.

A proclamation issued by the executive committees of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Council (Vaad Leumi) set Sunday as the day for the compulsory enlistment. A special committee was appointed to consider applications for exemption.

Although 8,000 Jews are already serving in the British forces, mainly in Jewish units, the situation demands speedy enlargement of the ranks, the proclamation asserted.

Earlier this week the Palestine Jewish labor federation, Histadruth Haovdim, which numbers 125,000 industrial and farm workers, had announced compulsory enlistment of all its members between the ages of 20 and 35.

To spur the recruiting campaign, Australian troops, headed by military bands, paraded through the main streets of Tel Aviv, while Royal Air Force planes circled overhead.

Dr. M. Altman, leader of the Palestine Zionist-Revisionist group, conferred with Chief Government Secretary James McPherson and Major Clark, commanding officer of British forces in Palestine, on plans to convert the Jewish community into a war machine for more active defense of the country and aid to the British war effort. Both promised to forward his proposals to the proper authorities.

'Cold-Shouldering' of Jews Hit in London

LONDON, May 2. (JTA) -- Denouncing the policy of "appeasing the wrong people," the weekly New Statesman and Nation asserted today that except for the Greeks, the Jews in Palestine were the only trustworthy friends of Britain in the Near East.

"We now have in this part of the world only two trustworthy friends--the Greeks in Crete and Cyprus and the Jews in Palestine," an editorial declared. "These latter we have persistently cold-shouldered and neglected and they now face the possibility of a tragedy."

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"The Foreign Office has preferred to conciliate only the reactionaries--the fifth column among the Arab magnates of Palestine and Iraq, our enemies in Vichy and our open foes in Spain.

"Even today, with the Germans speeding towards Baghdad, the puppet of the Axis, Rashid Said, is still head of the government of Iraq and that arch-conspirator, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, is still at large. This policy of appeasing the wrong people has complicated our military task and made the problem of the defense of Suez more difficult than it need have been."

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Australia 'Sympathetic' to Jewish Army

WASHINGTON, May 2. (JTA) -- Acting Prime Minister A. W. Fadden has voiced Australia's "sympathetic attitude" towards formation of a Jewish army in Palestine to fight for defense of the Near East, the Zionist Organization of America reported today.

His statement was made in response to a memorandum submitted by the Zionist Organization of New South Wales. (A JTA dispatch on March 4 said Fadden was forwarding the memorandum to Prime Minister Menzies, in London.)

JEWESS IS FIRST WOMAN TO RECEIVE NEW BRITISH VALOR AWARD

LONDON, May 2. (JTA) -- Miss Rosalie Gassman, a 29-year-old Jewish girl residing in London's East End, has been awarded the British Empire Medal for heroism, it was announced today. Miss Gassman is the first woman to receive the new medal. The award was instituted only two weeks ago and takes precedence over the Order of the British Empire, hitherto the chief award for civilians, except for the George Medal.

The citation stated that the award was made in recognition of Miss Gassman's exceptional conduct as a telephone operator at an auxiliary fire station during a severe air-raid. She remained on duty throughout the night after a bomb falling outside the station caused the collapse of the garage in which the station was housed. In addition to maintaining the post's communications, she cared for several casualties. Miss Gassman is chairman of the British W.I.Z.O. Youth Center.

The George Medal for gallantry has been awarded to a Jewish auxiliary fireman, Andrew Nunes Nabarro, of Portsmouth. According to his citation, he took charge of operations to rescue people from collapsing buildings and to control fires during a heavy raid on the town.

Corporal Leslie Ginsberg, of the Royal Fusiliers, has been awarded the Military Medal for "gallant and distinguished services" in the Middle East.

MOST JEWS ESCAPED FROM LIBYA IN TIME, LONDON HEARS

LONDON, May 2. (JTA) -- Most of the Jews in the Libyan cities of Benghazi and Tobruk managed to reach Egypt before the recent Axis advance and are now being cared for by the Alexandria Jewish community, The Jewish Chronicle reported from Jerusalem today.

European Jewish refugees in Libya were able to make contact with relatives in Palestine as a result of the arrival of Palestinian Jewish soldiers in Libya.

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CROATIA BARS JEWS FROM CITIZENSHIP; JEWS TO BE OUSTED FROM HUNGARIAN PART OF YUGOSLAVIA

BUDAPEST, May 2. (JTA) -- Anti-Jewish measures are being intensified in various parts of conquered Yugoslavia, with Croatia barring Jews from citizenship and Hungary planning to expel Jews from the territory she occupied, it was reported here today.

Ante Pavelic, installed by the Nazis as Chief of State in Croatia, has approved a decree under which only "aryans" will be considered as Croat citizens, while Jews will be considered "subjects," the newspaper Pester Lloyd reported. The decree, modelled on Germany's Nuremberg laws, sets up distinctions among Jews, half-Jews and quarter-Jews and annuls all changes of name by Jews since December, 1918.

Other reports reaching here from Zagreb indicated that the Pavelic regime would seek to equal Germany in anti-Semitism. A number of Jews committed suicide following establishment of the new regime, it was said. It was believed that there were about 12,000 Jews in Zagreb before the German invasion.

Meanwhile, the military commander of the Hungarian part of Yugoslavia ordered "all Serbs, Bosnians, Montenegrins, gypsies and Jews and their descendants who were not Hungarian citizens before Oct. 31, 1918," to move out within three days beginning May 28. Those forced to leave may take only such property as they can carry and enough money to cover traveling expenses. Exemptions for Jews were provided only for women two weeks before or after childbirth and persons over 75 years of age.

CURBS ON JEWS AS LAWYERS DEMANDED BY FRENCH PAPER

VICHY, May 2. (JTA) -- The royalist newspaper Action Francaise, whose influence has been growing in leading political circles, today demanded that Jewish barristers be restricted to two per cent of the total number. It also urged that Jewish lawyers be forbidden to represent non-Jews or to act in trials concerning the press and matters of national defense.

Meanwhile, the Nazified version of the film, "Jew Suss," is being shown in a number of provincial cities in unoccupied France.

NAZIS INTRODUCE RACIALISM INTO FRENCH MUSIC

LONDON, April 16. (JTA-By Mail) -- The Colonne Concerts in France are in future to be known as the "Gabriel Pierne" Concerts, it is reported by the Free French newspaper, France. The reason is that the Germans have discovered that Edouard Colonne, founder and for many years director of the orchestra, is a Jew. The concerts are therefore to be named henceforth after his successor, Pierne.

RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY PARLEY BEGINS MONDAY

NEW YORK, May 2. (JTA) -- Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, Professor of Applied Christianity at the Union Theological Seminary, and Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, are two of the outstanding leaders of religious thought who will discuss "The Challenge of the World Crisis to Religious Leadership" before the 41st annual convention of The Rabbinical Assembly of America, which will take place in Philadelphia on May 5, 6, and 7, attended by nearly 200 rabbis.

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SCHWARTZ, HERE FROM LISBON, TELLS OF PLIGHT OF JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, May 2. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, Vice-chairman of the European Council of the Joint Distribution Committee, returned to New York yesterday aboard the Yankee Clipper from Lisbon. Dr. Schwartz, who had been in Europe for a year, came home to report to the JDC and discuss with community leaders the problems of expanding American aid to sufferers overseas. He appealed for redoubled support of the J.D.C.

The food situation, he said in an interview, is worst in Poland and Spain, where people are actually starving. In France and other countries, he added, while there is no such general starvation as in Poland, there are severe shortages and the situation is growing worse.

The Vichy Government, he said, is doing all it can to alleviate conditions in the refugee internment camps, but they remain very bad. Some internees have been released recently but many thousands remain in confinement. The majority of the inmates are Jews, he pointed out. "Despite all the French Government can do," Dr. Schwartz said, "there is a vast need which only private relief organizations and particularly American organizations such as the JDC can attempt to meet."

Dr. Schwartz arrived in Italy on the day the Blitzkrieg in France began. He was in Paris until just before the occupation of the French capital and helped evacuate the JDC office to other French cities, and finally to Lisbon.

"I have been in the camps at Argelles and Gurs," Dr. Schwartz related. "It is exceedingly depressing to see thousands of innocent men, women and children shut up in gloomy, wooden barracks with insufficient food, amid unsanitary conditions. All credit is due to the French Government, which under great handicaps is doing what it can for these people, but their plight is still heart-rending and calls for every possible relief effort on the part of Americans."

"The French internees, and for that matter all the war sufferers in Europe, turn to America as their chief source of hope. This is particularly true of the Jews, who must bear not only the misery which the war has brought to all alike, but the added afflictions of discriminatory laws and of anti-Semitic persecution. What the JDC has been able to do with limited funds available at its disposal has been of immense value, not only for the physical survival, but for the morale of the Jewish populations. But we have been barely able to begin to meet the ever-growing need and that is why European Jewry prays for a more successful United Jewish Appeal campaign this year than ever before, because on the success of the UJA depends the ability of the JDC to continue its vitally necessary work."

JEWSH INTERNEES IN ITALY OBSERVE PASSOVER

ROME, April 19. (JTA-Airmail) -- Facilities for observing Passover were made available for the approximately 2,000 Jews interned in concentration camps in Italy. The Italian authorities consented, so far as practicable, to permit full observance of the festival.

To ensure the necessary supply of "Pesachdig" food, the Italian Jewish community collected more than five tons of matzo's, as well as supplies of other food and ritual wine. All the larger camps are organized for Jewish religious worship and each has its improvised synagogue. Refugee rabbis minister to their congregations, while prayer books and other ritual necessities are provided by the local Jewish communities.